

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The King's Academy High School Sending 640 to Serve Around the Globe

SUNNYVALE, Calif, March 9, 2010 — In March, 640 students, teachers, and parents from The King's Academy, in Sunnyvale, will travel to Malawi, Japan, Mexico, Louisiana, Kentucky, and Los Angeles to serve families and communities in need. The King's Academy has been sending students on service trips to Mexico for 18 years and the Gulf Coast and Kentucky for 4 years. A service trip to Malawi was added last summer. This year, The King's Academy has taken on new service opportunities in Japan and inner-city Los Angeles. Staff member Carol Schultz, who has assisted with organizing all the service trips, sums up the goals for these trips: "We want the students to be transported out of their 'world' into an experience of serving others and loving others. We have found that these trips transform the students' view of themselves, their life and the world."

About 480 high school students, parent volunteers, and staff members will caravan down in 80 vehicles to the outskirts of Tijuana where, in 4 workdays, they will build 13 houses, a school building, and a church as well as repair another school and teachers' houses in the area of Girasole and Tecate. They will also host a daily afternoon "Kid's Club" for neighborhood children and their families.

New this year, to give students a chance to practice skills and see the construction process, a house is being built by students in the central Quad area of The King's Academy campus during lunchtime between March 8 and March 19. At lunchtime on March 19, the keys to the house will be presented to Principal Bob Kellogg.

A service trip to Los Angeles was added this spring, out of a desire to expand service opportunities closer to home. In L.A., a team of 28 from The King's Academy, will partner with World Impact to serve the needs of inner-city communities, both materially and spiritually. Group leader Matt Nisbet spoke about the trip goals: "Members of the team will likely experience settings that may be uncomfortable, and they may be around others who may make them feel uncomfortable. This is an opportunity for team members to bring love and compassion where there has been mostly emptiness and disdain."

On the inaugural Japan service trip, 14 students, staff and parents will be teaming up with a local Japanese church to operate a vacation bible school for elementary school students and their families. The hope is that by participating in a global, cross-cultural outreach, students will become aware of the spiritual needs of a country besides their own and will return home with a new vision for how their faith can impact their home life and their world.

In Malawi, 17 TKA community members will partner with Malawi Children's Mission and Wings of Hope Ministries serving approximately 100 orphans from three local villages. They will help in the Feeding Center, play with the children, and present a very simple Bible program. This team will also visit a high school to interact with other high school students and visit the Queen Elizabeth State Hospital to bring gifts and prayer to those who are extremely ill. Bible teacher Karen de Smidt talks about the first trip to Malawi last summer: "On our first Malawi trip, we were stretched out of our comfort zones, served in a community where smiles and play were the main means of communication, prayed alongside the ill and dying in a hospital, sang with Irish missionaries,

learned to pray for a hurting world, laughed endlessly on our long bus rides, squealed at bugs and became a unified team..."

This will be the 4th year The King's Academy travels to the Gulf Coast to help with the recovery and rebuilding efforts caused by Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Fifty-seven 11th and 12th grade students, staff and adult volunteers will work with Living Cornerstone Church, in conjunction with Convoy of Hope, in Saint Bernard's Parish, 20 miles south of New Orleans. Work this year will focus on restoring cemeteries and wetlands as well as some homes.

Another service option, for junior and senior students, is a service trip to the Appalachian Mountains, where the basic necessities of life are still at large for many people. Forty-three 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.

The King's Academy is a Christ-centered college preparatory junior and senior high school (Grades 6-12) for students who have teachable hearts and coachable spirits. The school offers a loving, family environment where students are encouraged to grow in their relationship with Jesus, their family, teachers, and others. The King's Academy is accredited by both the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) and The Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). For more information about The King's Academy, please visit the website at www.tka.org.

Photos attached. More upon request.

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