



One DeLaSalle Drive Minneapolis, MN - 612.676.7600 - www.delasalle.com

# RiverCurrents

Bridging the news of DeLaSalle on Nicollet Island with our families, friends, and neighbors.

## PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

A new school year is upon us, and I am proud to welcome all of our Islanders, both new and returning, for another year sure to be filled with learning, love, and time with the Lord.

I invite you this year, to seek the Lord in a tangible way:

“To **Taste** and **See** the goodness of the Lord.”

Communion with the Lord is not only in prayer at the beginning of the day or the end, but throughout all of our daily activities. The Lord exists when greeting a new student. The Lord exist when practicing for and playing a game. The Lord exists when we lift up our voices or dance on our feet. The Lord exists in the classroom, in the halls, and in our hearts. In every place we find the Lord and the Lord is good.

I encourage you today, and for the rest of the year, to convene with the Lord's presence and to Taste and See the goodness in all His works.

Blessings and Welcome!

Brother Michael Collins, FSC  
PRESIDENT OF DELASALLE HIGH SCHOOL



*Saint John Baptist de la Salle, pray for us. Live Jesus in our hearts, forever!*



## Home from Kenya

The hearty group of travelers, led by Ms. Peg Hodapp and Mr. Doug Duea, departed the Minneapolis airport on Friday, May 27, ready for a six week summer adventure. These 18 travelers made their way to Nairobi, Kenya and found a land and community much different from their own where the timlieness of American life was forced to slow down.

Their travels led them to two major desintinations: St. Paul's Secondary School in Marsabit and a Lasallian Secondary School in Rongai. Up until 2 years ago, the road to Marsabit did not exist and neither did most of civilization. Now there is a paved road that lead our travelers on. Their journey to Marsabit led them through 7 villages made up of not much more than collections of rounded sticks covered with whatever paper and plastic the people could find. The lack of water was alarming. There had been rain, but the seasonal rivers were dry and plant life had become barren. The native Samburu people were complied of families: warriors with spears and beaded headdresses and women wearing colorful wraps and beads. All around

them was a poverty that was sobering and a bit shocking compared to the daily lives of our students.

After a twelve hour drive, the group landed at Saint Paul's. The school, a well-kept secret, sits on a mountain in an area that is approximately 22 km square. It is an oasis of green in the middle of the desert. The group stayed in three guest houses located in the staff area of the compound. Electricity is now full time at St. Paul's, with the exception of several outages during the stay.

At St. Paul's the DLS students attended class and church, helped with community service, participated in sports, socialized, shared dances, visited a local orphanage and home for children with disabilities, and made pastoral visits to the area outposts or villages with the parish priest. One of the biggest challenges faced by the DLS students was food. Coming from a country where food is abundant and food choice is broad, Kenyan meals were eye opening. Typical meals were porridge for breakfast, githeri (maize and beans) for lunch, and at supper, ugali, a thick boiled corn meal similar to mashed potatoes sometimes served

with rice and boiled beef. On most days, the DLS students ate bread and peanut butter for breakfast and a small group worked with a hired cook to prepare a separate meal for dinner, so, lunch was the only meal shared with their Kenyan friends. Needless to say, beans and corn were not at the top of the list of requested foods upon their return to the U.S.

After three weeks in St. Paul's, the travelers made the long journey southwest to Rongai. In Rongai, Bro. Michael Kimotho, FSC, principal of the Lasallian secondary school warmly greeted the troupe of 18, dusty and exhausted from the hard, dry roads. He escorted them to Rongai's Agricultural and Technical School, a boarding school for high school boys. While there for a short stint, the students attended class with the Rongai students and again participated in community service, sports and Mass. The first full day in Rongai included a visit to Lake Nakuru National game park where flamingos are abundant and baboons are "friendly". The next stop was Mwangaza Technical school, a vocational school that is twinned with DLS. The students of the school were on a break but the DLS students got a tour of the compound by the school head, Br. Brendan Foley, FSC. 80 years young, Br. Brendan is from the east coast district of the Christian Brothers (DNA) and has spent 50

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**Left: James Miller '12 during sports time with the Marsabit students.**



**Right: Addie Cox '12 in traditional dress.**

★ Volunteer and Sell concessions at sport events ★

Mariucci Arena / Williams Arena / Target Center / TCF Field / Target Field / Mall of America Field





## Islander Foundation

Work with DeLaSalle parents. Funds held by Islander Foundation (IF).  
DeLaSalle participants ask for grants from IF for school expenses.

