



ANNUAL REPORT

2010-2011

In the **Spirit** of
Courageous Women

THANKS TO ALL WHO HAVE SUPPORTED OUR 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR.

Autumn 2011

Dear Friend of WMSG:

While we are all still feeling the challenges of these economic times, we are both overwhelmed and grateful for the stability offered by so many of you who have been such faithful friends and supporters. WMSG continues to thrive, due to the dedicated support that increases with each year. These pages honor the individuals, corporations, foundations, and church groups who share our mission in a number of different ways.

This 2010-2011 Annual Report reveals a story of growth and dependability. Our student body once again is the largest ever, the majority of our faculty and staff year after year continue to deliberately choose to be an integral part of this mission, and because of them, our graduates continue to move on to excellent high schools and institutions of higher learning.

As you will see, our 2010-2011 school year was filled with stories of improving academics, inspiring visitors (including First Lady Michelle Obama), field trips that introduced our students to a larger world, an Extended Day Program filled with outstanding clubs and adventures, and a Summer Camp that not only proved fun, featuring a lesson from tennis champion Serena Williams, but provided remedial work in reading, language arts, and math.

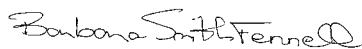
And, great news - a sign that the school has grown in a steady, dependable, and effective way, is that once again WMSG has been chosen to be featured in the Catalogue for Philanthropy (2011-2012), and named "one of the best small charities in the greater Washington, DC area". In addition, we were invited to become a member of Independent Education (formerly the Association of Independent Schools of Greater Washington), joining some of the most prestigious private schools in the region.

Even though we truly have much to celebrate, we know that there is much hard work ahead. We give thanks for what we have been able to accomplish with your help, and hope we can count on your friendship and unwavering support now - and in the future.

In the Spirit of Courageous Women,



Sister Mary Bourdon, RJM
Head of School



Barbara Smith Fennell
Chair, Board of Trustees

Our Mission

is rooted in the heritage of three courageous women and educators: Mary McLeod Bethune, Cornelia Connelly, and Claudine Thevenet. In their spirit, the Washington Middle School for Girls provides a caring, safe environment for young girls who are living in an underserved urban area and are at risk of leaving school prematurely. The Washington Middle School for Girls offers a solid, holistic education in the Catholic educational tradition, featuring educational challenge, respect for diversity, and support for the social, emotional, and spiritual growth of each student. In the spirit of courageous women, the Washington Middle School for Girls was born through collaboration and is committed to involving families and the community in every aspect of the educational process.

Our Strength

is our commitment to each student and our belief in her gifts, talents, and potential.

Our Promise

is that from such an experience will emerge young women of competence, compassion, and commitment to leadership in their families and communities.



WMSG 2004 Graduate,
YOLANDA LONG — a graduate of Benjamin Banneker Academic High School, one of the nation's top high schools, and now a Junior at Hampton University — recently was the featured

speaker at WMSG's 5th grade promotion exercises in June, 2011. Yolanda has spent the past two summers as an intern at NASA, and plans to apply to Yale, Harvard, and NYU to study law. Throughout this report, we are delighted and proud to share Yolanda's words to the younger students about her WMSG experience with you . . .

Thanks to Our Contributors FY 2010-2011

Every effort has been made to assure the accuracy of the following donations made from July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011. If errors are found, please accept our apologies, and be sure to contact WMSG so that we can correct our records.

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6th Grade winners of the October 2010 Courage Award gather to celebrate their hard work. ▲

Books were everywhere during WMSG's recent Summer Program. ➤

4th Grade student shares her own poetry during WMSG's annual literary event. ➤



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“It was at WMSG that I learned the power of prayer. It was there that I began my relationship with God, and heard stories about the courageous women who this school honors: Mary McLeod Bethune, Cornelia Connelly, and Claudine Thevenet. They all fought hard for the education of young women and other minorities.”



◀ A graduate student in Reading from Trinity University works with a student during the Summer Program.

▲ A student from Georgetown University works with 8th graders in the science lab.



▲ Members of the Law Club receive their certificates of completion from American University's Washington College of Law.

“WMSG, like it has done for all of us, became my home away from home.”

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◀ 7th Grade students celebrate their first day at the Karen Noonan Environmental Education Center near Cambridge, Maryland.



6th Grade students collected water samples and learned about the rivers so close to WMSG's campus on a trip with the Anacostia Watershed Society. ▶



▲ Students sailed the Potomac River with WMSG's Sailing Club.



▲ WMSG's Running Club participated in a race on Capitol Hill.



◀ WMSG's Healthy Cooking Club learned to cook special dishes from all over the world — with healthy ingredients.

“I was also able to visit a lot of interesting places such as the Karen Noonan Center on the Chesapeake Bay, the Bethany Retreat House in New York, and studied at Amherst University in Massachusetts during one summer. Now students participate in Extended Day Program activities and clubs that I never knew existed when I was their age.”



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4th and 5th grade students open the first window of the Advent Calendar. ▼



▲ "8th grade students and Kathy Shorter, Director of Special Projects, prepare the garden at THEARC for planting.

◀ 7th grade students plant fruit trees near THEARC's garden.



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“For a little fifth grader, I had a lot of new things going on with my family, my home, and at school. But my new school turned into a blessing in disguise.”



“Starting with breakfast and ending with prayer, each day at WMSG was filled with meaning, learning, and love.”

◀ 6th grade students work on a Social Studies project in the computer lab.



◀ Teacher Zee Jacobs and a fifth grade student prepare for the science fair.

▶ 6th grade scientists see the results of their experiment in the science lab.



