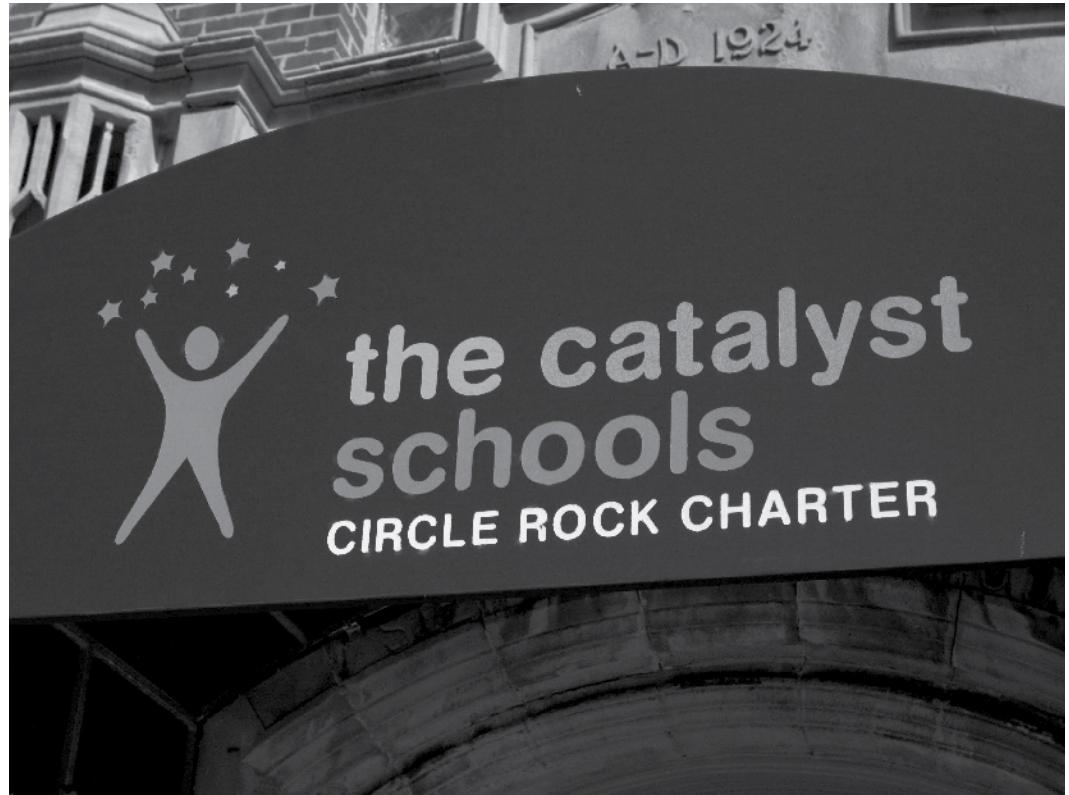


# the catalyst schools





## The Catalyst Schools Chicago, Illinois

**Circle Rock Charter**  
5608 W. Washington Blvd.  
Chicago, IL 60644  
**Phone** 773-945-5025  
**Fax** 773-854-1635  
[crcs.catalystschools.org](http://crcs.catalystschools.org)

**Howland Charter**  
1616 S. Spaulding Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60623  
**Phone** 773-527-7330  
**Fax** 312-626-2330  
[hcs.catalystschools.org](http://hcs.catalystschools.org)

**Administrative Offices**  
5608 W. Washington Blvd.  
Chicago, IL 60644  
**Phone** 773-295-7001  
**Fax** 773-439-5514  
[www.catalystschools.org](http://www.catalystschools.org)

