

BARAT EDUCATION FOUNDATION
ANNUAL REPORT 2011



*Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap,
but by the seeds that you plant.*

- Robert Louis Stevenson

OUR MISSION & CORE VALUES

As heirs of the legacy and education tradition of Barat College and the Religious of the Sacred Heart, the Barat Education Foundation develops and seeks support for innovative scholarships and entrepreneurial educational ventures which reflect the deep commitment to intellectual, spiritual, and ethical values, empowerment of women, social awareness that impels to action and the building of community.

BEF Core Values: A commitment to personal growth in the context of community; a deep respect for intellectual and spiritual values; and a social awareness that impels to action.

Those who have to educate them to something higher must themselves have an idea of what they want, they must believe in the possibility of every mind and character to be lifted to something better that it has already attained; they must believe and care deeply for the things they teach. For no one can be educated by maxim and precept; it is the life lived, and the things loved and the ideals believed in by which we tell, one upon the other.

— Mother Janet Erskine Stuart R.S.C.J. (1857-1914)



FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Friends:

Recently a Barat alumna asked me why the Foundation developed and implemented the **Our American Voice** program. For a moment I thought about citing research on the civic crisis we are experiencing in our country. A study conducted by The Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement and The American Youth Policy Forum found that "students from every ethnicity do not seem to grasp basic concepts in history, government or citizenship and thus are not prepared to fulfill their responsibilities." The combination of civics' importance and students' lack of understanding of it has led the Partnership for 21st Century Skills to identify civic literacy as a key area of expertise students need to master in order to succeed in work and life.

I also considered commenting on the lack of civil discourse and its effect on our civic fabric.

But those responses would not do justice to why we took on this challenge. We engaged in this arena because our educational legacy taught us to understand that we are dependent on and accountable to one another; that those who disagree with us may also teach us — "us and them" does not need to mean "us versus them"; we learned about the personal satisfaction that comes from creating positive change and that if we are to grow we must do so in the context of community because it is quite impossible to achieve voice in the context of one.



As you review the information in this Annual Report, you will see that our hope and vision for the future reflects continuity with our past. This year we expanded the Library of Congress Teaching with Primary Sources Program; Our American Voice, a technology-rich program for middle-school students that teaches the knowledge, leadership skills, values and commitment necessary for engaged citizenship, is flourishing; and we continue scholarships at DePaul, Woodlands and Josephinum Academies of the Sacred Heart and St. Martin de Porres.

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The theologian Reinhold Niebuhr wrote:

Nothing that is worth doing can be achieved in our lifetime; therefore, we must be saved by hope. Nothing which is true or beautiful or good makes complete sense in any immediate context of history; therefore, we must be saved by faith. Nothing we do, however virtuous, can be accomplished alone, therefore we are saved by love.

On behalf of our Board of Directors, thank you for the loyalty and support you give to the Foundation, to the Religious of the Sacred Heart, and to Sacred Heart communities across the country.

We wish you a joyful, loving Christmas and ask you to consider continuing your support of our programs,

Sincerely,

Sheila A. Smith
CEO/Chair,
Barat Education Foundation

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The Barat Education Foundation wishes to express enduring gratitude to Daniel M. Becker for his years of assistance and support. He has worked with us on numerous projects under stressful conditions and pressing deadlines, always with professionalism, generosity and excellent humor.

TPS-BARAT: SIX GOING ON SEVEN

In October, 2010 the Foundation began its 6th year of partnership in the Library of Congress Teaching with Primary Sources initiative (TPS). The Library through its TPS Program works with colleges and other educational organizations as partners to deliver professional development programs that help teachers use the Library of Congress' deep reservoir of digitized primary sources to enrich their classroom instruction. These partnerships build on the success of the Library's previous outreach initiatives, particularly the American Memory Fellows and An Adventure of the American Mind programs, which reached more than 10,000 teachers.

As a member of the TPS Educational Consortium, the Foundation assists in the design of the TPS program and offers TPS professional development on an ongoing basis, year round. There are currently 28 consortium members in 17 states: California, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Montana, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, Washington, and Wyoming. The professional development that we offer include workshops, online courses, graduate courses, and mentoring that meet the same goals as the professional development offered in Washington, DC at the Library of Congress.

TPS-Barat has trained over 2,500 teachers from more than 200 schools, indirectly reaching more than 20,000 students. We encourage you to visit the two websites dedicated to the TPS-Barat program, barat-tps.org and primarysourcenus.org which are visited regularly by teachers across the country.

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This past year, the TPS-Barat's Learning @The Source professional development workshops hosted over 250 teachers. Barat is also a partner with the Chicago Public Schools Office of Social Science and Service Learning, and the Barat-TPS team aligned the Library of Congress digitized resources to the CPS Social Science 2.0 Curriculum which CPS designed to ensure that K-10 students learn social science content and skills fostering engaged citizenship. The list of aligned links is available at http://barat-tps.org/Links_CPS.php.

In response to the requests of teachers for additional strategies to integrate primary sources in the classroom, this summer the TPS-Barat team launched the Primary Source Nexus blog, primarysourcenexus.org.



This exciting educational blog:

- Identifies and highlights Library of Congress resources
- Disseminates best practices and ideas for teaching with the Library's primary sources
- Delivers tips and tutorials for integrating technology with primary source learning
- Promotes professional development opportunities and resources

Recently the BEF completed a beta test of its new "Sustained Resource Program" with six librarians from West Aurora School District 129. In FY 2012, the Foundation will receive special support from the Library to complete this program design and in spring 2012 implement the pilot training program in the Chicago metropolitan area. The goal of this initiative is to provide the Library with a "Train-the-Trainer" turnkey program that the Library's partners and/or representatives can use to impart the requisite knowledge and skills required for the effective implementation and dissemination of the Library's digitized resources.

