

Academy of Our Lady of Mercy, Lauralton Hall

Parents Annual Giving Program FAQ

Q: What is the Parents Annual Giving Program?

A: Parents Annual Giving is the basis of a comprehensive development program in any school. Parents Annual Giving asks the parents of current students to make a contribution each year over and above tuition and fees.

Q: How are the funds raised from the Parents Annual Giving Program used?

A: The funds raised from the Parents Annual Giving Program are used to supplement tuition revenue. In the past, these funds have been used to upgrade technology with new software, purchase LCD projectors and SMART Boards; bring interesting and educational programs for student assemblies; add new teams to our increasingly successful athletic programs; send teachers to professional conferences and add AP courses to our curriculum.

Q: What exactly does Lauralton Hall expect from parents in the Parents Annual Giving Program?

A: A fair and specific pledge is needed so that Lauralton Hall knows what to expect in contributions from parents. Fulfillment of that pledge is expected unless some significant hardship precludes you from doing so.

Q: Are there any special gift clubs?

A: Yes, we have a Donor Society. This was established to recognize the important role that leadership level support plays in the success of the Annual Giving Program. We invite you to consider membership in one of the following:

McAuley: \$10,000 or more
Tower Circle: \$5,000 - \$9,999
Golden Stair: \$2,500 - \$4,999
President's Circle: \$1,000 - \$2,499
Founder's Society: \$500 - \$999
LH Associate: \$300 - \$499
Centennial: \$100 - \$299

The success of the Annual Giving Program depends on the generosity of those who care about Lauralton Hall. Each gift—no matter the size—is important and makes a difference.

Q: How do I participate in the Parents Annual Giving Program?

A: In one or more of several different ways:

1. Make an outright gift to the school.
2. Be a sponsor of Christmas in the Mansion (\$250 - \$2,500).

As each outright gift or event sponsorship is paid, you will be informed of your pledge balance. Visa, MasterCard and American Express charge cards are accepted. Remember, gifts of goods or services are not credited to your pledge since cash is required to balance the school budget. Gifts of this sort are listed in your family's record, however, and are gratefully received.

Q: If my company has a matching gift program, does the company gift count toward my pledge obligation?

A: Your company's matching gift will be fully credited toward your pledge. Simply ask your employer about the company's matching gift program and forward the completed company form along with your gift. Your spouse may qualify for a matching gift as well. Restrictions apply on some gifts, but certainly ask your human resources department for information on qualifying gifts.

Q: Is my donation tax deductible?

A: Yes! Gifts to Lauralton are tax deductible to the fullest extent provided by law and may be made in the form of cash, check or stock transfer.

Q: How are the records kept?

A: The Development Office keeps track of pledges and contributions. (It is necessary to have your pledge form in before any gifts can be recorded.) After a gift payment is received, a letter is sent out thanking you and informing you if there is a pledge balance. In May, a reminder notice is sent if a pledge balance remains.

We request the participation of every parent in the pledge program to support your own daughter. We ask that you consider Lauralton Hall one of your major charities during these years. Questions or concerns can be directed to the Director of Parents Annual Giving Program at Lauralton Hall: Kathleen Donahue, 203- 877-2786, ext. 114.