



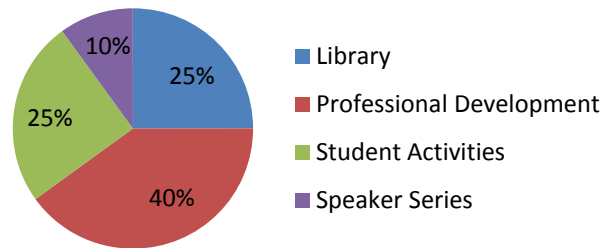
Summer 2011, Volume III, Issue IV

## The Excellence Program Celebrates Its Fifth Anniversary

In the fall of 2006, The Wilson School received one of the largest single elementary school gifts in the state's history and established the Excellence Program. This program, made possible by the generosity of Catherine and Hal Faught, directly enhances the education of every Wilson student through its emphasis on innovative curriculum and teaching methods, professional development, library excellence, professional partnerships with renowned institutions, and visiting authors, artists and speakers.

Since its inception, parents, grandparents, alumni, faculty and staff have annually met fundraising goals. At the end of each year, Catherine and Hal Faught make a dollar-for-dollar matching gift. Over the last five years, nearly **\$244,000** in gifts has supported the mission of the one-of-a-kind Excellence Program. The Faughts' estate will ultimately provide a perpetual charitable trust of \$2 million to continue the Excellence Program indefinitely.

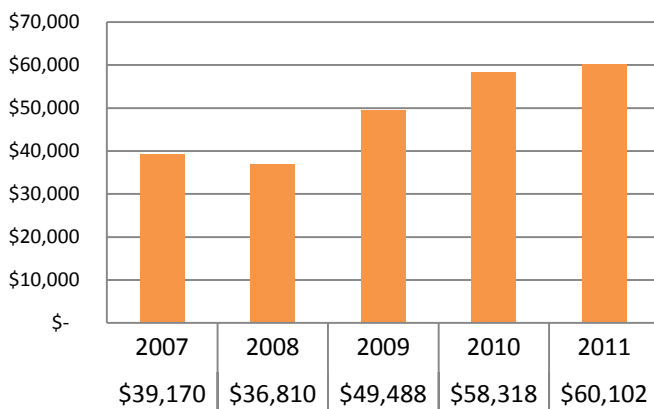
### Allocation of Funds



Wilson's goal for the 2011-2012 Excellence Fund is **\$32,500!** Remember, every dollar raised is matched by Catherine and Hal Faught! Help us raise a total of \$65,000!

The Wilson School would like to thank Catherine and Hal Faught and each and every parent, grandparent, faculty/staff member, friend, and alumnus for their gifts to the Excellence Program. None of this would be possible without your support.

### The Excellence Fund



Artist, Milford Nahohai, 2011

## Highlights of Five Years of Excellence

### Speaker Series

Nancy Samalin  
Michele Borba  
Hara Marano  
Judy Willis (2011)

### Visiting Authors

Kristen Joy Pratt-Serafini  
Lisa Campbell Ernst  
Ridley Pearson  
Jenny Whitehead

### Visiting Artist

Disney Special Effects Artist, Marlon West  
Zuni Potter, Milford Nahohai

### Excellence Award Honorees

Laurie Finkenkiller, 2008  
Melika Panneri, 2008  
Mark Wooley, 2009  
Rebecca Donaldson, 2010

### Library Excellence

Over 3,500 print and non-print resources

### Special Activities

Piwacket Theater  
The St. Genevieve Project  
Kampsville Center for American Archeology  
Storytellers and Special Assemblies

### Professional Development

Trips to local and national conferences for every teacher, every year  
Professional workshops and seminars held at Wilson throughout the school year  
Educational partnerships with The Saint Louis Zoo and Washington University



Storyteller, Annette Harrison, 2008



Author, Ridley Pearson, 2010



“Our favorite word is ‘excellence’...”

said Hal & Catherine Faught, grandparents of two Wilson alums and the founders of The Wilson School’s Excellence Program. In the fall of 2006, Hal & Catherine established the Excellence Program, a dollar-for-dollar matching fund that supports: professional development for our faculty, additions to our library, and innovative programming for our students — including an exclusive writing partnership with Washington University. Through the generosity of the Faughts, Wilson parents, grandparents, alums, and friends, the Excellence Program sets The Wilson School apart from all other independent elementary schools in Saint Louis.