

# Welcome to Gesu School!

**Gesu School** is an independent Jesuit Catholic school grades pre-K to 8. Inspired by the Jesuit and IHM traditions of social justice, faith, hope and love, Gesu School strives, without selective admissions, to provide a quality, innovative education for our neighbor children to empower them to break the cycle of poverty and violence.

- Gesu School embraces the Jesuit ideal of *cura personalis*—care of the whole person—and the IHM belief that every child can learn, providing programs to build a variety of academic and personal skills across a range of ability levels.
- While Gesu admits students on a non-selective basis, more than 90% of our alumni graduate from high school on time—in a school district

where only 61% of high schoolers graduate in four years. Many of our graduates attend top college preparatory, independent, Catholic, charter, and magnet high schools.

- Over 85% of Gesu School's graduates enroll in post-secondary education, as compared to 46% of the African American graduates of the Philadelphia public high schools.
- Gesu School's primary service area includes the three poorest zip codes in the City of Philadelphia. Tuition covers only a fraction of our costs. Critical financial support from outside donors provides our students with a quality, innovative education.

**Welcome** to our 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium on Transforming Inner-City Education. As a pioneer in urban education, Gesu School continues to learn new ways to better serve our children, while striving to share with others what's worked. This symposium has become a time-honored tradition for that purpose.

We hope that you find today's discussion impactful, and that our work here generates new ideas to benefit children living in inner cities across the nation.

Peace and blessings,



Bryan Carter  
President and CEO

## Program

### Prelude

Gesu Gospel Choir  
directed by H.L. Ratliff

### Opening Remarks

Bryan H. Carter, President and CEO

### Film Screening

*The Prep School Negro*

### Keynote Address

André Robert Lee, Director and Producer  
of *The Prep School Negro*

### Panel Discussion

### Closing

J. Gordon Cooney Jr., Board Chairman

### Reception

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## Past Symposia

**2013** The Hidden Power of Character

**2012** Financing Futures: The Funding Challenges Facing Inner-City Catholic Schools

**2011** Educating Inner-City Children in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

**2010** Closing the College Gap: What Can Universities, Schools and Communities Do?

**2009** Transforming Inner-City Education: Faith-Based Schools? Charter Schools? Magnet Schools? Renaissance Schools? Is There One Answer?

**2008** Transforming Inner-City Education: Lessons in Leadership

**2007** Inner-City Education: What's Old? What's New? What's Next?

**2006** Transforming Inner-City Education: Can an Early Start Change the Outcome?

**2005** How Colleges and Universities Can Partner with Faith-Based Communities to Serve Urban Children in Need

**2004** Transforming Inner-City Education: Lessons from the Entrepreneurs

**2003** Educational Reform: What's Next?

**2002** Children Learning Amid Stress

**2001** Research and Roadblocks to Developing Young Readers

**1999** The Urban Child in Peril: Can Literacy Change the Outcome?

**1998** Do Faith and Vouchers Mix?

**1997** Inner-City Education: Are Faith-Based Schools an Answer?



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# The **JOURNEY** through an independent school

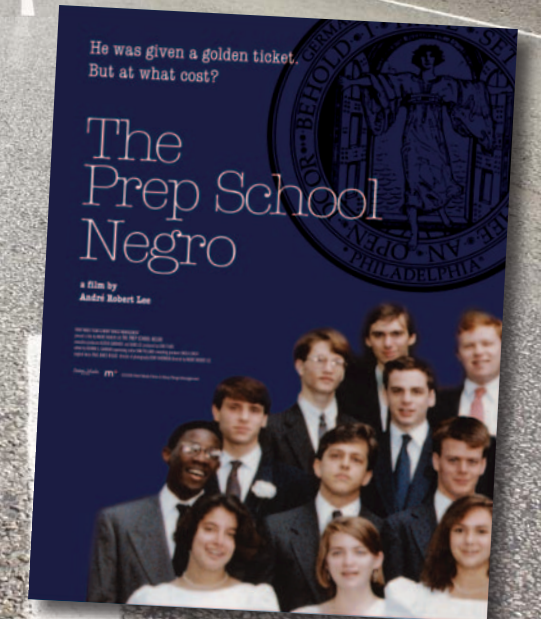
Gesu School's 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium  
on Transforming Inner-City Education



