

Higher Expectations. Deeper Relationships. Better Outcomes.

Dear Friends of Nativity Prep,

The good, the true, and the beautiful; each day, Nativity Prep students embark on a courageous journey to uncover these virtues in their lives. Our diverse student body, encompassing 72 middle schoolers, 84 high schoolers, and more than 116 college scholars, unite in a shared quest. They seek to create lives anchored in authenticity and faith, aspiring to transcend the boundaries of their lived experience. They dare to dream, and we are honored to accompany them in their pursuits.

I invite you to consider the following: When did you first exceed the dreams your parents held for you? At Nativity Prep, the American Dream is core to the pursuits of our students. With a commitment to creating lives of opportunity, choice, and service, Nativity Prep students pursue success and economic mobility, which is only made possible with their relentless hard work and unwavering determination. They are courageous enough to pursue a life experience beyond the one that they have known. While their courage is inspiring, their determination galvanizes hope.

Time and time again, I hear from Nativity Prep donors, volunteers, mentors, faculty, and staff that while they give of their time, talent, and treasure, they receive so much more in return. Suppose there was one resounding word that encapsulates the gift that Nativity Prep students bring to the world each day. In that case, it is hope: they emulate hope for a better tomorrow, hope for the capacity of humanity, and hope created by the power of a loving community. They inspire us to believe in the Dream.



As we begin another New Year, I invite you to get involved in the daily life of Nativity Prep. Here at Nativity Prep, individuals come together, contributing their gifts and talents and the world is better for it. **For the dreams of Nativity Prep to be realized, we need each and every one of you to both care and tend to the miracle that is Nativity Prep.** If you are already involved, thank you. If you are new to Nativity Prep and curious to learn more, we would certainly love to meet you.

I hope you will consider this invitation to join us and support the journey of our Nativity Prep students as they strive toward their dreams. Together, we can play a vital role in helping these students turn their dreams into reality.

God Bless,

Jessica Hooper



SCAN THE QR CODE TO BUY
YOUR TICKETS TODAY!

JOIN US FOR

Cheers
TO THE 11 YEARS!

A NATIVITY PREP WINE AND BEER EVENT

BRING A FRIEND TO LEARN MORE
ABOUT OUR UNIQUE 11 YEAR JOURNEY

SUNDAY, APRIL 28 | 4:00 - 7:00 PM



NEW YEAR'S WISH LIST

A new year means new opportunities to make a difference! Nativity Prep is always looking for new volunteers to make a positive impact on our students. Volunteers are at the core of student success at Nativity Prep, whether it's coaches, mentors, tutors, or helping out around campus, your time and skills are needed and appreciated! Learn more at nativityprep.org/volunteer or contact volunteer@nativityprep.org.



HOLIDAY FUN WITH MENTORS

Before the holiday break, our middle school students and their mentors spent an afternoon in San Diego's Old Town. The group enjoyed lunch and the festive Christmas decorations around the neighborhood!



THE MENARD FAMILY FOUNDATION

Since the early days on Market Street, Nativity Prep has relied on the commitment of loyal supporters like Barbara Menard. After meeting Fr. Gil Gentile, S.J. in 1994, Barbara was destined to be a part of the Nativity community. At an early age, Barbara's parents, Bernard P. and Mary K. Menard instilled in her the value of education. She graduated from the Convent of the Sacred Heart in El Cajon and then went on to the University of San Francisco before joining the Religious Order of the Cenacle Sisters for several years. While there she provided spiritual direction and directed and preached retreats.

After leaving the order, Barbara worked as a social worker for Catholic Charities for over 20 years, always staying true to her Catholic faith. A steadfast supporter of the community she lives and works in, Barbara is on the advisory council of the Ignatian Volunteer Corps in San Diego as well as serving as the Chair of Mission Integration on the Scripps Mercy Advisory Council.