Honestly, this is the most useful, positive and well-organized professional development I have been a part of! Thank you for the help/ ideas and positive day!

- 7th grade Social Studies Teacher

Great teaching materials! I can go to school tomorrow and use lessons for an entire week! Excellent!

- 5th Grade Teacher

OUR AMERICAN VOICE

Three years since its launch, Our American Voice is taking flight, strengthening its presence in Illinois and branching out across the United States. This project-based learning initiative develops leadership, problem solving and critical thinking skills in middle-school students while encouraging them to collaborate and create positive change in their communities.

Our American Voice combines game- and activity-based learning to create a knowledge base of the core documents and values of American democracy, then provides an opportunity to apply that knowledge in participants' own backyards. With the aid of their own social media platform on the website, ouramericanvoice.org, participants can interact with each other and across groups to gain knowledge, exchange experiences, and form coalitions around issues that they consider important.

The program has encouraged participants to engage with their elected representatives. Past groups have talked with then-Alderman Toni Preckwinkle (now President of the Cook County Board of Commissioners), then-County Commissioner and now President of the Chicago Transportation Authority Forrest Claypool, Representative Jan Schakowsky (IL-9) and Senator Dick Durbin, whom 2010 participants met at their annual Summit.

Having built strong community ties and roots in the Round Lake and East Maine Township areas, Our American Voice is expanding. This will be the fourth year for the middle schools in Round Lake District 116 and East Maine District 63, the third year for Stockton Elementary School in Chicago's Uptown neighborhood, and the second year for Jefferson and Washington Schools in West Aurora District 129. New partnerships are bringing the program to several schools in the Chicago Archdiocese and more Chicago Public Schools. Most recently, the Robert R. McCormick Foundation pledged support to bring the program into underserved areas of Chicago as well, and we are grateful for their partnership and support.

To see media coverage of past OAV group initiatives and projects, please see ouramericanvoice.org/press for a selection of articles.



BARAT SCHOLARS: CONTINUING THE TRADITION

The BEF's commitment to supporting post-secondary education continues through the Barat Scholars program. It seems somehow fitting that the Foundation's endowed Barat Heritage & Legacy Scholarship at Woodlands Academy coincides with the donation of the former Barat campus to Woodlands, marking a new chapter between Barat and the Academy.

2011 also marks the 4th year we have awarded a scholarship to Josephinum Academy, our home in Chicago. We congratulate "Jo" as we call her on becoming a full member of the Sacred Heart Network! We continue to support students at St. Martin de Porres High School in Waukegan, and at DePaul and Dominican Universities.



Thank you so much for your beyond generous gift of my education for the past four years. Without you I would have never had the chance to be part of such a wonderful community. All the cards in the world would not be able to express how grateful I am to you. This is the other sweet end to my four year journey at Woodlands and none of it would have been possible without you.

Thank you so much and God bless!

- Barat Scholar at Woodlands Academy

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Computer Accounting, Inc.

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& Robert Bicknell



FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Grant income is recorded in the year in which it is received and/or confirmed. The expenses associated with the specific grant are recorded in the period in which they are incurred. The program expenses reflected in this fiscal year are primarily the Our American Voice Program and the Library of Congress Teaching with Primary Sources Program. A copy of the audited financial statement will be available after January 31, 2012. If you wish a copy, please call the Foundation.

REVENUES

Gifts: Unrestricted/Restricted & Religious of the Sacred Heart	\$71,114
Grants — Center for Educational Ventures Library of Congress FY12	\$260,000
Investment Income & Interest	\$21,581
Gain on Investments	<u>\$97,762</u>
Total Revenues	\$450,457

EXPENSES

General & Administrative	\$184,763
Center for Educational Ventures Programs:	
Library of Congress	\$219,168
Our American Voice	\$174,477
Total Expenses	<u>\$578,408</u>
Operating Loss	-\$127,951

Heritage & Legacy - Barat Scholars:

Woodlands Scholarship Endowment	\$160,000
Avery Scholarship at DePaul University	\$10,000
Dominican Women's Leadership	\$10,000
Josephinum Academy	\$6,500
St. Martin de Porres	\$5,000
Religious of the Sacred Heart	\$400
Total Scholarship Donations	\$191,900

Net Reduction in Assets **\$319,851**

ASSETS

Cash & Investments	\$1,273,625
Grants — Program Receivables	\$386,907
Pre-paid Expenses	\$5,372
Total Current Assets	\$1,665,904
Net Fixed Assets	\$315
Total Assets	\$1,666,219

LIABILITIES & FUND ACCOUNTS

Current Liabilities	\$43,627
Fund Accounts:	
Unrestricted	\$89,217
Temporarily Restricted:	\$365,793
Permanently Restricted	\$1,167,582

Total Liabilities & Fund Accounts **\$1,666,219**



Let us put history into their souls; without that, memories will fade and we shall have wasted our time.

— Saint Madeline Sophie Barat



Our American Voice gave me more courage to make a change.”
— OAV student participant

“ It gave the youth a voice.”
— OAV facilitator

It's imperative if we are going to survive as a nation that our schools teach civics. Knowledge and understanding about our system of government is not something that's handed down in a generic pool. You have to learn it."



— Justice Sandra Day O'Connor



Community. Partnership. Education.

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