**2011 Annual Report Yearbook  
Volume 2**

## FROM THE DESK OF GORDON HANNON



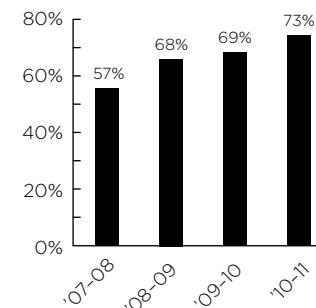
Catalyst had a year to remember. Both campuses went through a rigorous charter renewal process by Chicago Public Schools and received full renewal without condition — the only charters in Chicago to do so. Our enrollment jumped from 722 to 1,030 scholars. At Circle Rock, 84% of scholars who have been with us more than one year met or exceeded expectations in reading and math combined, while scholars new to Howland advanced 10% above their incoming scores. Our 228 graduates are in some of Chicago's finest high schools, keeping pace for a 100% on time high school graduation. In fact, 98% are in a high school with a track record of college placement. In addition, 18% of our graduates are in Selective Enrollment Schools. Our partners continue to help our scholars shine: Ravinia awarded us a full student orchestra, our scholars performed with the Lyric opera and Chicago Children's Choir, Communities in Schools Chicago provides abundant resources for scholars and families, and Circle Urban Ministries attends to mentoring and spiritual support. At each campus, in every room, there are champions working every day to produce results above the ordinary. Thank you for being a member of the Catalyst community and for your continued support.

*Gordon Hannon*

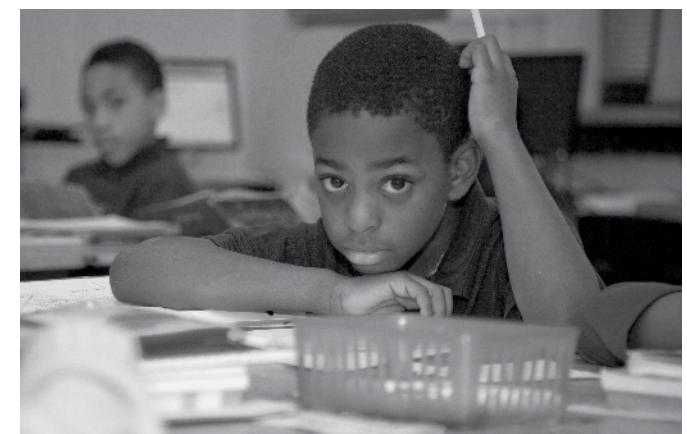
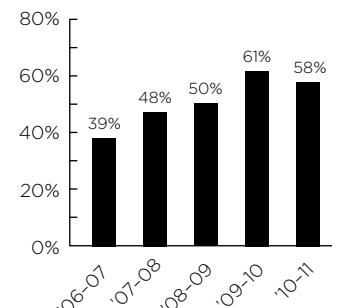
Gordon Hannon  
CEO, The Catalyst Schools