Barbara has sponsored a total of six students over the years and she has followed their journeys as they graduate from college and beyond. Barbara says she feels blessed to be able to carry on her parent's legacy and support Nativity through the Menard Family Foundation.

This year, through her family foundation, Barbara is sponsoring two Nativity students. "We decided that we wanted to do something special for the 25th anniversary of the foundation and this seemed like a perfect way to honor my parents and to support education that they valued so very much."

"I am very impressed with what Nativity Prep has been able to do through the years. Nativity Prep is blessed to have the strong support of donors and quality leadership. I see that as such a gift. It is a joy to be able to support Nativity"

Thank you, Barbara, for being a shining light in the Nativity Prep community. You are loved!



Mary K. and Bernard P. Menard

SETON SCHOLAR TAKES DC



Nativity Prep graduate Pablo V. '23 is one of six Seton Scholars in the Cathedral Catholic (CCHS) Class of 2027. The CCHS Seton Scholarship is awarded to incoming freshman who embrace the opportunity to become their best selves. It also covers the tuition for each student's four years of high school.

Earlier this school year, the Seton Scholars took a trip to our nation's capital and embarked on a spiritual pilgrimage to the National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. They also visited Catholic University of America and the Basilica of the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, along with some iconic DC landmarks!



CALLING ALL NPA ALUMNI!

We are excited to announce the Nativity Prep Alumni Advisory Council! This group will be comprised of NPA alumni from any graduating class. The goal is to engage alumni and build a professional network, along with providing our school governance with advice rooted in lived experience. This is a very exciting way for Nativity Prep alumni to have fun together while giving back to their community. If you would like to be a part of this group, please email Maria Power at mariac@nativityprep.org.



THANK YOU, DAY FOR CHANGE!

Thank you to the Day For Change, CFO Roundtable for their generous and ongoing support of Nativity Prep and our fellow San Diego organizations that are serving the children and community of San Diego. Because of their support, we are now serving the most students Nativity Prep has ever served.



MAGI CIRCLE CEREMONY

We recently celebrated our annual Magi Circle Award Ceremony honoring Jeff Bradley, Jamie Carr, Fr. Gil Gentile, S. J., and Rod & Arlene Powers. The generosity of these and past Magi Circle recipients have created smiles, dreams, and brighter futures for our students!



AUGUSTINIAN FOUNDATION GRANT

Nativity Prep was honored to receive a grant from the Augustinian Foundation to support purchasing new kitchen equipment as part of the STEM Center Renovation. In addition to state-of-the-art learning space: the new STEM Center will also include a restored, commercial kitchen. Nativity Prep provides daily breakfast, lunch, and snacks to students. Our Family Association of Nativity (FAN) provides meals for special events like the Sponsor Lunch, and we partner with Feeding San Diego as a Food Pantry site. The old kitchen was not functional and we are so grateful to the Augustinian Foundation for this award.



Restoring the kitchen will allow us to offer:

Enhanced nutritional services to students: Nativity will provide freshly prepared, healthy, breakfasts, lunches, and snacks on-site that are responsive to student needs and meet students' dietary considerations.

On-site Catering/Food Prep for Meetings/Events: providing a meal for evening parent meetings translates into higher attendance. Additionally, eating together fosters and strengthens our community. The FAN can also use the kitchen to prepare food for fundraising events, sponsor lunch, and faculty/staff appreciation day.

Food Pantry/Food Rescue Site: Nativity Prep currently provides food boxes to 70 families bi-weekly as a School Pantry. As part of the kitchen restoration, we will install a walk-in cooler and freezer to partner with Feeding San Diego to distribute fresh food to families.

Revenue Stream: With a modern, working commercial kitchen Nativity can provide a fee-for-service to local caterers and food truck operators who need access to a commercial kitchen to grow their business including some of Nativity's own families.

The Augustinian Foundation supports activities that promote peace, justice, education, community development, and providing care to those in need in the spirit of St. Augustine.