Here are some of the high schools that WMSG's 126 graduates have attended:

Archbishop Carroll High School • Benjamin Banneker Academic High School • Bishop McNamara High School • Cesar Chavez Charter PCHS • Connelly School of the Holy Child • Don Bosco Cristo Rey High School • Duke Ellington School of the Performing Arts • Dunbar Senior High School • Elizabeth Seton High School • Forestville High School • Friendship-Edison Public Charter School • Georgetown Day School • E.L. Haynes Public Charter School • Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School • KIPP DC: College Preparatory School • Largo High School • Maya Angelou Public Charter High School • National Collegiate Preparatory PCHS • Sandy Spring Friends School • School Without Walls • St. Margaret's School • Thurgood Marshall Academy PCHS • Washington Mathematics Science Tech PCHS

WMSG Graduates have attended these Institutions of Higher Learning and Armed Services...

Bethune Cookman University • Bowie State University • Delaware State University • Everest College • Florida A & M University • Frostburg University • Gibbs College • Hampton University • Marshall University • Morgan State University • New Rochelle College • Prince George's Community College • Sanz School • South Carolina State University • U.S. Navy • U.S. Coast Guard • U.S. Air Force • Southeastern University • St. Paul's College • Trinity University • University of the District of Columbia • University of Maryland Eastern Shore • University of Southern Maryland • Virginia Commonwealth University • Virginia State University • The Washington Art Institute • Westwood College • Winston-Salem State College • University of Pittsburgh

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▲ WMSG's Class of 2011.

◀ 5th grade students celebrate their promotion to THEARC Campus.

▶ Class of 2005 graduate who is now serving in the U.S. Air Force.

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◀ WMSG graduates, now sophomores at Elizabeth Seton High School, return to WMSG for a visit.

WMSG students thank three volunteers from Stone Ridge Academy. ▼



◀ Sister Mary Bourdon, Science Teacher Brianne Wetzel, and students thank the Order of Malta's Mary Anne Clancy and Mike Conley for the Order's grant benefiting WMSG's science program.

Thanks to our volunteers and sponsors. . .

◀ WMSG students welcome two participants in WMSG's Sponsorship Program.

▶ Sister Mary Bourdon thanks several of the many volunteers who have worked in a number of different capacities during the past school year.



“ My education from the Washington Middle School for Girls enabled me to score well on the SAT and other high school placement tests. Therefore, I was able to attend one of the best high schools in Washington DC. Studying, and obtaining good grades in high school afforded me the option to go to college. I am the first in my family to attend college. ”

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“My middle school education has molded me into the person I am today. I hope to one day study law at NYU, Harvard or Columbia University – but had I not been encouraged to be serious about my education, I wouldn’t have made it this far.”



◀ 6th grade students admire the 2010-2011 Yearbook.



◀ Two WMSG graduates who are now Sophomores at the Academy of the Holy Child, welcome WMSG 4th and 5th graders to a special “slumber party” at their school.



◀ Two of WMSG’s 2011 graduates prepare to accept their diplomas in June.

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“You want to be the best you that you can be. You want to have the best opportunities, so take advantage of your education. Take advantage of the resources that WMSG has to offer. Play a sport, join a club, and do community service to help build your character, because just like education, who you are and who you become will take you a long way. I will always be proud to be a graduate of The Washington Middle School for Girls. I am grateful to each of our donors, for all they have personally done to help me and my fellow graduates each step of the way.”



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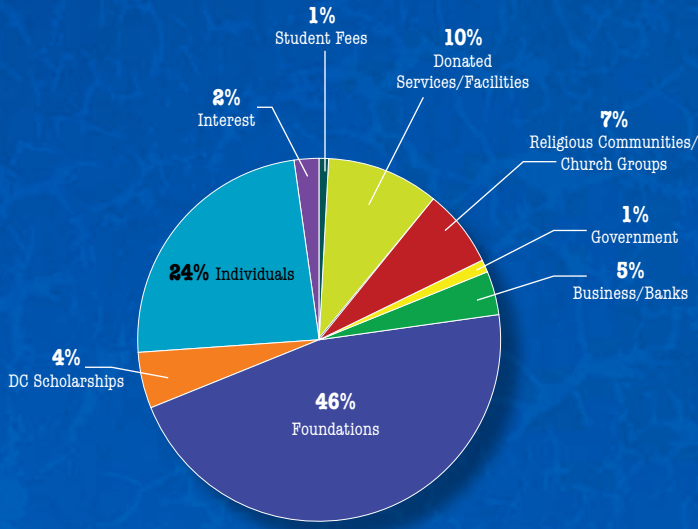
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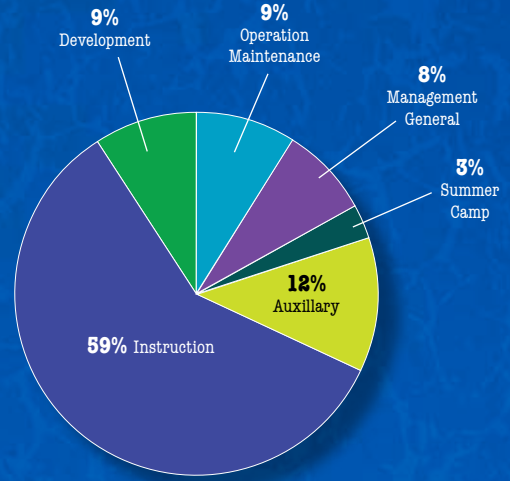
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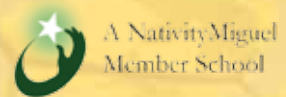
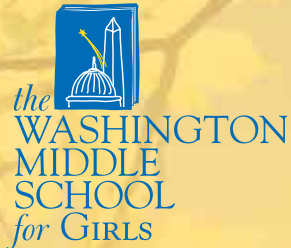
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