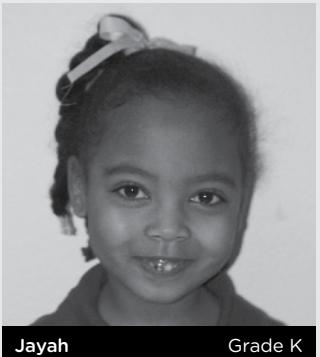


**Composite ISAT Growth  
for Catalyst-Circle Rock**

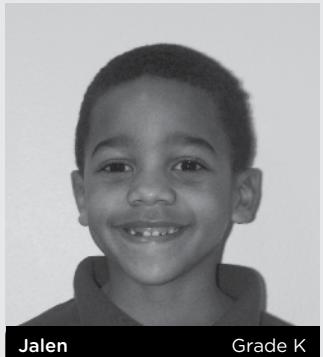


**Composite ISAT Growth  
for Catalyst-Howland**

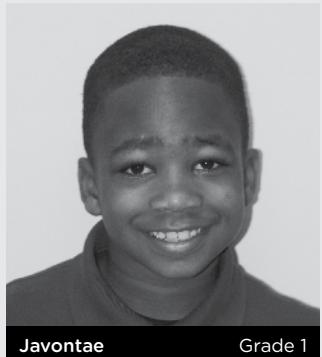




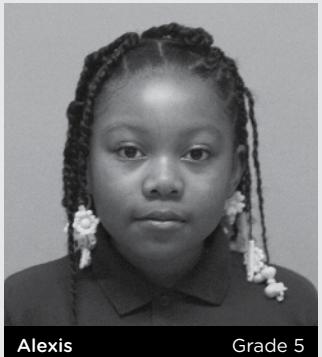
Jayah Grade K



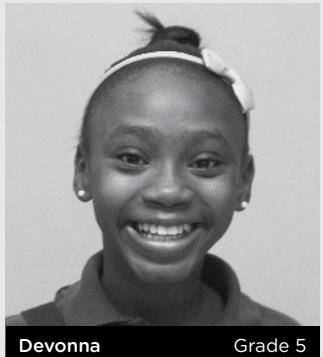
Jalen Grade K



Javontae Grade 1



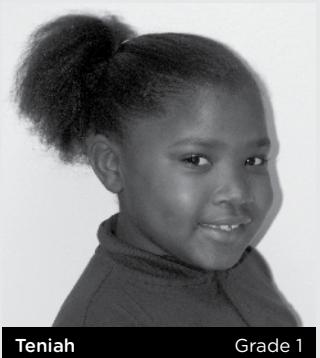
Alexis Grade 5



Devonna Grade 5



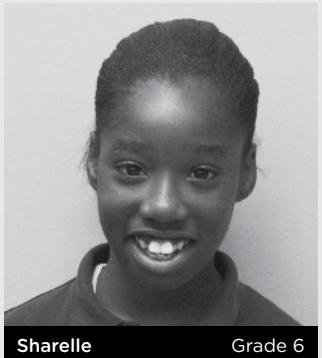
Tandalaya Grade 6



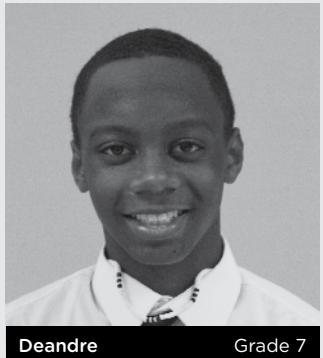
Teniah Grade 1

**"I love Catalyst because it's fun and I like learning. The school is an amazing place. When I first saw this school, I thought it was the best school I'd ever find in my life."**

