

THE FULCRUM DIGEST

Fulcrum Foundation's Triannual Newsletter | Summer 2014



AP Chemistry students from Bishop Blanchet High School plan and teach a science class to first graders at St. John Catholic School, Seattle.

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STAR GRANTS COVERING RELIGION TO ROBOTICS

Fulcrum Foundation Star Grants support teacher excellence by awarding up to \$1,500 to help educators implement exciting, innovative ideas and pursue professional development.

Each year we are energized to see the breadth of ideas that Star Grant recipients present and the impact this creativity has on their students' daily educational experiences. This past year Star Grants were used for a variety of themes, among them: acquiring assistive technology with speech recognition software at Archbishop Murphy High School to be used by diverse learners; organizing a summer school camp for English language learners at Assumption Catholic School in Bellingham; presenting tangible examples of wave theory created by a new wave generator acquired for honors physics students at Eastside Catholic High School; replacing mismatched bibles at St. Bernadette Parish School; enabling students in Bishop Blanchet High School's Advanced Placement Chemistry class to combine their science knowledge with lesson planning to teach 1st graders at St. John Catholic School about light, heat and electrical energy!

A growing interest among our schools has been in the area of robotics. Some Fulcrum Star Grants have been used to further that interest, assisting in the purchase of beginner robotics kits to more advanced projects involving virtual testing and programming, or equipment like lathes that are capable of producing robotic parts.

This past spring, Fulcrum awarded 28 Star Grants to be used next school year that will help cover programs in broadcasting and journalism, units on social skills, expanding an existing STEM program to encompass "Battle Bot" robotics, and environmental education materials with hopes of making the school more storm water efficient and thus reducing costly storm water fees. We look forward to next spring to see what impact the grants have had on our Catholic school students across the archdiocese!

PROGRAMS IN PLAY

Where can you find robots, whimsy, and duct tape together under the same roof? According to Terry Hickey, teacher at St. Benedict Catholic School, look no further than the Catholic Schools Robotics Extravaganza — a robot-studded event where 5th-8th grade students from different schools share creative robotic worlds. Terry coordinates this event, now three years in the running. Here, students integrate nearly every aspect of the curriculum from polymers and circuits to writing, proportions, and art. The event has been very successful at reaching those typically underrepresented in robotics — especially girls and younger students. Programming lessons that used to be reserved for 8th graders now are understood just as easily by those in the elementary grades. Terry also adds that these are fun, rich and challenging programs that hone critical thinking skills and problem solving through collaboration.

Students from Our Lady of the Lake School set up their pirate-themed robot that shoots plastic cannon balls and avoids a sea monster on its way to reaching buried treasure!



Leveraging Support for Catholic Schools
in the Archdiocese of Seattle

To learn more about all of Fulcrum's programs, visit fulcrumfoundation.org, email info@fulcrumfoundation.org or call (206)748-7988.

NORCLIFFE FOUNDATION GIFT EXPANDS AID TO SCHOOLS

Catholic elementary schools received good news this winter, as the Norcliffe Foundation entered into a partnership with the Fulcrum Foundation to assist Catholic schools and their students. After reviewing the growth of Fulcrum’s organization and programs, its relationships and support of schools, Norcliffe’s Board of Trustees made a major commitment to Fulcrum’s Assistance to Schools in Need (ASN) program.

The five-year gift allows grantmaking to Archdiocesan elementary education to be more equitable, efficient and impactful by leveraging Fulcrum’s expertise and knowledge of each school. The ASN program is in high demand by schools but has always required greater funding. News of the gift was gratefully received by Fulcrum’s Board and Distribution Committee, but even more importantly, by the schools themselves.

Norcliffe’s gift will help Catholic elementary schools meet critical and often unexpected operational needs. The Fulcrum Foundation will use the grant to expand and solidify ASN funding to schools facing these challenges. Another way the grant can be leveraged is by inspiring others to make a gift to this core program, which directly supports the safety, accessibility and excellence of schools. You can learn more about the program at www.fulcrumfoundation.org/programs/support-for-schools.

Fulcrum Foundation’s Chairman’s Circle Dinner

The Chairman’s Circle is comprised of donors who give significant support to the Fulcrum Foundation each year. On May 7th, these donors were recognized and celebrated at the annual appreciation dinner held in the beautiful Glasshouse at Chihuly Garden and Glass.

Bob Breshock, Fulcrum Finance Committee Chair, spoke on Fulcrum’s growth into its second decade, inspiring stakeholders with a rejuvenated commitment to the mission. Principal of O’Dea High School, James Walker, shared a powerful story of how the guests’ support directly impacted the lives of one of his school families. A highlight of the evening was an upbeat rendition of “My Girl” performed by O’Dea’s Men’s Choir.



