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CHAMINADE-MADONNA HONORS MODERN DAY FOUNDERS

Hollywood, FL – Chaminade-Madonna College Preparatory honored longtime supporters Joseph and Winifred Amaturio, the school's financial advisor Stephen Morrell, Ph.D., of Barry University, and former Madonna Academy teacher and current Chancellor for Administrative Affairs for the Archdiocese of Miami Sr. Elizabeth Ann Worley, SSJ as modern day founders of the school at the Thirty-Seventh Annual Founders Dinner Dance held on Saturday, January 19, at the Signature Grand in Davie.

Over 100 guests, including past Founders Award recipients, members of the Society of Mary (the Marianists), current and former members of the school's Board of Trustees, and members of the Archdiocese of Miami, including the Archbishop, Most Reverend Thomas Wenski, joined the celebration in recognition of the honorees' commitment to developing the Catholic and Marianist foundation of the high school.

Joseph and Winifred Amaturio of the Amaturio Family Foundation have been longtime, generous benefactors of Chaminade-Madonna, focusing their work on helping families who have known very difficult challenges in affording their children a Catholic Education in the Marianist tradition. In addition, their foundation has benefitted many local causes, especially the Accelerated Reading and Advance Math course implemented in every Catholic school in Broward County and benefitting over 5,000 students. The Amaturio Theater at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts is also close to the Amaturio's hearts. The theater is named in honor of Joseph's parents, and focuses on introducing Broward school children to the art of live theatre via free performances.

Stephen Morrell, Ph.D., Professor of Economics and Finance in the Andreas School of Business of Barry University, has served as the Investment Advisor to the Chaminade-Madonna Board of Trustees' Finance Committee for 16 years. He also currently serves as a Senior Research Fellow for Florida TaxWatch, a public policy research organization, as well as Chair of the Florida Council of Economic Advisors at the organization – a group of eight distinguished economists who provide research and public policy advice to Florida's business leaders and elected and appointed officials.

Sr. Elizabeth Ann Worley, SSJ was a well-respected and well-loved chemistry teacher at Madonna Academy immediately prior to its merger with Chaminade High School in 1988. As a Sister of St. Joseph since 1963, she has served the Catholic Church in Florida in education, healthcare administration and diocesan administration. Her positions have included Chair of the Board of Mercy Hospital, CEO of Catholic Hospice in Miami, and Chancellor for Administration and Chief Operating Officer for the Diocese of Orlando. She continues her lifetime of service to the Catholic Church as the Chancellor for Administrative Affairs for the Archdiocese of Miami.

In his closing remarks, Chaminade-Madonna President Rev. Larry Doersching, S.M., expressed his gratitude to the audience, "It is our distinct pleasure to honor these men and women tonight as great examples of founders, of those whose generosity and hard work have formed and shaped our school into the premier Catholic college preparatory school of South Florida."

The Founders Award was established in 1975, to acknowledge those who have been influential in the history of Chaminade-Madonna. The award recognizes a lifetime of achievement and the benefits that result from the honoree's unselfish commitment to helping others. Each honoree demonstrates a genuine commitment to the school's mission, and its educational philosophy which emphasizes development of faith, the cultivation of moral values, and the preparation for higher education which will lead to a successful life. Since its inception, 88 men and women have been honored, including religious members of the Society of Mary, the School Sisters of Notre Dame, and the Archdiocese of Miami, as well as South Florida community leaders and former City of Hollywood officials.

About Chaminade-Madonna College Preparatory

Chaminade-Madonna, a Catholic and Marianist high school, educates the heart and soul as well as the mind and body. It is a family-like community in which individuals of all backgrounds shape and share their faith, achieve excellence, and become caring participants and leaders in the service of community, church and those in need. For 53 years, Chaminade-Madonna has provided a quality, Catholic education to the South Florida community. It is one of sixteen schools in the United States sponsored by the Marianist Province of the United States. The high school is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, and has received recognition as a National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence, the highest award given by the U.S. Department of Education. For more information about Chaminade-Madonna College Preparatory, please visit www.cmlions.org.