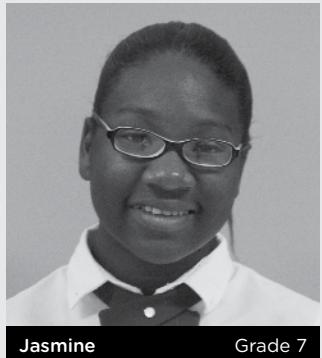
Nyckolas, Kindergarten



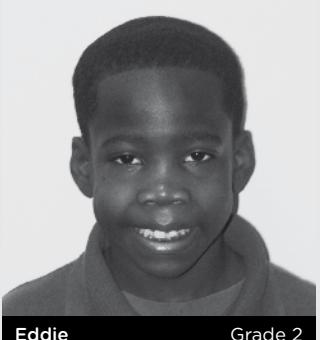
Sharelle Grade 6



Deandre Grade 7



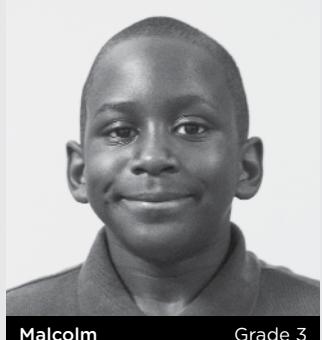
Jasmine Grade 7



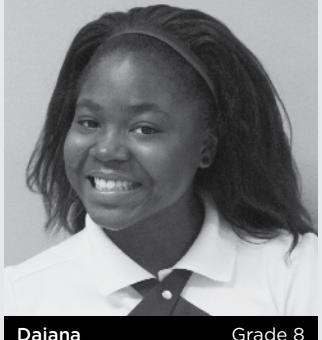
Eddie Grade 2



Shatayvia Grade 2



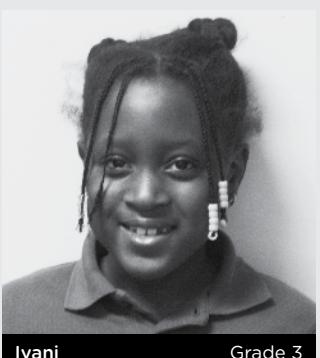
Malcolm Grade 3



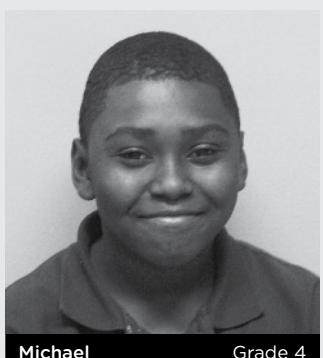
Dajana Grade 8

**"Character is what makes a school. And Catalyst has lots of character. And the students show good character! This is one of many reasons why Catalyst is a great school for me."**

Maxwell, Grade 8



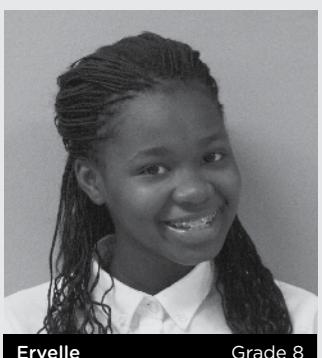
Iyani Grade 3



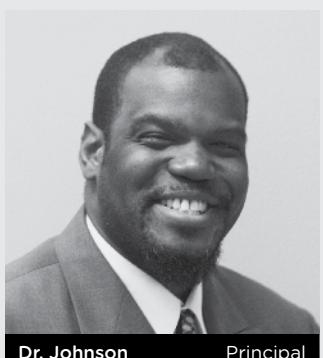
Michael Grade 4



Dorothy Grade 4



Eryelle Grade 8

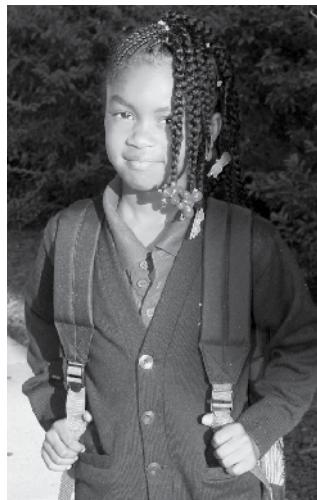


Dr. Johnson Principal

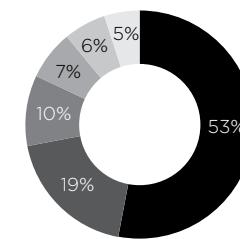


Mrs. List Principal

# CIRCLE ROCK CHARTER— FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL



## WHERE OUR CIRCLE ROCK CHARTER GRADUATES GO



- Charter, Contract, Performance, or Small High Schools
- Private Schools
- CPS Selective Enrollment
- CPS College and Career Academies
- Out of District
- CPS Traditional

# 100%

On track for on-time  
high school graduation

# 100%

Percentage of 9th graders  
promoted to 10th grade

### CPS SELECTIVE ENROLLMENT

	GRADUATES	2008	2009	2010	2011
Jones College Prep					1
Lane Tech College Prep			2		2
Westinghouse		4		2	1

### CHARTER, CONTRACT, PERFORMANCE, AND SMALL SCHOOLS

Ace Tech					1
Austin Business and Entrepreneurship					1
Austin Polytech		3	3	1	1
Chicago Academy for Advanced Technology			1	1	
Chicago High School for the Arts				1	
Chicago Talent Development					4
Collins Academy				1	
North Lawndale College Prep (Collins)			2	1	
North Lawndale College Prep (Christiana)			1	1	
Noble Street (Bulls)				1	2
Noble Street (Golder)					1
Noble Street (Muchin)			1	1	
Noble Street (Pritzker)					1
Noble Street (Rauner)				1	
Noble Street (Rowe Clark)					7
Noble Street (University of Illinois at Chicago)					1
Powerhouse High			1	1	2
Urban Prep (East Garfield)		2		6	12

