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PRESS RELEASE

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Seton Catholic Prep Announces \$500,000 Challenge Grant to Benefit Their New Academic/Fine Arts Building

Chandler, AZ July 6, 2011. Seton Catholic Preparatory High School is pleased to announce it has received a \$500,000 Challenge Grant from the Kemper and Ethel Marley Foundation, a private foundation dedicated to supporting Arizona and causes that help those who live and work in Arizona. The foundation's beneficiaries include organizations that support the arts, community enhancement, health and human services, education and medical facilities and research.

The grant will match, dollar for dollar, all gifts given to the school's capital campaign during the 2011 calendar year, up to \$500,000. Funds generated from the challenge grant will be used to purchase state-of-the-art interior furnishings and equipment for the new academic/fine arts building.

The school secured \$6.75 million tax-exempt bond to build the first classroom building of the new campus Master Plan. Construction on the 55,000 sq. ft. building began in March 2010, and will provide much needed classroom space and specialized instruction areas for the fine arts, including a black box theater with seating for 400. The new building is projected to open for the 2011-2012 school year. When completed, the school will have capacity to serve 700 students, up from 530 students currently enrolled.

The Capital Campaign Committee is currently working to secure gifts to provide the interior furnishings, fixtures and equipment, which were not covered by the bond. "The challenge grant from the Marley Foundation is creating much excitement and enthusiasm within the Seton community. People want their gifts to make a difference for our students, and the challenge grant makes each and every gift have double the impact," says Paula Osterday, Director of Advancement.

The three story building is located west of the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Chapel. The sub-level /basement will house specialized classrooms for the arts including band and orchestra, art, pottery, dance, drama, choir, digital media, graphic arts, music composition and a foreign language lab. The first floor will include a black box theater and six multi-use classrooms and the second floor will have eight multi-use classrooms.

Patricia Collins, principal, is looking forward to the 2011-2012 school year and the positive effect the new building will have on the educational program at Seton Catholic Prep. "We are blessed to have community partners, like the Marley Foundation, who are committed to providing quality, values-based educational opportunities for young people in the East Valley," she said.

Seton Catholic Preparatory High School is a co-educational, college preparatory high school serving young men and women from over 50 middle schools and eleven towns and cities throughout the East Valley of metropolitan Phoenix, including Mesa, Gilbert, Ahwatukee, Apache Junction, Queen Creek, Maricopa,

Scottsdale and Tempe. Typically, 98% of the school's graduates continue on to college. In October 2010, Seton Catholic Prep was selected for the National Catholic High School Honor Roll as one of the best Catholic secondary schools in the United States. This award distinguishes and recognizes Seton Catholic Prep in academic excellence, Catholic identity and civic education.

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