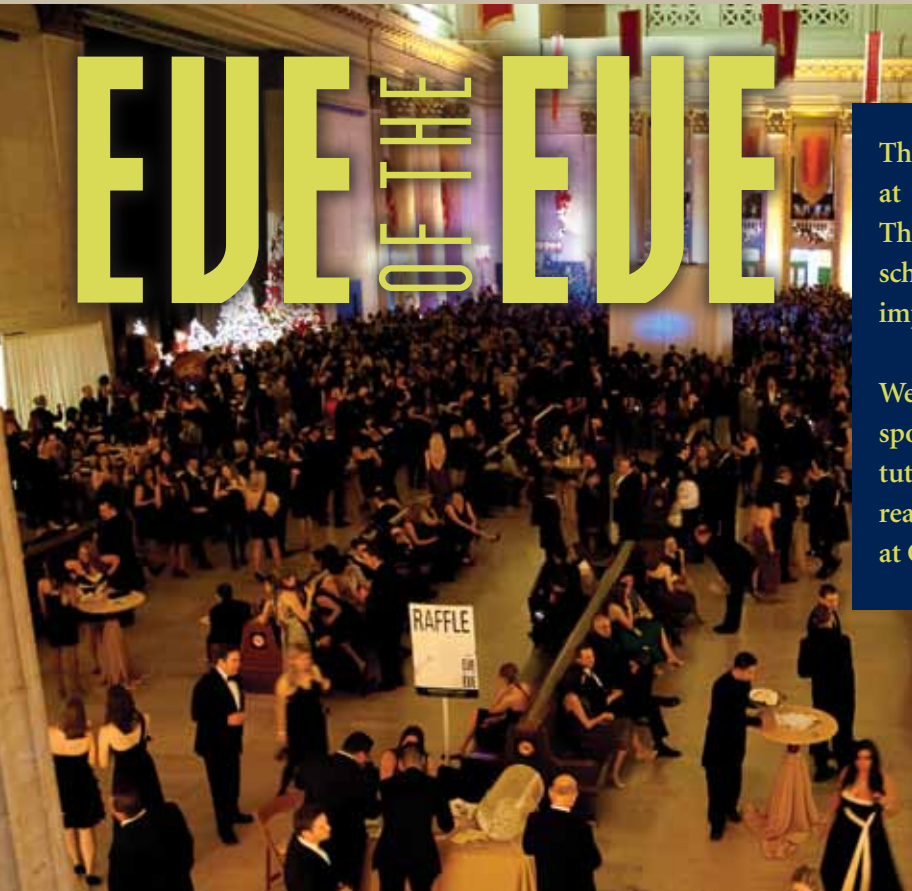




# HIGH SIGHT

HighSight's mission is to provide academic and social support to Chicago high school students. HighSight provides scholarships, tutoring, mentoring, leadership development and college readiness programs to enable its students to attend and succeed at the private high school of their choice.

WINTER 2012



The 18th annual EVE of the EVE, held December 30, 2011 at Chicago Union Station, was a tremendous success. This year's event raised nearly \$190,000 for HighSight scholarships - an impressive figure in any year, but especially impressive given the continuing economic climate.

We are deeply grateful to all our guests, supporters and sponsors, whose generosity helps to provide scholarships, tutoring, mentoring, leadership development and college readiness programs so our scholars may continue to succeed at Chicago's private high schools.

\* To learn more about sponsorship opportunities for EVE of the EVE 2012 or any of HighSight's upcoming fundraisers, please contact **Melinda Green** at 312.787.9824 ext. 228 or e-mail [melinda.green@highsight.org](mailto:melinda.green@highsight.org).



» To view all the pictures and press from EVE of the EVE 2011, please visit [highsight.org](http://highsight.org).

# INSIGHT

## MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM



▲ Some of the Insight Tutors with Sister Stephanie (second row, far right).