- Vikings and Gophers Football are ready for registration (via the IF Web site)
- Wild, Wolves and U of M fall/winter events will kick off the late portion of September.
- Be sure to complete your trainings, so you are ready to start signing up and working.

For more info on training dates: Please contact Douge M. Schildgen [douge.schildgen@delasalle.com](mailto:douge.schildgen@delasalle.com) 612.676.7682

## Student Activities

Greetings from the activities office!  
Fall activities have started and we are off to a great start. We would like to invite you to attend an activity. Check our website calendar for up to date times and locations. [www.delasalle.com/office-of-student-activities](http://www.delasalle.com/office-of-student-activities)

In the fall, DeLaSalle charges \$5.00 for adults, \$3.00 for seniors and non DeLaSalle students for home volleyball and football events, DeLaSalle students are free of charge at all home regular season events with Student ID. If you attend an away event please be prepared to pay an admission charge for both De students and adults, each school sets their own regular season admission prices. For adults, we have an all season pass available for \$50.00. This will get you in free of charge to all of our home regular season events. We invite you to come check out the Islanders!

For all Parents / Guardians

# Back to School Night

- Meet your student's mentor.
- Go through a mini-version of your student's day.
- Hear teachers explain their course content and expectations.
- Enjoy refreshments and the company of other DeLaSalle parents during "lunch".

**Wednesday, September 7 from 6:00-8:30pm**

Get involved in student activities by volunteering to take tickets at one of our home events. Please contact Peggy Juergens at [peggy.juergens@delasalle.com](mailto:peggy.juergens@delasalle.com) if interested.  
Thanks for your support!

# Christian Brothers' Gala



Saturday, October 15, 2011

5:00 pm to 11:00 pm

### Featuring

The company of hundreds of DLS alumni and friends  
Specialty brew and international wines  
Silent and live auction  
Delicious cuisine

Entertainment by Ginger Commodore and GCQ and the DeLaSalle Chamber Orchestra



**BE OUR GUEST!** Seating is limited and reservations are a must! Reservations will be filled on a first come first served basis. Online reservations preferred, go to [www.delasalle.com](http://www.delasalle.com) and click on the Gala link and then click on Event Registration.

**GET INVOLVED! PICK A VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY!** Your talents are bound to match up with one of our several event volunteer positions. Join the 275 parents, students, alumni and staff who currently volunteer for this event. Fill out the volunteer opportunity sheet you received and return it to DLS ASAP or sign up online by visiting our web page, go to the Gala link and click on Adult Volunteer Sign-Up.

**ATTENTION STUDENTS WISHING TO VOLUNTEER:** Sign up sheets will be available in the main school office or sign up online by visiting our web page, go to the Gala link and click on Student Volunteer Sign Up. Students can receive Christian Service hours for volunteering. If you have already turned in your volunteer sheet, look for your name on the volunteer sign-up sheet.

**PURCHASE AN AD FOR THE EVENING PROGRAM:** A great way to support the Gala and promote your business. All ads will be on the Gala web page as event sponsors! For more information, visit our web site and go to the Gala link and click on the Gala Advertising Opportunities link.

### CONSIDER DONATING AN ITEM TO OUR AUCTIONS:

We are looking for gift certificates and gift cards to restaurants, movie theaters, salons, for services and retail stores. Your donation is most appreciated to ensure the success of our auctions!

### Consider a Cash Gift

Your cash gift will help to underwrite event expenses of your choice. All cash and in-kind donations are tax deductible.

Items received by **September 23** will be listed in the Evening Program. Any item received after that date will be listed on event night, but may not be included in the Evening Program. To get a donation form visit our web page and click on the Gala link and click the Donation Form link.

**Donations are accepted at the Development Office.**

**DE NEEDS YOU!** The Gala provides vital funding for financial aid and classroom needs. Please support our young men and women by buying your ticket or making a donation today. For more information, contact Gerilyn Hommerding, Benefit Director at 612.676.7655 or [gerilyn.hommerding@delasalle.com](mailto:gerilyn.hommerding@delasalle.com).

# Join us For The Christian Brothers' Gala!

# Welcome back DeLaSalle parents!

Join the Parent Association for the upcoming events:

**September 12, 6: 30-8: 00pm Robert Casanova Room**

Welcome back meeting - a preview of the falls activities, and a chance to meet new parents and sign-up for fall volunteer opportunities. We will also have staff and students share their fun travel and missions experiences from the school-sponsored summer opportunities.

**September 23, Homecoming Bonfire**

Come help us serve smores to the students during their bonfire and share a cup of hot chocolate with other parents and siblings!

