

Upcoming Events

OCTOBER 8, 2015

CLC Field Trip to
Donaldson Farm

OCTOBER 12, 2015

Columbus Day/
No School

OCTOBER 22, 2015

Back to School Night

NOVEMBER 25, 2015

1:30pm Dismissal
for Students

NOVEMBER 26-27, 2015

Thanksgiving
Holiday/No School

DECEMBER 23, 2015

1:30pm Dismissal
for Students

MISSION STATEMENT

St. Joseph's School for the Blind is committed to the educational, psychological, social and physical development of persons with special needs in an environment of caring, acceptance and respect for each individual's rights and dignity.



insight

FALL 2015

ISSUE 2

School for the Blind Announces Return to Original Name



David Feinhals, Executive Director of the former Concordia Learning Center, announced the return to the organization's original name, St. Joseph's School for the Blind. "In the coming months, we will begin to count down to 2016, a year that marks the organization's 125th Anniversary. As a tribute to our founders, the Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace, and the historic legacy that began in Jersey City in 1891, it is with pride and great pleasure that we return to our original name. It is with confidence that we move forward with renewed commitment and dedication to individuals who are blind and visually impaired," he said.

At St. Joseph's School for the Blind, all program offerings begin with Early Intervention, the foundation of education for infants who are blind, visually impaired and multiply disabled. The school's full-time academic program is strengthened by a recent grant award from the UPS Foundation and other funders. New computers and monitors, equipped with the latest assistive software, aid students in all areas of education. The Residential Program, Adult Services and the In District Support Services also continue under St. Joseph's School for the Blind.





125th Anniversary Brick Campaign



Celebrate the 125th Anniversary of St. Joseph's School for the Blind by purchasing an engraved brick and help us pave the way for another 125 years of specialized education conducive to living an independent and productive life for those who are blind/visually impaired and multiply disabled. This fundraiser not only helps raise money for the school, but will help purchase specialized equipment and expand our programs and services so every individual we serve receives the care they need. This is an opportunity to become a part of St. Joseph's School for the Blind's history and to be etched into our brick pavilion forever. It is also a great way to honor family or friends with a unique gift that will make a lasting impression of our 125th Brick Campaign.

May 31, 2016 will be the closing date of our 125th Brick Campaign


For more information please go to:

www.brickmarkers.com/donors/sjsb.html

or contact Ashley Druica, Director of Public Relations
at 201-876-5432 ext. 104 or adruica@schoolfortheblind.org




Early Intervention "Fun Day"




St. Joseph's School for the Blind held "EI Fun Day" to offer a morning and afternoon of events for our Early Intervention program. Organized by Maria Malapoe-Streko (EI and Clinic Service Supervisor/School Social Worker), "EI Fun Day" gives parents the opportunity to meet other families with a child in the NJ Early Intervention program.

St. Joe's students and Concordia Learning Center campers also enjoyed the day's events, such as pony rides, petting farm animals, face painting, finger-printing and various other sensory engaging activities in the school's gymnasium.



Susan LaVenture, NAPVI Executive Director and Project Leader, the nationally recognized affiliate of Lighthouse Guild, also collaborated with the event's activities to speak with parents of children in Early Intervention.



The UPS Foundation Donation Provides New Computers

The UPS Foundation and UPS North Atlantic District recently donated \$25,000 to St. Joseph's School for the Blind for the purchase of new computers and monitors for dedicated use by students who are blind, visually impaired and multiply disabled.

The generous funding helped replace outdated, unsupported computers with upgraded models designed to meet new testing standards under the New Jersey Department of Education guidelines. New, upgraded computers also have the capability to run multiple assistive software programs simultaneously which will provide greater educational opportunities for students with disabilities. Assistive and adaptive technology have greatly impacted the development of children with disabilities especially those who are visually impaired. Assistive technology programs include screen reader, voice recognition, optical character recognition, scan & read and type and speak programs.

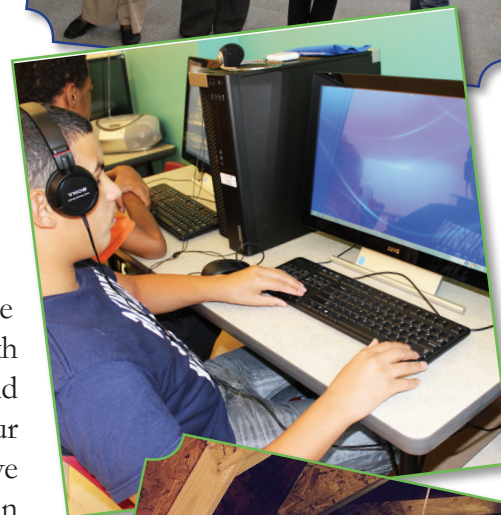
The upgraded systems also allow for faster processes for students and the integration of advanced graphic cards to enhance applications for students with low vision.

According to St. Joseph's Executive Director David Feinhals, "We are extremely grateful to The UPS Foundation and members of UPS North Atlantic District for this generous donation. Replacing our outdated and unsupported computers was critical to the educational advancement of our students. We are now better equipped to utilize the most current assistive software and provide new tools for children with special needs so they can reach greater milestones."

Adult Program Clients Experience Life on a Farm

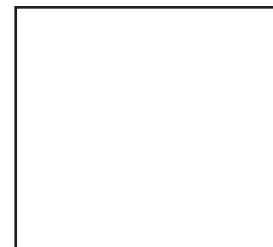
St. Joseph's Adult Program clients left the city behind to spend a day on a rural farm in Sparta, NJ. The day trip integrated educational and recreational activities designed to accommodate adults with multiple disabilities.

Farm owner Michael McDermott provided clients the opportunity to experience the routine of everyday life on a working farm. Clients fed chickens, collected eggs, and cared for the horses, pigs, goats and host of other animals.





St. Joseph's School for the Blind
A MINISTRY OF THE SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH OF PEACE



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125th Anniversary Gala!

Insight Contributors



Save the Date: Thursday,
October 13, 2016 at
Liberty House Restaurant
and Events at 6:30pm

Schedule a Tour!

Contact Director of Donor &
Foundation Relations, Ellen Felicetta at
efelicetta@schoolfortheblind.org or
201-876-5432 ext. 113.

Ways to Give:

Visit our website at schoolfortheblind.org and
click the donate button or contact us at
201-876-5432. We will gladly assist you!

Mailing List:

To be added or removed from our mailing list
please call us at 201-876-5432 ext. 104.

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