Lynn University Knights Unite Day of Caring

The second anniversary of the Haiti earthquake

Media Kit

January 12, 2012

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Schedule of Events

MEDIA GUIDELINES

- Lynn University's Knights Unite Day of Caring is **not open to the public**, but media are invited to attend events throughout the day.
- Media are invited to interview and film students, staff and faculty while on campus.

PRESS BRIEFINGS

If any member of the media has a special interview request, Lynn personnel will do their best to find that person and make him or her available.

- **7:30 a.m.:** Two student survivors (Thomas Schloemer and Melissa Elliott); John and Jean Gianacaci, parents of Christine Gianacaci; and President Kevin M. Ross will be available for media interviews.
- **5 p.m.:** President Kevin M. Ross will be available for brief interviews.

MEDIA TIMELINE

Event times are approximate and subject to change.

- **6:30 a.m.**
  - Media trucks may begin parking in the lot behind the Wold Performing Arts Center at the north end of campus. Prior to 6:30 a.m., trucks will be permitted to park in the front circle adjacent to the security shack off of Military Trail.
- **7:30 a.m.**
  - Two student survivors (Thomas Schloemer and Melissa Elliott); John and Jean Gianacaci, parents of Christine Gianacaci; and President Kevin M. Ross will be available for media interviews on the patio adjacent to the Wold Performing Arts Center on campus.
- **8:30 a.m.**
  - The Lynn community will gather in front of the Wold Performing Arts Center for a send-off with presentations by: Lynn President Kevin M. Ross; United Way of Palm Beach County's President and CEO Chuck Anderson; Rev. Mark Luttio; and Lynn Vice President of Student Life Phil Riordan.
- **9 a.m. – 1 p.m.**
  - Members of the Lynn community will participate in service projects on and off campus. Media are invited to capture footage, take photos and interview students participating in the various on-campus service projects. **Please see Service Projects on page 3 of this media kit for additional details.*
- **11:30 a.m.**
  - John and Jean Gianacaci, parents of Christine Gianacaci, will be delivering a $5,000 check from their foundation Christine's Hope for Kids to the Florence Fuller Child Development Center (east campus). Photos from this event will be available to the media by request. **Please find additional details on page 5 of this media kit*.
- **4 p.m.**
  - An inter-faith service will be held in the Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall in the de Hoernle International Center.
- **4:40 p.m.**
  - Students will light luminaries and the Lynn community will gather in the Perper Plaza to remember those lost in Haiti.

- **4:53 p.m.**
    - A moment of silence will occur during the ringing of six bells to remember the six Lynn family members who perished in the quake.
- **5 p.m.**
    - President Kevin M. Ross will be available for brief interviews.
- **9 p.m.**
    - High-resolution photos from Lynn University's photographers throughout the Day of Caring will be available for download on www.lynn.edu/dayofcaringphotos.
- **12 p.m., Friday, Jan. 13**
    - A post story and video of Lynn's second annual Knights Unite Day of Caring will be available to view on www.lynn.edu/dayofcaring.

Service Projects

President Kevin M. Ross plans to participate in Feeding Children Everywhere from 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. on campus.

SERVICE PROJECTS

Although subject to change, with help from the United Way of Palm Beach County, the university has scheduled service projects for students, staff and faculty that will run simultaneously beginning at 9 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 12 (unless otherwise stated).

ON-CAMPUS SERVICE PROJECTS

- **Food Drive**
  - Students, staff and faculty will bring fresh fruit and vegetables to help Boca Helping Hands and Ruth Rales Jewish Family Service.
    - ***Location****: Food will be collected in the Wold Performing Arts Center.*

- **Journey of Hope run**
  - As part of his Journey of Hope run, Khalique Ahmed, Lynn professor of chemistry and physics, will run 14 miles in honor of the 14 Journey of Hope participants (12 students and 2 professors). Sponsorships of $1/mile from students, staff and faculty will support Feeding Children Everywhere.
    - ***Location****: The run will begin at 9 a.m. – starting from the main Lynn University entrance adjacent to Military Trail.*

- **C.R.O.S. (Christians Reaching Out to Society) Ministries After School Snacks**
  - Volunteers will prepare 140 sandwiches for afterschool programs.
    - ***Location****: Lynn Student Center*

- **Feeding Children Everywhere**
  - Volunteers will package meals for underprivileged children in the Green Center on Lynn's campus. The more money raised, the more meals can be packaged. Lynn's goal is to package 50,000 meals.
    - ***Location****: Louis and Anne Green Center*