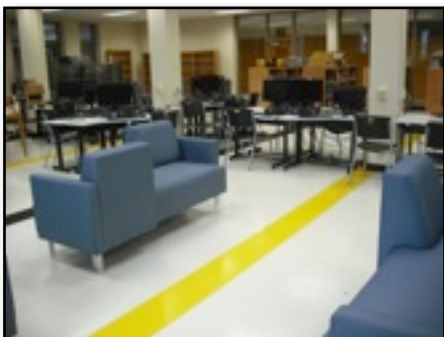
**October 10, 6: 30-8: 00pm Robert Casanova Room**

College "Know and Tell" The college process journey is filled with a wealth of information, many choices and daunting decisions. Come join the Parent Association as we host our DeLaSalle guidance counselors and a handful of students who have been through the journey. Hear their stories, see different perspectives on the experience, and come away with some words of wisdom. A helpful evening for parents in the midst of the process and an informative preview for all others.

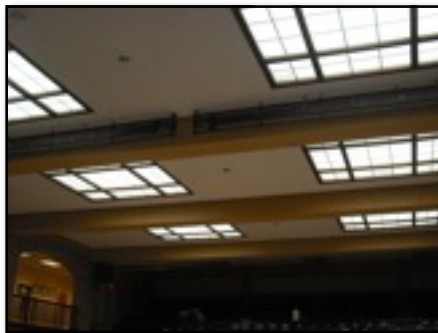
**Parent Association Chairs**  
**Karin Glanville:**  
[karinglanville@live.com](mailto:karinglanville@live.com)  
**Susan Hellstrom:**  
[sjhellstrom@comcast.net](mailto:sjhellstrom@comcast.net)

## DeLaSalle Under Transformation

It is no secret that the implementation of one-to-one technology including students and staff using iPads will widely impact how our school functions on a daily basis, but other exciting updates also happened this summer. Our new school database has been upgraded to a program called Cornerstone. This system allows students and families to check grades, lunch accounts, course work, and provides a hub of information for our staff as well. All students and parents will receive login information regarding this program.



The Library has been transformed into a Modern Technology Center. This space went through the biggest transformation both inside and out. The ceiling and floors were replaced, new windows and doors were installed, and new furniture moved in. There are also hubs of computer stations for our students and staff as well as touch-down points for iPad syncing and staff help. Books are still included in this space, but have been moved back in onto half-height bookshelves equipped with casters for mobility.



The Florence Center began a great transformation regarding the electrical facilities for the space. This project includes bringing more electricity to the Florence Center and better equipping our

performance facility. There are new lighting apparatus and fixtures as well as an updated operating system. This initial upgrade will allow for future additions to continue to support the music, theatre, and liturgical events that happen in this space.



The main gym also received a face lift. The floor was stripped down to the bare wood, repaired, sanded, and refinished with the addition of the DeLaSalle branding included at the ends of the court.

We are so thankful for the generosity of all those who have helped with these great transformations, and hope we may continue to create a modern, safe, and functional space for future Islanders.

## A Cross Cultural Education in Costa Rica

This August, 18 DeLaSalle students and 5 adults traveled to Costa Rica on a unique academic trip that combines science and art with an opportunity to earn 4 semester hours of credit from Hamline University. Teachers Megan Longman and Brad Casey and Hamline professor Dr. Bonnie Ploger spent 10 days with students and Costa Rican guides on a journey of active discovery in some of the most beautiful and biodiverse places on earth.

The trip began in the Monteverde Cloud Forest where the moisture and elevation support and enormous diversity of plants and animals. Students began their day with 5 hours in the forest cataloging flora and fauna and measuring plant species in a small square of land that they compared to a forest in St. Paul. Returning at night the forest came alive with bats, tarantulas and phosphorescent mushrooms.

The group next headed northwest to Playa Hermosa on the Pacific coast. Along the way they encountered a rowdy troop of howler monkeys and an amazing assortment of birds, before settling into their hotel, which was just a short walk to the beach. The northern Pacific coast attracts surfers, retirees, celebrities (Michael Jordan was not home when we sailed by..) and our young scholars who investigated the mangroves, coral and ocean creatures. Led by the colorful Captain Al, the group fished its way across the bay and Jared Cunningham – in a scene from a Hemingway novel – pulled a large amberjack from the sea that later became the group’s dinner.