Since 1991, Sister Stephanie Schmidts has been the Director of the Insight Tutor & Mentor Program which was inspired by Father Sebastian Lewis, pastor of St. Joseph Parish for 41 years. The parish and school served families from the Cabrini Green Housing Project. Father believed that education was the road to success for all children.

Under the leadership of Sister Stephanie, every student in St. Joseph School met with an adult tutor on a weekly basis. In 1992, the Insight program gave birth to the HighSight organization. When the school closed, HighSight was able to adopt the Insight program in order to assure its existence.

Currently, the Insight Program has 78 students in grades four through eight with 40 volunteer tutors. Each year the tutors have a fundraiser, the Fall Fling, dedicated to support the Father Sebastian Lewis Scholarship Fund and Insight program. In 2011, the Fall Fling raised \$22,000. Thank you to all who supported the event.

## » OUR NEW PARTNERSHIP



When you are selling or buying a home, or for other real estate transactions, you can now help HighSight by choosing a socially responsible real estate agent. Investing In Communities (IIC) is a unique philanthropic program where businesses, real estate professionals, and the general public work together to help participating nonprofits. When you choose an IIC Real Estate Member for your real estate transaction, they pledge to donate a portion of their commissions to us when you designate HighSight. **Please visit [www.iiconline.org](http://www.iiconline.org) to find out how.**

# MENTOR SPOTLIGHT

## » CHRIS DUFFY



Chris Duffy, Boe Chmil '12, and Ryan Liedke '12

When asked to verbalize his favorite part of being in the HighSight community, Chris Duffy said, "I enjoy seeing the kids grow from freshman to seniors and being a part of the progress they make as individuals." Chris Duffy, a Global Sales Manager at Cisco Systems, has been a mentor at HighSight for three years. In those three years, Chris has touched many lives and forged many friendships that are valuable to HighSight scholars.

At HighSight, Chris Duffy is best known for his math skills. Originally from Wilmette, IL, Chris studied Economics, with a concentration in financial markets, at Colby College. While his math skills are definitely top notch, Chris also helps students in a wide variety of areas. His skill set, his genuine desire to help and his love for kids, has made it easy for the students to approach him and learn from him.

In addition to Calculus support and Geometry tutoring, Chris simply enjoys simply engaging the students. He values, "developing a level of trust with the scholars and helping them grow their expectations on who they think they should be". The level of trust Chris shares with the HighSight scholars is impressive. Their camaraderie is so strong that many of the scholars ask him for advice and trust his judgment.

“  
I enjoy seeing the kids grow from freshman to seniors and being a part of the progress they make as individuals.  
”

- Chris Duffy

Outside of HighSight, Chris leads a busy, well-rounded life. He enjoys travel and has recently been to Europe, Singapore, and India to name a few. He also enjoys the outdoors. Specifically, Chris enjoys boating and running. Chris has run, and continues to run, marathons in Chicago and elsewhere.

To best summarize who Chris Duffy is and what he means to our community, one of the senior HighSight scholars said, "If I grow up to be like Chris, I'd be proud. My parents would be proud. He's the smartest, nicest guy I know."

## GEORGE TOMA '12

ST. BENEDICT PREPARATORY  
HIGH SCHOOL, CLASS OF 2012



George Toma '12 and mentor, Art Hofstetter

Every Tuesday afternoon, I find myself deeply engaged with the teachings of my mentor, Art. I am fortunate to have a scholarship organization, HighSight, assist my family with my high school tuition. However it is not the assistance with school tuition I find to be HighSight's most valuable asset. Instead mentors like Art who help students like me out every week make HighSight unique.

My junior year, Art and I worked on a paper determining if former President Kennedy's words still matter. Initially, I thought this was an extraneous assignment since Kennedy delivered his inaugural address fifty years ago. However, after dissecting his address, I was fascinated that even after half a century, his words are as important now as they were then.