Featuring film screening of  
***The Prep School Negro***

Keynote address by  
**Director André Robert Lee**

**#GesúSymposium**



**Program | November 7, 2014**

## Generously sponsored by:

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## Keynote Speaker

### André Robert Lee

André Robert Lee, Director and Producer of *The Prep School Negro*, has visited more than 200 schools and institutions in the U.S. and abroad screening the educational version of the documentary. He has conducted countless outreach workshops related to the film and serves as a consultant and advisor for Connecticut College's Mellon Undergraduate Research Program in the Arts and Humanities.

Lee has worked with the New York City Public Schools, The Ford Foundation, Miramax Films, HBO, and Dreamworks and has been a speaker at The Gates Millennium Scholars Program Leadership Conferences. He is a member of the Connecticut College Alumni Board of Directors and the Advisory Board for Ready Willing and



Able: The Doe Fund, Inc. He also serves on the Jury for the Academy Awards Student competition and serves as a Reader for The Gates Millennium Scholars Program.

## Moderator

### Steve Piltch, Ed. D.



Steve Piltch has spent his entire career as a scholar, teacher, coach, counselor, and educational administrator. One of nine children, he attended the Cambridge and Brookline,

Mass. public schools. For him, school was a great experience, in which he says he was challenged as well as supported, held accountable, and appreciated for who he was. "I always loved school. It was fun, and it made me feel good," he says.

Piltch holds a Bachelor's degree from Williams College, two Masters degrees in education, and a Doctorate in education from Harvard University. He has taught in public and independent schools and is currently an instructor at the University

of Pennsylvania. He has coached a number of sports including soccer, basketball, baseball and squash. Along the way, he had the privilege to coach the women's and men's squash teams at Harvard, which combined to win six national championships under his direction. Piltch has been Head of School of The Shipley School since 1992. He has served on a number of boards, including The Gladwyne Montessori School, The Wyndcroft School, Girard College, ADVIS, and PAIS. Currently, among others, he is on the boards of The Center for the Study of Boys' and Girls' Lives (CSBGL), SpeakUp, The Gesu School, and Chester Charter School for the Arts.

He is an avid sportsman and enjoys his time with his wife, Sunny, who teaches English at Shipley, and their three children, Matt, Ali, and Jamie, all of whom graduated from Shipley. Matt graduated from Williams College in 2012 and currently works for Deloitte Touche in Boston. Ali graduated from Williams in 2014 and works for Bain Consulting in Boston, and Jamie is a sophomore at Harvard.

## Panelists

### Henry D. Fairfax, M.S.Ed

Henry D. Fairfax grew up in Philadelphia and attended The Haverford School, where he graduated in 1999. He attended Drexel University on a full basketball scholarship while earning a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Marketing. In July 2010, Fairfax earned his Master's Degree in the School Leadership Program at The University of Pennsylvania.



As a student at The Haverford School, Fairfax earned Honorable Mention McDonald's All American honors, 1st Team All City, Delco Player of the Year, Inter-Ac MVP honors, and led the basketball team to its first championship in 22 years. While basketball has opened many doors for Fairfax, his journey through and involvement in education extends far beyond the basketball court; in 2003 his desire to offer kids opportunities in independent schools led him to McDonogh School in Owings Mills, Md. Fairfax team-taught a freshman English course, coached high school basketball, middle school track, and served as an adjunct dorm parent. His primary role at McDonogh was Director of The Foundations Program, a program created to help first generation students and family's transition into independent school settings.

In 2008 Fairfax returned to The Haverford School. Fairfax now serves as Director of Admissions and Head Basketball Coach. In these dual roles Fairfax has led the Admissions Team to historic enrollment levels, highest in selectivity and retention. In three seasons at the helm, he led the basketball team to 48 wins, two quarter finals, and one final four appearance. Fairfax served as Co-Chair for the National Association of Independent Schools People of Color Conference held in Philadelphia in the fall of 2012. While Fairfax is proud of his work in education he admits his claim to fame is his beautiful family.