Turning east, the Arenal Volcano region was the next destination and the Arenal Manoa Hotel proved a splendid base for the group. The Danaus Eco-Center is a former farm that has been reforested and is home to sloths, caimans, poison dart frogs, a huge collection of butterflies, lizards, mammals and plants. Students sketched, photographed and discussed their

observations of interactions between the species present. The La Fortuna waterfall – “like something from Avatar” as one student remarked - ended the day.

The next day began with the Sky



Trek zip line and its two-mile course of 6 runs that reach 650 feet off the ground. All nervous systems were on full alert and the footage from what became known as the “Sam Cam” – a video camera expertly duct taped to the back of Sam Johnson ’13 by Matt Bliss ’12, Emma Bartelt ’13 and Armonia Balch ’13 – will be broadcast this fall in the display case. The day concluded with lunch and a lesson at an amazing organic farm where a former agriculture professor feeds more than 40 people with 2 acres of land and a single dairy cow. Most amazing was the use of the cow’s waste to create methane gas, which was then used to fuel the home and cook our meal.

The Turrialba Valley and the Hotel Casa Turire were the next destination. The

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**Left: The entire Costa Rica crew at the end of their whitewater adventure.**

**Above: Armonia Balch ’12 sketching in the Monteverde Cloud Forest.**

**Looking Ahead: October 2011**

- 10/5 National College Fair
- 10/6 Picture Retake Day
- 10/10 Parent Association Meeting, 6:30pm
- 10/12 All School Test Day / Grades 9, 10, 11
- 10/12 College Visits/grade 12
- 10/15 Christian Brothers' Gala, 5:00-11:00pm
- 10/19 & 10/20 Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences - NO SCHOOL
- 10/21 Professional Development - No School
- 10/24 Open House for Prospective Families 7:00pm-9:00pm
- 10/24 - 10/28 Diversity Week

The most up to date information can always be found on the online school calendar:

<http://www.delasalle.com/news-events/school-calendar>

**Costa Rica Continued from page 6**

first night the group traveled to a small, rural community for dinner and dancing. The warmth and hospitality of our hosts were a memorable way to end the day. The Pucare River was the sight of the next day's adventure. Listed by National Geographic as one of the top five rivers in the world for white water rafting and the sight of this year's world kayaking championships, the Pacuare surges, and then meanders, through deep jungle gorges and rain forests. Class III and IV rapids tested the skills of rafters over 4 thrilling, tiring hours. Only one rafter went overboard and Kelsey Holmquist, Clare McCarthy and Morgan Lieske quickly rescued Mr. Casey.

The last night was spent in true eco-tourism fashion at the Espino Blanca Lodge in the forest near the 11,000 foot

high Turrialba Volcano. Dinner, dancing and toasts by our guides and Dr. Ploger to the wonderful enthusiasm and teamwork of our student travelers highlighted the evening. And what would eco-tourism be without spiders as one baby-carrying mother wolf spider, by some accounts the size of a canned ham, drove several students from their room to safer quarters.

Returning home with a life time of stories, new skills and ideas in science and art, confidence from fears conquered and a better understanding of the global world these students were fantastic representatives of DeLaSalle and the United States. Our relationship with Hamline was strengthened - as Dr. Bonnie said "you have outshone any group I have ever traveled with" and future student academic travelers will benefit from their curiosity and civility.

**Home from Kenya, continued from page 1**

years in Kenya as a missionary. That evening the group was welcomed for dinner and entertainment at the home of the principal of a local girls secondary school. The next day, the group traveled to Bro. Michael's ancestral village and were hosted by his family and friends. A delicious and generous meal was provided and the two groups mingled, shared songs and danced. Before heading back to the school, there was a stop and visit at the Child Discovery Center, a boarding facility, run by the Christian Brothers, for young abandoned or orphaned children.

In the middle of the time in Rongai, the group was treated to a two-night stay in one of the largest and most popular game parks in the world, the Masai Mara. During four game drives, the group spotted elephants, giraffes, a rhino, cheetahs, zebras, wildebeest, gazelles, wart hogs, lions, and more. Additionally, the resort was located next to a large hippo pond where dozens of hippos spent their days keeping cool. After a short, final stay in Rongai and two days in Nairobi, the group boarded their plane home. New friendships had been forged and new experiences learned. What a life altering way to spend the first six weeks of summer.

**DeLaSalle Theatre**



*Alice in Wonderland*  
**November 11, 12, 18, and 19 at**  
**7:30pm**

# "THE SOURCE"

Find the Daily Announcements at  
**"THE SOURCE"**

Click the Student or Parent tab at the top of the DeLaSalle homepage to access the daily announcements. This page also includes links to registration information and school events.

Stay up to date with "THE SOURCE".

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