

Gesu School and the Gesu Institute  
*present*  
Gesu's 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium  
On Inner-City Education



Inner-City Education:  
*What's Old? What's New?*  
*What's Next?*



2007 Symposium Program

Gesu School and the Gesu Institute  
**offer special gratitude**  
to the sponsors of the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Gesu  
Symposium on Inner City Education:

**Cozen O'Connor**

**John J.F. Sherrerd**

**Old Saint Joseph's Church**

We also **thank** our Trustees and Directors,  
Principal Sister Ellen Convey, IHM, the Gesu  
Gospel Choir directed by H.L. Ratliff, and the  
Gesu School staff, teachers and students.



**Dear Friends,**

Welcome to our 10th Annual Symposium on Inner-City Education!

When we began these symposia 11 years ago, we hoped they would build attention for the challenges of inner-city education and increase concern for inequality – right in our own backyard.

Since then, Gesu School has certainly thrived – with our students progressing, with our alumni graduating from high school, and with more and more of our alums going on to higher education, trade schools and productive lives. As we like to say, Gesu School works!

But what about other schools that serve inner-city children? What about under-funded Catholic and faith-based schools? What about the public schools where violence erupts and interferes with learning and teachers' commitment?

With the Gesu Institute underway, under Executive Director Letitia Biddle's inspired leadership, the stage is set to expand efforts to support and strengthen schools for inner-city children. We hope this continues to evolve into a significant force to improve inner-city education.

To help these efforts, we are honored to have Juan Williams, Kathleen deLaski, Jim Brown and, of course, John DiIulio, with us today to help identify what we all need to do to bridge the gap of inequality in education.

With thanks for your help and interest.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W Churchill".

Winston J. Churchill, *Chairman*  
Gesu School  
Gesu Institute

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christine S. Beck".

Christine S. Beck, *President*  
Gesu School

# Celebrating Gesu's 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium on Inner-City Education

## A Look Back at past symposia topics

**2006** Transforming Inner-City Education: Can an Early Start Change the Outcome?

**2005** How Colleges and Universities Can Partner with Faith-Based Communities to Serve Urban Children in Need

**2004** Transforming Inner-City Education: Lessons from the Entrepreneurs

**2003** Educational Reform: What's Next?

**2002** Children Learning Amid Stress

**2001** Research and Roadblocks to Developing Young Readers

**1999** The Urban Child in Peril: Can Literacy Change the Outcome?

**1998** Do Faith and Vouchers Mix?

**1997** Inner-City Education: Are Faith-Based Schools an Answer?

## Gesu School

Gesu School celebrates its 15th year as an independent Catholic school that provides a high-quality, faith-based education to the children of North Philadelphia in the Jesuit and IHM traditions.

- 450 students, pre-K through grade 8, attend Gesu School.
- 99% of students are African-American.
- 90% of students are non-Catholic.
- More than 70% of students qualify for free or reduced-price breakfast and lunch programs.
- Approximately 95% of Gesu alumni graduate from high school, well above the 50% on-time graduation rate for the surrounding neighborhood.

## The Gesu Institute

The Gesu Institute is dedicated to supporting and strengthening schools that serve low-income communities, particularly in elementary education, as a means of bridging the gaps of inequality in our society. It provides the necessary resources to evaluate, refine and develop best practices in teaching, governance, administration, and fundraising by using faith-based, value-based and entrepreneurial models.

Since its inception in 2005, the Gesu Institute has assisted over half a dozen schools struggling to continue their missions of providing quality faith-based education to economically disadvantaged children. In August, under the guidance of new Executive Director Leitita Biddle, Gesu Institute hosted its first teachers' conference to provide over 145 educators with the tools they need to succeed.

# Inner-City Education: What's Old? What's New? What's Next?

## Program

Prelude

Gesu Gospel Choir

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Welcome

Asia West  
*Gesu School 8th Grader*

Winston J. Churchill  
*Chairman of the Board  
Gesu School and Gesu Institute*

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Panel Discussion

John J. DiIulio, Jr., Ph. D., *Moderator*  
Christine S. Beck  
James W. Brown  
Kathleen M. deLaski  
Juan Williams

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Reception

# Symposium Panelists



## Winston J. Churchill, *Opening Remarks*

Win Churchill has been managing general partner of SCP Partners, a family of venture capital funds, since its inception in 1996. He has over 25 years of experience in private equity investment. From 1989 to 1993 he served as Chairman of the Finance Committee of the \$50 billion Pennsylvania Public School Employees' Retirement System. Mr. Churchill is director of a number of companies, both public and private.

Mr. Churchill serves as the Board Chairman for both Gesu School and the Gesu Institute, as well as Young Scholars Charter School. He is also a trustee of Fordham University, Georgetown University, Immaculata

University and American Friends of New College Oxford, England.

Mr. Churchill received his B.S. in physics, *summa cum laude*, from Fordham University in 1962, his M.A. in economics from Oxford University in 1964 where he studied as a Rhodes Scholar, and a J.D. degree from Yale Law School in 1967.



