The 2013 Gesu Spirit Medal Honorees

Vivienne Lambert Ehret

An accomplished businesswoman, Vivienne Ehret didn't really retire when she sold her destination management company, Uniquely Philadelphia Inc., in 2006. Instead, she began a new venture undertaking the enormous task of computerizing Gesu School's entire library, cataloguing over 4,000 books in the process and calling on skills from her early career experience as a language books cataloguer at Princeton University's Firestone Library. Eventually Ms. Ehret became Gesu's full-time volunteer librarian, recruiting a stellar volunteer team to staff the library, and ensuring that Gesu's 450 students enjoy biweekly library sessions.

Ms. Ehret first came to Gesu School through a fellow parishioner at Old Saint Joseph's Church, and joined the church's committee that collected presents and organized an annual Christmas celebration for Gesu's children in grades K-2. In 2002, Ms. Ehret joined Gesu's Board of Trustees. She has been a loyal participant in the Sponsor A Child program for five years.

Rev. William J. Byron, S.J.

Rev. William J. Byron, S.J., has built a distinguished résumé of leadership positions in Catholic education, including president of the Catholic University of America and president of the University of Scranton, in addition to holding numerous professorships in business and ethics. He is also a prolific writer, with more than a dozen books to his name.

Father Byron maintains a strong commitment to investing in education for the next generation and encourages others to join him. His thoughtful leadership has directly impacted the lives of Gesu School's children through his service on the school's Board of Trustees since 2007. While serving as president of Saint Joseph's Preparatory School from 2006-2008. Father Byron secured the establishment of two full scholarships designated for two young men from Gesu School to attend the Prep. In addition, Father Byron has been a faithful champion of the Gesu