FULCRUM FOUNDATION LEGACY LUNCHEON 2014

On April 3rd, Fulcrum recognized its Legacy Society members and continued to build support for Catholic schools through legacy gifts. Students from Bellarmine Preparatory School in Tacoma mingled with the guests while students from Holy Rosary School in Edmonds provided musical entertainment.

George Hofbauer, principal of Holy Rosary School, Seattle and Fulcrum board member, described how the impact of a Catholic education resulted in his own legacy gift and Malando Redeemer, junior at Bellarmine, expressed his gratitude for Fulcrum support.



AMICI ENJOYS A YEAR OF MILESTONES

The Fulcrum Foundation’s young professionals organization jumped into their partnership with St. George Parish School with enthusiasm! A record 40 volunteers led by David Redenbaugh participated in a fall painting project there. In May, another work crew was assembled for a garden cleanup on the school campus.

Amici also enjoyed their 10th Trivia Night which was organized by Amanda House and Laura Smith, and its 5th Annual Speaker Series, overseen by Kevin Durkin and Christine Wemhoff. “Finding God’s Footprints on the Office Floor” was the topic for an enlightening conversation between Amici members and community leaders Mary Herche, Chris Richard and Jack Connolly. Moderated by Brian Callanan, the event was held in the beautiful Alumni Building at Seattle University. To cap off the evening, Amici presented Rev. Stephen C. Rowan, Ph.D., superintendent of Catholic Schools, the 2nd annual *Joe Womac Award*, in recognition of his conceptualization of Amici.

Pierce County Chair Jimmy Twining led Amici’s efforts to develop a foothold in the South Sound region. In the fall, the group assisted with the relocation and renovation of the library at Visitation Catholic STEM Academy. With the same energy, the first annual Amici South Sound Night was held. A robust group

of Catholic young professionals from the Tacoma area attended a Rainiers game at Cheney stadium that evening and raised over \$400 for Visitation! “Jimmy has done an absolutely outstanding job with the Pierce County Committee,” said 2012-2014 Amici Chair Brendan Kolding. “A major goal within our long-term plan is to have a separate board to serve the South Sound region by the ‘17-‘18 school year, and I have come to believe that it will happen sooner than that.”

Amici’s seventh board will feature six new members, and will be led by Chair Katie Baldwin and Vice-Chair Tim Kellen. Brendan adds, “Katie and Tim are the right people to steer Amici deeper into the realization of our long-term plan. We have a strong group of committee chairs and the people we are bringing on to the board understand Amici and are committed to our mission. The future is exciting for Amici!”

Amici will partner with St. Bernadette School in Burien during the 2014-2015 school year.

Visit Amici at www.amiciseattle.org or find them on Facebook at [facebook.com/amiciseattle](https://www.facebook.com/amiciseattle)





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SAVE THE DATE Celebration of Light FEBRUARY 6, 2015

CELEBRATION OF LIGHT RANKED 14TH IN THE PSBJ

The Fulcrum Foundation's Celebration of Light Gala was ranked #14 in the recently published Puget Sound Business Journal's Benefit Events List for 2013! Previously ranked 21st, the results from the 2013 Celebration of Light moved us to our highest ranking in history.

Thank you to all of our supporters who have contributed to strengthening Fulcrum's mission to leverage support for Catholic schools and Catholic school children! In PSBJ's annually published Book of Lists, Fulcrum will appear alongside the region's top businesses and non-profit organizations.

AMICI'S YOUNG PROFESSIONALS WELCOME NEW CHAIR



As Brendan Kolding ends his term as Amici chair, we welcome Katie Baldwin who will fill

that position and therefore serve on the Fulcrum Foundation's Board of Trustees. Katie has experienced firsthand the high quality education and gifts that Catholic schools provide its students.

The educational foundation for her career as a structural engineer was laid during her nine years at St. Mary Magdalen School in Everett and four years at Bishop Blanchet High School in Seattle. Katie says, "Catholic schools hold such a special place in my heart and I truly believe in our mission to provide the opportunity

to any child that wishes to be a part of this amazing institution." In college, she became involved in the Newman Center on campus and found it to be her home away from home. Now, in her work at Coughlin Porter Lundeen, an engineering firm in downtown Seattle, she is particularly passionate about projects involving the design of new schools and making existing schools seismically safe.

In 2011 Katie became involved in Amici activities, where she instantly connected with the combination of service and support to Catholic schools and the energetic spirit of young professionals that shared the same focus. Becoming more involved in the mission through Amici's board in subsequent years, she most recently worked on their development committee.

Katie is very excited to be the group's new chair, to continue to serve the Catholic schools in the community and to keep Amici's growth trajectory on track. She particularly looks forward to sitting on the Fulcrum board and meeting all the wonderful supporters and donors to Catholic education in the coming year.

FULCRUM'S MISSION

The Fulcrum Foundation provides financial assistance to promote and support Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Seattle, primarily through tuition assistance, assistance to schools in need, and assistance for initiatives that promote academic excellence and faith formation.