When I delve into memories that demonstrate a bit about me, this is the one that stands out. First, I love to learn. Last year, I never missed a single mentoring session with Art, not because I was forced to, but because it was the one day out of the week I looked forward to. Each week, I was astounded by Art's knowledge that he was able to pass on to me. He simplified Kennedy's address, which I did not view as extraneous but as interesting and relevant. Kennedy's desire for social awareness, public service, and the elimination of poverty stood out. Interpreting what Kennedy said taught me to better structure and research a paper. In addition to my eagerness to learn, this memory also demonstrates my perception of knowledge. I don't write papers, or turn in lengthy assignments just to better my grade, but I apply what I learned to my life. Kennedy's ambition for us to take initiative and stand up to social issues motivated me to take a stand in student government and bring up the issue of an eco-friendly environment. My school has now eschewed the use of styrofoam plates, plastic eating utensils, and offer healthy options to eat.

This memory helps me realize the hard work and dedication I put into every assignment. I will no longer view assignments as extraneous, or pointless, but a way to benefit my learning. Working with Art taught me to be more optimistic about homework, because, after all, who knew an essay for my honors class would help define me.



## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT UPDATES

### Jacky Neri '09



Sonia Mendez, Karina Mendez '09, and Jacky at this year's EVE of the EVE

- > Holy Trinity High School, Class of 2009
- > Kenyon College, Class of 2013

For her fall semester at Kenyon, Jacky was accepted into a 16 week program at The Philadelphia Center, one of the nation's oldest experiential education and off-campus study programs, where students work 32 hours a week in an internship they choose, enroll

in two seminars, and live independently in Philadelphia. Jacky's seminars were Dialogues across Differences: Constructions of Race in America and Exploring Relationships in Fiction and Film: Sex, Gender, and Sexuality. Her internship was at MoMobile, part of Maternity Care Coalition, a dynamic nonprofit organization dedicating itself to improving maternal and child health and well-being through the collaborative efforts of individuals, families, providers, and communities. Jacky's two sisters, Tania and Patricia, are also HighSight scholars. Tania graduated from Holy Trinity in 2011 and is attending Knox College and Patricia is a freshman at Holy Trinity, currently ranked second in her class.



### Delana Colvin '07

- > Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School, Class of 2007
- > DePauw University, Class of 2011

Delana is pursuing her master's degree at DePaul University's College of Communication studying Organizational and Multicultural Communication. In May 2011 she graduated from DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana with a bachelor degree in Communication. She is also working part-time for a marketing consulting firm in Chicago. Delana recently started mentoring at HighSight on Tuesday evenings, assisting students academically and answering questions about her college experience. Her sister Diamond, also a HighSight scholar and Mother McAuley alumna, is attending the University of Wisconsin-Madison.



Kevin and his mom, Delores Smith, at his 2009 graduation

### Kevin Smith '05

- > Luther South High School, Class of 2005
- > University of Notre Dame, Class of 2009

Kevin graduated from the University of Notre Dame with a major in Science Preprofessional Studies and a minor in Anthropology. He recently completed a Post Baccalaureate Program called MEDPREP, at Southern Illinois University Carbondale and is currently enrolled as a first year medical student at Saint Louis University. Kevin will obtain his M.D. on May 15, 2015.

# HIGH SIGHT

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highsight.org

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## » HIGHTSIGHT CALENDAR OF EVENTS



HIGHTSIGHT

Friday, April 20, 2012

### Happy Hour

5:30pm - 8:30pm

STATE Restaurant

935 West Webster Avenue

Tickets: \$30



Wednesday, May 9, 2012

### Go Another Mile Scholarship Dinner

5:30pm - 8:30pm

Symphony Center

67 East Adams Street

Tickets: \$100

Tables: \$500, \$1,000 and \$2,500



Wednesday, June 6, 2012

### Midsummer Eve of the Eve

5:30pm - 9:30pm

The Plaza at Park Grill

11 North Michigan Avenue

Tickets: \$60 in advance / \$75 day of

Visit [highsight.org](http://highsight.org) to purchase tickets or call **312.787.9824** for more information!

Follow HighSight on Facebook at [facebook.com/HighSightChicago](https://www.facebook.com/HighSightChicago)