

Mindy Farris

THE HIGHLANDS SCHOOL

214-264-2565

Fax: 972-721-1691

mfarris@THE HIGHLANDSSCHOOL.org

<http://www.THEHIGHLANDSSCHOOL.org>

The Highlands School Gets National Recognition

Irving, Texas (November 7, 2008)—The Highlands School in Irving has been recognized as one on a list of the Top 50 Catholic High Schools in the nation for the fourth consecutive year by The Catholic High School Honor Roll. The award gives merit to Catholic schools that excel in three areas: *academic excellence, Catholic identity, and civic education.*

Nearly 300 schools completed the three detailed surveys that measure a school's adherence to the Church's educational mission. Its purpose is to recognize and encourage excellence in Catholic secondary education, and it is a resource for parents, schools, donors, and colleges. The Honor Roll ranks schools highest that instill students with an appreciation for the spiritual, social, political, and economic dimensions of the world.

The Honor Roll is an independent project of the Acton Institute, an international research and education organization. It is produced in consultation with an advisory board comprised of Catholic college presidents and scholars. Advisory board member, the Very Rev. David M. O'Connell, President of Catholic University of America, said the Honor Roll's evaluation method is indispensable. "Catholic schools must examine themselves on a regular basis using a well-rounded approach that assesses adherence to the Church's educational calling," he said.

"This award can be attributed to the countless hours our faculty and staff give to their students. "Person- to-person" emphasis makes all the difference. It is who we are. Forming souls, one at a time" said Father Alfonse Nazzaro, Director of Formation for Boys.

"The Acton Institute has given a great opportunity to Catholic educators with the Honor Roll," says Denise Funke, Director Formation for girls, and for the lower school at The Highlands School. "It recognizes those schools that strive to maintain high academic standards, while also being faithful to their identity and mission as a Catholic school. The Highlands School community is proud to be recognized in our efforts to form Christian leaders who can help transform society."

The Highlands School Executive Director John Borley attributes the school's success to "the strong Catholic identity of the school and its faith based integral parts: students, priests, consecrated men and women, formation directors, faculty, staff, parents, alumni, and friends of the school."

To see the complete Top 50 High Schools list, as well as lists of the 10 honorably mentioned schools in each category, visit www.chshonor.org. **Questions about the Honor Roll may be directed to Anthony Pienta at (616) 454-3080, apienta@acton.org or info@chshonor.org.**

About the Highlands School

Established in 1986, The Highlands School is a Catholic college-preparatory school directed by the Legionaries of Christ. Offering grades Pre-K through 12th, the mission of The Highlands School is the development of the whole person, consisting of a profound intellectual, human, and spiritual formation. Personalized attention from faculty, staff and religious provides each student with the maximum opportunity for growth.