The 35th Annual Video Contest for College Students

The 1st prize winner of our 35th Annual College Video Contest is Justin Whittingham, film and television production major at Loyola Marymount College in Los Angeles, CA. His documentary, entitled “Faith—Physics in Elementary School Education,” is a loving tribute to his mother, Faith, a teacher who imparts her scientific knowledge throughout Sanford, Florida’s Seminole County Public School district in a most unique way.

“In the whole country, this is the only district that has three physics buses that go to elementary schools,” Faith explained. “…And the joy on [the children’s] faces when they are playing [with] science, I had no idea the impact that would have on me!”

First prize in our 33rd Annual High School Poster Contest was awarded to Lea Milanini, a senior at Wylie E. Groves High School in Beverly Hills, Michigan. An avid violin player since age 5, Milanini is pictured in her poster holding her beloved instrument up towards the sky. A burst of light blooms from the stem of the violin, above which hovers a heart. The caption reads, “You Can Make a Difference...Let Your Heart Lead the Way.”

“Inside the heart is a depiction of one of my favorite memories with my violin,” Lea writes in a note to The Christophers, “playing it for kids in Brazil when I organized a humanitarian trip... In life, you sometimes have to stop overthinking, and just let your heart lead the way... One way to let your ‘heart lead the way’ is through music...This is how I made the biggest difference.”

The Christophers Win Two Catholic Media Association Awards

The CMA (Catholic Media Association) recently released their annual award list, featuring the best and the brightest in Catholic journalism. The Christophers are proud to announce that two of our recent News Notes, “Becoming a Wounded Healer” and “Your Extraordinary, Ordinary Days,” were the recipients of two CMA awards this year, earning the first and second place prizes, respectively, in the Best Feature Article: Print Newsletter category. We at The Christophers would like to thank the Catholic Media Association for their recognition. We hope to continue “lighting candles” with our positive media for many years to come.

“It’s better to light one candle than to curse the darkness.”—Christopher motto
Among our 2023 Christopher Award winners were the film Mother Teresa: No Greater Love, about the ministry of the beloved saint; the book Father Ed, which profiles the Jesuit priest who became Alcoholics Anonymous founder Bill Wilson’s spiritual sponsor; and the TV movie The Gift of Peace, about a young widow’s journey through grief.

The Christophers were fortunate to take part in the Religious Education Congress, sponsored by the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, Office of Religious Education, for the past 60 years. The theme of the event this year was “Embrace Grace," and it was truly a grace to meet so many old friends, as well as make new ones who connected with the Christopher message of lighting a candle rather than cursing the darkness.

Fourteen students completed a recent Christopher Leadership Weekend Course at the University of St. Mary of the Lake/Mundelein Seminary, located outside of Chicago. Led by Christopher trained instructors, the course explores leadership qualities within the framework of the Gospel message. Participants learn and practice effective techniques designed to grow their confidence.

The Catholic Marketing Network Convention is a yearly tradition, in which individuals and organizations come together to maximize the impact of their mission. The Christophers were pleased to have the opportunity to share our uplifting materials, and to receive encouraging feedback during this event in Birmingham, Alabama, with highlights including educational conferences, meetings, and Masses.

The Christophers 2024 Calendar
With inspirational quotes, prayers, or Scripture verses for each day of the year, this attractive calendar is ideal for home or office.

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