



Christian Academy

SCHOOL SYSTEM

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**CHRISTIAN ACADEMY RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS
NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL AWARD**

U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan today recognized Christian Academy of Louisville High School as one of only 304 schools nationwide - and the only Kentucky high school – to be designated a 2010 National Blue Ribbon School. Secretary Duncan was joined by Washington, D.C. Mayor Adrian M. Fenty, D.C. Public Schools Chancellor Michelle Rhee and George Washington University Provost Steven Lerman for the announcement at School Without Walls Senior High School, a 2010 Blue Ribbon School in Washington, D.C.

According to information provided by the U.S. Department of Education, the Blue Ribbon Schools Program “honors public and private elementary, middle and high schools that are either academically superior or that demonstrate dramatic gains in student achievement for disadvantaged students. The Program is part of a larger Department of Education effort to identify and disseminate knowledge about best school leadership and teaching practices.” Each year since 1982, the U.S. Department of Education has sought out schools where students attain and maintain high academic goals.

The 2010 National Blue Ribbon schools – 254 public and 50 private – will be honored at an awards ceremony Nov. 15-16 in Washington, D.C. Less than 1% of all

schools in America were honored with the 2010 National Blue Ribbon School distinction, and the U.S. Department of Education reports that of the nation's 133,000 public, charter, private, and parochial schools serving grades K-12, fewer than 5% have been recognized as Blue Ribbon Schools since the inception of the program in 1982.

"Our nation has a responsibility to help all children realize their full potential," Duncan said. "Schools honored with the Blue Ribbon Schools award are committed to achievement and to ensuring that students learn and succeed. Their work reflects the conviction that every child has promise and must receive a quality education."

The Blue Ribbon Schools Program honors public and private schools that meet one of two criteria: high performing or dramatically improving. Christian Academy of Louisville High School was honored by excelling in the high performance category, meaning students ranked in the top 10% in the nation in math and reading (English language arts) on nationally-normed tests.

Principal Linda Rafla credited the school's faculty and students, both past and present, for the accomplishment. "This is the culmination of the dedication and hard work of many, many teachers who have been committed to providing an exceptional spiritual and academic foundation for our students. And of course, it reflects the tremendous effort of our students. God has blessed our school, and we are honored and humbled by this recognition."

Founded in 1976, the Christian Academy School System holds a distinctive place among educational institutions in the Louisville and Southern Indiana area by providing high-quality, affordable Christian education for over 30 years. Today, the Christian Academy School System serves almost 3,000 students from Preschool - 12th Grade on four campuses in the Louisville and Southern Indiana area.

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