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THE CATHOLIC FOUNDATION HONORS THREE HIGHLANDS SCHOOL TEACHERS WITH THE *WORK OF HEART AWARD*

(Irving, Texas.-June 12, 2009) – It was a blessed end of the school year for Highlands School teachers, Jared Randolph, Nancy Martinez, and Lori Saldi. The Catholic Foundation awarded the three with the *Work of Heart Award*, which was presented to them by Highlands Principal, Paul Sullivan, at a faculty and staff luncheon meeting on June 6th. As he announced the recipients, Dr. Sullivan said, “All three employees are extremely dedicated to living and promoting The Highlands School mission.”

Mrs. Martinez and Mrs. Saldi are both aides for the Pre-Kindergarten classes. Happy in her sixth year at the school, Martinez says, "It was such an honor just to be nominated for the *Work of Heart Award*. I have the best job in the world working with such a loving group of children, and am blessed with such great parental support. The children make me laugh and love, and they all hold a special place in my heart!" Saldi, who also received the award last year, admits, “This was a total surprise and shock to me! Thank you to the Catholic Foundation for this award. I encourage everyone to nominate a teacher, staff member, or volunteer who embraces his or her vocation by always giving more than is expected and twice what is received.” Having just completed his second year at The Highlands, Mr. Randolph humbly acknowledges, “I am very much honored to have received this award and am blessed to be able to work, teach, and coach at this school where we can share our faith and do the work of the Lord.” Randolph teaches technology and coaches baseball, football, and cross country. All three teachers received a certificate and \$500.00 from The Catholic Foundation.

The Catholic Foundation renewed The Work of Heart Program for the 2007-2008 school terms by a generous anonymous Dallas family. The program has been operating for three years and has recognized over 300 recipients. More than \$220,000 has been awarded during the first two year period. Twenty \$500 awards and four \$5000 awards are given each semester to deserving teachers, administrators, or staff members. The benefactors are looking for “the unsung heroes” who are recognized for going the “extra mile” in serving our educational community and its members.

The criteria for the award include: additional merit including tenure and leadership, enthusiastic instruction, individual unexpected acts of kindness or charity, Christian example, mentoring, and going the extra mile for an individual student, family or the community.

All nominations should be no more than one page and submitted in writing to The Catholic Foundation. The nominations should be addressed to “Work of Heart” and sent to The Catholic Foundation, 5310 Harvest Hill, Suite 248, Dallas, Texas, 75230; or you can fax to 972/661-0140 or email workofheart@catholicfoundation.com. Nominations can be submitted on an on-going basis; all nominations will be retained for consideration throughout the 2007-2008 school year.

About The Highlands School

Established in 1986, The Highlands School is a Catholic college-preparatory school. Offering grades Pre-K through 12th, the mission of The Highlands School is to provide the highest quality education and integral formation of the student as a well-rounded mature youth of character and integrity. Personalized attention from faculty, staff, and religious provides each student with the maximum opportunity for growth.

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For additional information about this topic, or to schedule an interview with Mr. John Borley, please call Cris Hannis, Director of Development, at 972-438-8218 ext. 261 or e-mail Cris at channis@thehighlandsschool.org.