



CONNECTIONS

Winter 2010

From the Development Office

Dear Epiphany families,

The school year so far has flown by! With Christmas almost here, it is time to reflect on how grateful we are to Principal Jim Hayes, our teachers and staff, the members of our Board, and all the incredible volunteers who make everything happen for the Foundation.



So far during this school year the Foundation has sponsored three major fundraising events: The 1st Annual Walkathon, the 14th American Girl Fashion Show and the 3rd Mercedes Raffle. Through it all, the 2010 – 2011 Annual Fund campaign is ongoing.

Each of these initiatives takes many hands to organize and support. As always, the Epiphany community has done this with maximum enthusiasm. Each of these activities contributes to our bottom line and helps to make a great school greater. And so thank you to all who worked on, supported and attended these events. Thank you for being the amazing, supportive parent body that you are!

With our very best wishes for a blessed Christmas and a healthy, happy New Year,

Betsy Gorski, Director of Development
Francesca Ciofalo, Assistant Director of Development
Mary Jean Fitzpatrick, Business Manager

First Annual Walkathon was a huge success- raising nearly \$43,000 in net revenue!

Sunday, October 17th dawned clear and sunny. At about 9:20 a.m., the 1st annual Epiphany School Walkathon began. The participating group of walkers was comprised of Epiphany students from every grade, parents, siblings, teachers and staff. There were 562 individuals who walked from the 22nd Street schoolyard to the East River and ended just shy of the Williamsburg Bridge. Cider, cookies and pastries, as well as a certificate of completion awaited the walkers. The classes with the most participants won an afternoon off – with pizza, juice, ice cream and a movie. In the upper school the two fourth grades tied for the prize. In the lower school, the winner was Miss O'Connell's first grade. The committee, headed by Monica Quinn Culoso, Meghan Hedengren and Jennifer Walther had set a goal of \$25,000 in net revenue. The event not only met the goal but exceeded it by almost \$18,000 – the total now standing at \$42,900! All proceeds from this event will go toward the renovation of the school yards at both 22nd and 28th Streets. The total estimate for the project is \$200,000.

2010-2011 Annual Fund is underway

The 2010 – 2011 Annual Fund campaign is ongoing. Along with our special events, this provides the funding for the many programs supported by the Foundation. As you know, the timeframe runs from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011. To date, 75 families have made their gift or a pledge payable by the end of June. For those who want to donate in this calendar year for tax purposes, you can send in a check to the Development Office

dated no later than December 31st or donate online here. Our goal this year for parents is \$170,000 with a participation rate of 100%.

The 14th American Girl Fashion was a Christmas wonderland!

The American Girl Fashion Show took place on the weekend of December 3rd, 4th and 5th. Chair Ann Marie Henis and the amazing American Girl Committee scored another hit. 123 girls from our school and the CCD program along with guest models, rocked the runway with both historical and contemporary fashions. Prior to the show, students voted on the doll they wanted to see featured as the focus for this year's show. This year they voted for Molly who was modeled on a girl growing up in the 1940s during WWII. With Molly's timeframe as the inspiration for the décor, the Parish Hall was transformed into a Christmas wonderland with trees decorated in authentic 1940s style and a living room modeled on the time as well – even down to the radio console that many homes had in that era.

As is usual with this labor intensive event, many hands made it happen: Jennifer Bradley, Monika Kozak, Reggie Schmitt, and Jennifer Walther produced the Journal. Décor was organized by Jennifer Hale, Erica Male and Sonia Stuebe, who also designed the cover of the Journal. Food was organized by Victoria Gonzalez. Models were directed by Eileen Harris de la Campa. Other hard working committee members included: Cheryl Callan, Marketing, Linda Cholodenko, Dance, Yolanda Fordham, Doll Hair Salon and Boutique, Laura McDonald, Doll Boutique, Kate Patton, Doll Dressing, and Kristin Whiting and Peggy Smith, Crafts. Thanks also must go to Alice Andrew and the 7th grade students whom she oversaw for their assistance at all four shows. The event netted nearly \$30,000.

Mercedes Benz raffle once again raises money for the Foundation!

At the Foundation Christmas party on December 15th, the winner of the C300 Mercedes Sports Sedan was drawn and it was Peter Ramsey of Summit, New Jersey. Parent Joe Castle, whose son Joseph is in Pre-K, sold the winning ticket. A total of 614 tickets were sold. Board member Patrick Williams was the driving force behind this year's raffle. He thanked the many Epiphany families who supported the fundraiser by purchasing tickets as well as the many individuals who reached out to business colleagues and sold a huge amount of tickets.

The 2011 Spring Auction is coming! Your help is needed!

What is the biggest, most glamorous night of the year for the Epiphany School Foundation? It has to be the Spring Auction. Not only is it a fabulous night on the town – it is by far the biggest fundraiser for our school, grossing over \$200,000 in each of the past few years! The date is set – Wednesday, March 23rd and the venue is reserved – The Manhattan Penthouse. The committee is hard at work: Chairs Christiane Anderson and Ellen Mammen as well as Solicitation Chairs Claire Pezeu and Susan Puchert have been preparing for months. What is the next step? Sign up to help the committee. They need assistance in finding new services and new ideas for items to be bid on. Working on the Auction Committee is a great way to meet other parents and get to know people. This is especially true for parents new to Epiphany. Just contact the Development Office and let us know if you would like to volunteer. Meetings will be ongoing on Thursdays from now until March. Do you work fulltime and can't commit to regular meetings? No worries – you can still assist by using your connections and/or being assigned to various businesses for solicitation.

New additions to the Board!

Three new parents have joined the Epiphany School Foundation Board of Trustees, effective December 1, 2010:

Jennifer Bradley has been very instrumental in the American Girl Fashion Show for the past several years. Her daughters are Allison in Kindergarten and Caroline in Grade 3.

AJ Pino, an alumnus of Epiphany School, has a son AJ in Kindergarten.

Marc Sclafani, a longtime supporter of Foundation events, is the father of Michael in Grade 6.