## John J. DiIulio, Jr., Ph.D., *Moderator*

John J. DiIulio, Jr. is Frederic Fox Leadership Professor of Politics, Religion and Civil Society and Professor of Political Science at the University of Pennsylvania, where he also serves as Director of the Robert A. Fox Leadership Program. On leave from Penn in 2000-2001, he served as Assistant to the President of the United States and as first Director of the White House Office of Faith-Based & Community Initiatives.

Dr. DiIulio is author, co-author or editor of over a dozen books, the most recent of which include *Godly Republic: A Centrist Blueprint for*

*America's Faith-Based Future* (University of California Press, 2007) and *American Government: Institutions and Policies* (with James Q. Wilson, Houghton Mifflin, 11<sup>th</sup> edition, 2007). He currently serves on Gesu School's Board of Trustees.

Dr. DiIulio has a bachelor's degree in political science and in economics and a master's degree in political science-public policy from Penn. He received his doctorate from Harvard University.

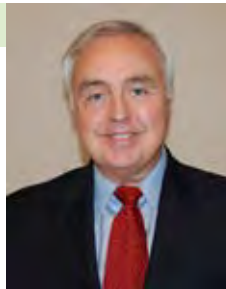


## Christine S. Beck

Since June 2003, Christine Beck has been President & CEO of Gesu School where a \$12 million capital campaign was just completed and where a \$6 million renovation project was dedicated in September 2006. Before assuming her current position, Mrs. Beck served on Gesu School's Board of Trustees for six years and chaired the Development Committee for three years.

From 1985 to 1995, Mrs. Beck was Chairman of the Board of Arthur Ashe Youth Tennis and Education. She has held numerous leadership and committee positions with Philadelphia's National Junior Tennis League, of which she is cofounder, the national National Junior Tennis League, the United States Tennis Association, and USTA Middle States.

Mrs. Beck serves on the Boards of the Gesu Institute and Saint Joseph's Prep, as well as the Advisory Board of Arthur Ashe Youth Tennis and Education. She holds a B.A. degree from Queens University of Charlotte and an M.A. degree from Bryn Mawr College. She is married, has three sons and is a member of Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church.



## James W. Brown

Jim Brown is the Chief of Staff for U.S. Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr. of Pennsylvania. Before joining Senator Casey's staff, Mr. Brown spent 11 years as a founding partner of SCP Partners. Prior to his work at SCP, he was Chief of Staff to Pennsylvania Governor Robert P. Casey and, before that, was a partner in the Philadelphia law firm, Dilworth Paxson.

Mr. Brown is a former trustee of Gesu School, the Young Scholars Charter School, Immaculata University and the former Chair of the Board of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education Foundation. From 1991

through 2006, he was an adjunct professor in Villanova University's Honors Program.

Mr. Brown received his B.A. *magna cum laude* from Villanova University and his J.D. from the University of Virginia Law School. He resides in Malvern, PA, with his wife Lynne and has two children, Patrick and Laura.



## Kathleen M. deLaski

Kathleen deLaski is president of The Sallie Mae Fund, a charitable organization sponsored by Sallie Mae and dedicated to increasing access to higher education. The Sallie Mae Fund supports and manages college access programs nationally and is the leading provider of financial aid workshops for under-served communities.

Previously, Ms. deLaski served as Senior Vice President, Chief Communications Officer and Senior Vice President, Consumer Marketing for Sallie Mae, and managed various groups for America Online. In 1993 and 1994, Ms. deLaski was the first woman to serve as the chief spokesperson for the Pentagon. She has 13 years' experience as a TV news reporter.

Ms. deLaski serves on several non-profit boards, including the Board of Visitors for George Mason University; Building Hope, a charter school facilities fund; the D.C. College Access Program; and The Thurgood Marshall Academy, a public charter high school. She earned a bachelor's in political science and English from Duke University and a master's of public administration from Harvard University. She resides in McLean, VA with her husband, Edward, and their two children.



## Juan Williams

Juan Williams is a Senior Correspondent for NPR's Morning Edition, as well as a contributor to NPR's documentaries and television endeavors. He also anchors weekend daytime live coverage on the FOX News Channel and serves as a regular panelist on FOX News Sunday.

From 2000-2001 Mr. Williams hosted NPR's national call-in show "Talk of the Nation," holding monthly "town hall" meetings with live audiences in communities across the country. Earlier in his career, he worked for *The Washington Post* as an editorial writer, op-ed columnist, and White

House reporter for over 20 years.

Mr. Williams is author of a number of books, including *Thurgood Marshall: American Revolutionary*; *Eyes on the Prize: America's Civil Rights Years, 1954-1965*; *This Far by Faith: Stories from the African American Religious Experience*; and in 2006, *Enough*. He has won an Emmy award for his TV documentary writing and has been published in a wide array of periodicals.

Mr. Williams received a B.A. in philosophy from Haverford College in 1976. He sits on a number of boards, including the Haverford College Board of Trustees, the Aspen Institute of Communications and Society Program, Washington Journalism Center, and the New York Civil Rights Coalition.

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