



# AQUINAS HIGH SCHOOL

*Large enough to challenge, small enough to care*

For Immediate Release

## Shea Family Charities, the J.F. Shea Company and San Manuel Band of Mission Indians Announce Funding of Performing Arts Center at Aquinas HS

**\$10 Million in Donations Support 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Capital Campaign**

**San Bernardino, CA (January 22, 2016)** - A theater, band room, rehearsal space, scene shop, and state-of-the-art lighting and sound are just some of what students at Aquinas High School will experience in a new Performing Arts Center funded through generous grants from Shea Family Charities and the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians.

In conjunction with its 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year, Aquinas High School has initiated an Anniversary Capital Campaign to support the construction of the new music and theater facility. The campaign for the new performing arts center has been bolstered by contributions totaling \$10 million from Shea Family Charities, the J F Shea Company and San Manuel.

“For 60 years Aquinas High School has provided a well-rounded, values-centered education to thousands of students from the greater San Bernardino area,” said San Manuel Chairwoman Lynn Valbuena. “We are honored to join with Shea Family Charities to help showcase the importance of theater arts and music education for generations of future students.”

Aquinas is committed to building and strengthening visual and performing arts within the school community, the city of San Bernardino and the region. Dr. Jim Brennan, president, states, “We are pleased to be able to expand our educational program through this facility. It will be a great benefit to students and the community in general.”

The new 350 seat center will be located on campus and be the home of the Visual and Performing Arts program at Aquinas. The \$10 million project will break ground in June 2016 with an expected completion date of November 2017.

Aquinas will celebrate the culmination of the building campaign on the feast of St. Thomas Aquinas on January 28. Auxiliary Bishop Rutilio Del Riego will be the presider of a Mass in the gym at 10 a.m. on the Aquinas campus. The Bishop will also bless the land on which the new center will be built. There will be a reception to follow in the Rezek Center, with a special Bird Song ceremony from tribal members of the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians.

Aquinas High School is a 27 acre, co-educational Catholic School located in San Bernardino Calif., which serves local communities within the Inland Empire.

For more information, please contact Dr. Jim Brennan 909.886.4659 ext 260



**2012, 2013, 2014, 2015**

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