

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **The King's Academy Sending 692 Students on Service Trips to 9 Locations**

SUNNYVALE, Calif, April 7, 2014 — The King's Academy dedicates a school week each year to send students, teachers, and parents to serve disadvantaged families and communities. Service is a key component of TKA's spiritual life program. **The King's Academy will serve this year in Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Ecuador, Guadalajara, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mexico, Philippines and in nearby San Francisco.** In fact, The King's Academy has been sending students on service trips each year since the inaugural trip to Mexico 22 years ago. This spring, **TKA celebrates building the 300<sup>th</sup> house in Mexico** (since they began building in 1993)!

Julie Jahde, TKA's Service Outreach Coordinator, explains the vision behind the service trips: *It is through service that our students grow, encounter the world, and discover how they are uniquely equipped to make a difference, as reflected in our service trip verse for this year, "For we are His masterpiece, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."*

The King's Academy has added **three new service trip locations** this year: **San Francisco, Costa Rica,** and the **Czech Republic.** Nearby in **San Francisco,** a team of 58 will partner with City Impact to serve families and individuals in the Tenderloin community through street ministry, rescue mission, food distribution, construction, and thrift store operations. In **Costa Rica,** a team of 28 students and staff will partner with YWAM (Youth With A Mission) and work in two orphanages, participate in local church projects, distribute Bibles and help at a home for teen mothers. A team of 25 travel to the **Czech Republic** to serve the people of Prague through English instruction and afterschool outreach, improvements to a church building, and outreach to the homeless.

Headed to **Mexico,** a team of 429 (299 high school students and 130 parent volunteers and staff) will caravan down in 70 vehicles where they will build 18 houses, plus host an afternoon "Kid's Club" for neighborhood children. The school donates and transports all of the building materials and tools for construction and all of the food to feed the tent city of volunteers for five days. For the second year, TKA will offer a public health outreach program which will use practical health lessons to introduce spiritual topics and discussion about physical, emotional, and spiritual wellness. Specific topics include sanitation, self-esteem, depression, and family violence. The group will also distribute hygiene kits to the women of Mexico.

In **Guadalajara, Mexico,** a team of 22 will work at a facility for orphaned and abused boys. The team will work on construction projects at the boys' home, and run a sports camp for the boys.

In **Ecuador,** 26 students and staff will be venturing to the Amazon basin and working with the organization Inca Link to minister in a variety of ways including construction, sports evangelism, worship at local churches, and Vacation Bible School in unreached communities.

A team of 23 will go to the **Philippines** where they will serve extremely impoverished areas in two cities through food and clothing distribution, Vacation Bible School, light construction and a school outreach.

Forty-two (42) members of the TKA school community will travel to **Kentucky** to work with Christian Appalachian Project (CAP), an organization that has a special program designed to meet the most basic housing needs of impoverished families struggling to survive in Appalachia. Past projects included renovating the inside of homes and building handicap access ramps.

In **Louisiana,** a team of 39 will partner with Reach Global to minister to families by rebuilding damaged homes from hurricanes Katrina and Isaac. The team will also minister to neighbors through outreach activities and prayer walks.

The mission of The King's Academy is to transform lives through a Christ-centered, college preparatory education. The junior and senior high school of 930 students (grades 6-12) offers a loving, family environment where students are encouraged to grow in their relationship with Jesus, their family, teachers, and others. Please visit our website at [www.tka.org](http://www.tka.org).

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