### CPS COLLEGE AND CAREER ACADEMIES

Douglas College and Career Academy		2	3		1
Prosser Career Academy				1	
Schurz College and Career Academy				1	
Sullivan College and Career Academy					1

### CPS DISTRICT TRADITIONAL

Alternative				1	
Al Raby					2
Amundsen					1

### PRIVATE

Christ the King		1	1	2	9
Chicago Hope				1	1
Fenwick					2
Holy Trinity		3		1	



Eighth grade luncheon



Eighth grade graduation

## CIRCLE ROCK CHARTER ACTIVITIES

Catalyst's Circle Rock campus was bustling throughout the 2010-2011 school year. Our Graduate Support Program's Leadership Day was a special highlight. We welcomed 116 seventh and eighth graders to this event, which included a ceremony headlined by former New York Jets wide receiver Brian Musso. Many parents, teachers, students, and board members attended joined us for this wonderful day.



Leadership ceremony



AM-AR awards

## HERE WE GROW AGAIN

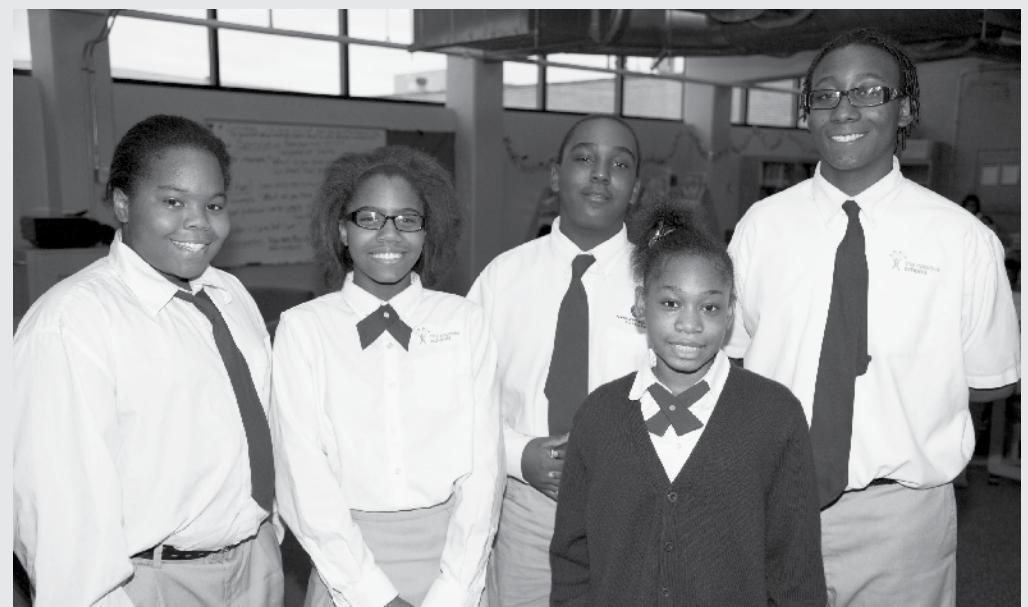
The Catalyst Board of Directors has established a list of goals for the Catalyst Schools — and the growth of our network is on that list.



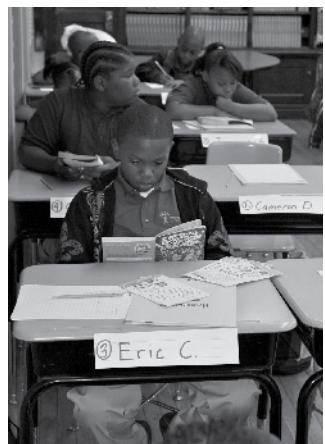
With this in mind, we've recently begun a partnership with a high school on the south side of Chicago that may lead to the initiation of a new Catalyst campus that would encompass grades K-12. We have submitted a request to Chicago Public Schools (CPS) and the State of Illinois; when CPS meets in December, they will render a decision.

"We look forward to the possibility of nurturing the young people in this new community," says Gordon Hannon, CEO of the Catalyst Schools. "This is a part of Chicago with a recognized need for strong schools — schools that will allow students and their families to take advantage of greater educational choice."

