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Family of Schools

February 22, 2013

## Upcoming Events



*Students at Westport Heights Elementary School*

### Message from the Director

The start of a new semester is an opportunity to reflect on our culture – our customs and traditions – at school as well as at home as they impact how we each experience life. How a child experiences school is often an indicator of how the student will perform academically. If school is a place where students feel valued, respected and connected, this environment can translate into increased achievement and fewer behavioral issues. In this newsletter the LMU Family of Schools takes a closer look at the stakeholders and practices that support the culture and climate that will contribute to our schools' continued success.

A central part of our work in support of school culture is the promotion of college and career readiness. The LMU Family of Schools promotes student-to-student interaction to build bridges between our institute of higher education and our neighboring Pre-K-12 school campuses. Specifically, each fall we host a number of programs to elevate the awareness of different pathways for students to become college and career ready.

**William H. Hannon  
Library Exhibits  
[More Information](#)**

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**LMU Family of Schools  
Video Camera Grant  
Program  
Any interested FOS  
faculty member may  
apply  
[More Information](#)**

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**Family of Schools Spring  
Tutoring Program began  
Feb. 6  
Interested LMU students  
can contact  
[mbovelam@lmu.edu](mailto:mbovelam@lmu.edu)**

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**Feb. 25 – March 3  
LMU Family of Schools  
Art Exhibit  
LMU William H. Hannon  
Library  
Artwork to be received  
by Feb. 20**

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**May 15 | 3 p.m.  
LMU Baseball Game  
LMU Page Stadium  
[Register](#)**

- College workshops are held at [Westchester Enriched Sciences Magnets High School](#) and [St. Bernard High School](#), where the LMU application process and financial aid are discussed, LMU students provide testimonials, and writing workshops are offered.
- The [Los Angeles Loyolan](#) (LMU's student-run newspaper) works closely with WESM's English teacher and [The Comet](#) newspaper adviser, Robert Rojas, to mentor WESM students in journalism and best writing practices. This fall, WESM students visited LMU to see the Loyolan's offices.
- LMU's College Connections program recruits our [Division I sports teams](#) to partner with fourth- and fifth-grade classes in the Family of the Schools to mentor and engage with students throughout the year. Current participants include: LMU women's rowing with Kathy Krekeler's class at [St. Anastasia Catholic School](#); LMU women's soccer with Stephanie Baduria's class at [Visitation School](#); LMU women's tennis with Seth Faber's class at [Westport Heights Elementary School](#); and LMU women's basketball with Greg Liebowitz's class at [Kentwood Elementary School](#).
- Beginning in the fall, and continuing through the spring, more than 1,000 FOS students from the fifth, eighth and 11th grades visit the LMU campus and participate in our half-day college readiness program, Lion for a Day.

Service to others and the community – the Ignatian idea of “being men and women for others” is another important tradition within the LMU community that the Family of Schools fosters.

- More than 25 LMU students tutored and mentored FOS students during and after school across our campuses.
- This fall, more than 500 [LMU Greek-affiliated students](#) gave back to our schools by conducting literacy activities at our elementary schools, hosting an Olympic-style games at Orville Wright Middle School, and donating more than \$8,000 in school supplies.
- Culturally-based Greek organizations (Delta Sigma Theta, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Sigma Gamma Rho, Sigma Lambda Beta and Sigma Lambda Gamma) hosted a toy drive for Loyola Village Elementary School and supported their Christmas gift give-away.
- LMU professor Holli Levitsky's semester-long Street Read program taught poetry to Robin Powers' ninth-grade class at St. Bernard High School and Robert Rojas' ninth-grade class at WESM HS, and brought them to LMU for a poetry slam. Additionally, LMU professor Sarah Strand taught [WESM's sports medicine magnet school](#) students with lab assistance from her LMU undergraduate students.

This spring there is an equally dynamic and exciting set of FOS programs to continue fostering Pre-K-16 academic engagement. Help us continue this momentum by engaging with your school, community and LMU. We welcome your feedback and ideas at [fosinfo@lmu.edu](mailto:fosinfo@lmu.edu).

Darin Earley

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Director, LMU Family of Schools

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