### Eileen Daly Killeen, M.A.

Eileen Daly Killeen serves as the Director of Admissions at Merion Mercy Academy, which is an independent, Catholic, college preparatory school sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy.



As an alumna of Merion Mercy and a legacy, Killeen brings with her a strong commitment to the core values of Mercy. Sisters of Mercy founder Catherine McAuley crusaded for the rights of the underserved, and she placed emphasis on education and care for women and children. These works have become the hallmark of the Mercy charism, which Killeen embraces each day.

She has acted as the school's Director of Admissions for more than 35 years, and with each year she brings new enthusiasm to the mission of educating young women. She takes a particular interest in maintaining the school's racially and socioeconomically diverse student population. She is deeply committed to students who are most marginalized, and she believes that quality education changes lives.

Killeen also gives many volunteer hours to mission schools, assisting them as they prepare their students for their futures. Furthermore, Killeen helped to develop several programs at Merion Mercy, including the Katharine Drexel Saturday Program and the Summer Academy, that provide opportunities for underserved students. These programs take a holistic approach to enriching academic experiences for young women and getting them ready for their high school years and beyond.

Killeen earned both a B.A. in Psychology and an M.A. in Secondary Counseling from Villanova University. She worked as a counselor before beginning her multi-decade tenure at Merion Mercy Academy. She has been married for 38 years and has four children and four grandchildren. She is a patron of the arts and loves to travel.

### Daryl Shore, M.S., M.B.A.

Daryl Shore is a Vice President within Global Philanthropy at JPMorgan Chase & Co, a global leader in corporate philanthropy with \$200 million invested in communities annually. As Program Officer, he is



responsible for managing a sophisticated, highly-visible housing and community development portfolio consisting of traditional grants and other flexible capital. Shore joined the firm in 2010.

He sits on the board of Gesu School, an independent school, pre-K to 8th grade, in one of the most marginalized neighborhoods of Philadelphia, as well as on the board of the Harlem Wellness Center, a nonprofit health and wellness center which supports life-long healthy living practices in Harlem, New York City.

Prior to joining Global Philanthropy at JPMorgan Chase & Co, Mr. Shore held two previous roles in the firm's Community Development Banking Group and Business Banking. Before joining JPMorgan Chase, Shore spent six years at Fannie Mae in various roles. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, a Master of Business Administration degree from Clark Atlanta University and a Master of Science degree from Johns Hopkins University.

Shore is a graduate of both Westtown School and Gesu School.

### Howard C. Stevenson, Ph.D.

Dr. Howard Stevenson is the Constance Clayton Professor of Urban Education, Professor of Africana Studies, and former Chair of the Applied Psychology and Human Development Division in the Graduate School



of Education at the University of Pennsylvania. He is a nationally recognized researcher in independent and public K-12 schools and teaches how children can develop healthy racial identities. Stevenson's research involves teaching racial stress management. The PLAAY (Preventing Long-term Anger and Aggression in Youth) Project uses basketball and racial socialization to help youth and parents cope with stress from violence and social rejection. With Penn professors Loretta and John Jemmott, and Christopher Coleman, Stevenson co-leads the SHAPE-UP: Barbers Building Better Brothers Project which trains Black barbers to be health educators of HIV/STDS and violence risk reduction and negotiation skills to Black 18-24 year old males while they are cutting hair.

His most recent book, *Promoting Racial Literacy in Schools*, shifts away from "colorblind-ness" toward racial literacy: the ability to read, recast, and resolve racially stressful encounters when they happen. The book is currently ranked 13 in the top education books as listed by the Library Journal and uses research on racial interactions and 30 years of intervention experience in schools to prepare children, parents and teachers to identify unfairness, self-advocate and become academically assertive.

Stevenson argues that promoting racial justice and academic excellence in schools has become more of an idolatry of racial idealism and must evolve for every student into learning how to reduce racial stress and negotiate face-to-face racial encounters.