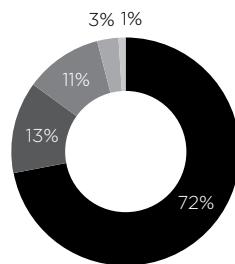
Given the opportunity to open a school in this community, we will champion Catalyst's bedrock commitment to values, character, strong academics, and high expectations. As always, Catalyst will empower its young scholars to become agents of change in the world — and this means that our arrival in Southside Chicago will impact not only the students in the classrooms, but also the culture and outlook of the community itself.



## HOWLAND CHARTER— FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL



## WHERE OUR HOWLAND CHARTER GRADUATES GO



- Charter, Contract, Performance, or Small High Schools
- CPS Selective Enrollment
- CPS College and Career Academies
- Out of District
- Private Schools

**100%**

On track for on-time  
high school graduation

**100%**

Percentage of 9th graders  
promoted to 10th grade

### GRADUATES

#### CPS SELECTIVE ENROLLMENT

	2010	2011
King College Prep	1	1
Lane Tech College Prep		1
Marine Military Academy		1
Phoenix Military Academy		1
Rickover Naval Academy	2	
Von Steuben	1	
Westinghouse	1	1
Whitney Young	2	2

#### CHARTER, CONTRACT, PERFORMANCE, AND SMALL SCHOOLS

	2010	2011
Chicago Academy for Advanced Technology	3	4
Collins Academy	2	1
Hyde Park High School – International Baccalaureate		1
North Lawndale College Prep (Collins)		10
North Lawndale College Prep (Christiana)	14	14
Noble Street (Bulls)	3	3
Noble Street (Rauner)		1
Noble Street (Rowe Clark)		3
Powerhouse High	3	4
Urban Prep (East Garfield)	1	9
VOISE Academy		2
World Language Academy	2	

#### CPS COLLEGE AND CAREER ACADEMIES

	2010
Currie College and Career Academy	2
Douglas College and Career Academy	1
Manley College and Career Academy	3
Marshall College and Career Academy	2
Schurz College and Career Academy	1
Sullivan College and Career Academy	2

#### PRIVATE

	2010
Chicago Hope Academy	1
Christ the King	1

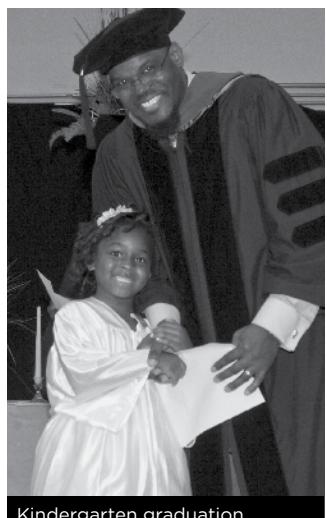
#### OUT OF DISTRICT

	2010
Oklahoma	1
Wisconsin	1



## HOWLAND CHARTER ACTIVITIES

The 2010-2011 school year saw great steps forward at the Catalyst Howland campus — and our partnership with AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) is proof. In March 2011, Howland became the first charter elementary school to be AVID certified, providing rigorous college prep training that prepares our students for the academic challenges ahead.



Kindergarten graduation



Leadership ceremony

## THE YEAR OF THE PARENT IS NOW

*By Charlotte Myers, one of the parents who coordinates our graduate support effort*

Parents are the first and the primary educators of their children. At home, under their parents' care, children learn, grow, and develop into individuals that we eventually meet in our classrooms.

This is why the Catalyst Schools have dubbed 2011-2012 "the Year of the Parent" — a reflection of our commitment to partnering with parents and guardians to provide children with quality relationships, academic rigor, ongoing educational progress, and plenty of opportunities for future success.

The Year of the Parent is more than just a celebration of our parents. It's also an activity-packed year that allows Catalyst to build tighter bonds with these parents so that we can cultivate a nurturing environment where our children can thrive. This means that we emphasize the importance of positive phone calls home, open orientation sessions, informative newsletters, and personalized letters that keep parents up to date on their children's progress and the latest news at Catalyst. We host report card pickup days, open houses, talent shows, and other special events — each of these open to all of our parents. We provide regular training programs for our parents. And through Facebook and Twitter, we offer parents a conversational avenue for keeping in touch.

The Year of the Parent grows from the belief that the Catalyst Schools and the parents and guardians of our students can form a support network capable of defining a child's life. This is a partnership we welcome, cherish, and celebrate. Together, we can raise tomorrow's community leaders, doctors, writers, artists, teachers, inventors, mechanics, engineers, and all the others whose lives are defined by happiness, success, and a desire to give back to others.



# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

July 1, 2010–June 30, 2011

## Revenue:

Local	\$ 6,582,983
Federal	875,540
State	681,764
Individual	69,298
Foundation	297,875
Student Fees/Other	101,711
Event/Corporate	52,950
Organizations	100,795
Total Revenue	<u>\$ 8,762,916</u>

## Expenses:

<i>School Programs:</i>	
Circle Rock	\$ 4,005,483
Howland	<u>3,509,077</u>
	7,514,560
<i>Support:</i>	
Development/Marketing	160,424
Administration	<u>626,871</u>
	787,295
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 8,301,855</u>

# CORPORATE, FOUNDATION, GOVERNMENT, AND ORGANIZATION DONORS

July 1, 2010–June 30, 2011

American Door and Dock	Give Back Foundation	Streamline Paving, Inc.
Anonymous	Hickory Foundation	The Field Foundation of Illinois
Arie & Ida Crown Memorial	Kinder Morgan Foundation	The Hutcherson Family Charitable Fund
B & A Plumbing, Inc.	Life Insurance Benefits LLC	William G. McGowan Charitable Fund, Inc.
Baird Foundation, Inc.	McGuire Woods	Willow Creek Community Church
Bank of America Charitable Foundation	P&M/Mercury Mechanical Corp	
Breaker Electric, Inc.	Peoples Gas Light and Coke Co.	
Campbell Electric, Inc.	Perkins Malo Hunter Foundation	
Code Family Foundation	Roof Management LLC	
Color Trendz Painting, Inc.	Sebert Landscaping Company	
Dependable Building Services, Inc.	Sherwin Community Painters	
Donald P. and Byrd M. Kelly Foundation	Soudan Family Foundation	
Galmont Consulting, LLC	State Board of Education	
GE Capital Corporation	Stearns Family Foundation	
	Strategic Capital Partners	

# INDIVIDUAL DONORS

July 1, 2010–June 30, 2011

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Ms. Sheila Allison	Kimberly and Garret House	John Sommer
Cushman Andrews	Richard and Cynthia Hurd	Mr. and Mrs. Peter Soudan
Anonymous	Richard Hurd Sr.	Ms. Amy Soudan
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Ms. Angela Deane and Mr. Noah Armstrong	Greg and Maria Kopra	Suzanne C. Strohschein
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Mr. Jerry Berg	Michael Kurzman	Mr. and Mrs. Gary Sylvie
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Marilu V. Hancock	Mike and Anne Schrauth	
Mr. Gordon Hannon	Ms. and Mr. Erika Shorney	
	Bro. Ed Siderewicz	

## CATALYST CHARACTER TRAITS



Fairness



Responsibility



Caring



Citizenship



Respect



Trustworthiness

Thanks for all your support –  
I wouldn't be who I am without you!

Hugs,  
Tashyra

What a great year! I want my  
Catalyst years to last forever!  
– Davion

I feel like a new person,  
like a person who can do  
anything in the future.  
Thank you, thank you,  
thank you! Quinton

It's been a great year – I love my  
friends, my teachers, and my classes.  
I'm allowed to love school, right? :)  
Charles

can't wait to see you  
again soon!!!!  
keep in touch, k?  
xoxoxo  
kyana

about Catalyst is? EVERYTHING!!! LOL  
You know what my favorite thing

Erica

love ya