OFF-CAMPUS SERVICE PROJECTS

- **Paint Your Heart Out**
  - Lynn volunteers help paint the exterior of homes owned by low income, senior, disabled and/or veterans. This project will end at 2 p.m.
    - ***Address 1****: 211 South "D" Street, Lake Worth*
    - ***Contact****: Nicole Ovedia, 561-762-0027 (cell)*

    - ***Address 2****: 214 South "D" Street, Lake Worth*
    - ***Contact****: Christina Johnson, 561-870-2857 (cell)*

- **Habitat for Humanity South Palm Beach County**
  - Lynn volunteers help build a home for the poor. This project will end at 2 p.m.
    - ***Address****: 1205 South Dixie Hwy., Delray Beach (house just past Collins Ave.)*
    - ***Contact****: Chris Boniforti, 561-703-6130 (cell)*

- **C.R.O.S. (Christians Reaching Out to Society) Ministries Gleaning**
  - Volunteers will pick produce that has been left from commercial harvesting methods. The crops collected will be donated to local food shelters. This project will end at 1 p.m.
    - ***Address****: Green Cay Farms (off of Hagen Ranch Rd.), Delray Beach*
    - ***Contact****: Paul Turner, 561-237-7245 (cell) or Jon Volpi, 413-627-2581 (cell)*

- **C.R.O.S. (Christians Reaching Out to Society) Ministries The Caring Kitchen**
  - Volunteers will help prep food for lunch and assist in serving the poor. This project will end at 1:30 p.m.
    - ***Address****: 196 NW 8th Ave., Delray Beach*
    - ***Contact****: Louise Sundermeier, 561-699-7122 (cell)*

- **PBC Environmental Resources Management Natural Scrub Area**
  - Volunteers will participate in trash and exotic plant removal. This project will end at 12:30 p.m.
    - ***Address****: 150 Hypoluxo Rd., Lantana (just east of US 1)*
    - ***Contact****: John Christovassilis, 775-846-6450*

- **Florence Fuller Child Development Center (East & West Centers)**
  - Volunteers will assist teachers with reading projects. This project will end at 12 p.m.
    - ***East Center address****: 200 NE 14th St., Boca Raton*
    - ***East Center contact****: Karen Casey, 561-859-8009 (cell)*

    - ***West Center address****: 10180 South 185th St., Boca Raton*
    - ***West Center contact****: Brian Siliquini, 561-809-8238 (cell)*

- **Okeeheelee Park Nature Center**
  - Volunteers will remove exotic plants and clean, restore and install wood duck nest boxes. This project will end at 1:30 p.m.
    - ***Address****: 7715 Forest Hill Blvd., west of West Palm Beach*
    - ***Contact****: Gary Martin, 561-644-6047 (cell) or Bill Testa, 561-213-7119 (cell)*

- **PBC County Parks Beach Cleanup**
  - Volunteers will participate in a beach cleanup. This project will end at 11:30 a.m.
    - ***Address****: Red Reef Park, 1400 State Route A1A, Boca Raton*
    - ***Contact****: Anna Krift, 561-961-9473 (cell)*

- **Miracle League Day of Caring Baseball Game**
  - Volunteers will organize a "Spring Training" game for the children of the Palm Beach County chapter of The Miracle League, a charitable organization that conducts special baseball games for children facing serious mental and physical challenges. Students in a Lynn J-Term course will help market and raise funds prior to the event.
    - ***Address***: 1905 SW 4th Ave., Delray Beach
    - ***Contact***: Ted Curtis, 561-376-4456 (cell)

Gianacaci Check Presentation

John and Jean Gianacaci, parents of Christine Gianacaci, will deliver a $5,000 check from their foundation Christine's Hope for Kids to the Florence Fuller Child Development Center (east campus located at 200 NE 14th St., Boca Raton). Christine's Hope for Kids continues Christine's mission of helping underprivileged kids and to put a smile (like Christine's big smile) on the faces of those less fortunate than us.

Photos of the Gianacaci's making these donations will be made available to media for download on www.lynn.edu/dayofcaringphotos.

The Lynn University Remembrance Plaza

The Lynn University Remembrance Plaza, a permanent tribute to the Lynn students and professors who lost their lives in the 2010 Haiti earthquake, will be located at the heart of campus and bordering the lake adjacent to Lynn's student center, the Lynn Residence Hall and the Schmidt Center.

It will combine symbolic elements of light, water, stone and trees and will be a place of remembrance, reflection and inspiration. In particular, the memorial will include six prisms shimmering with light representing each of the lost individuals; a waterfall that will cascade onto six steps also representing the six and leading to the lake; a relief map of Haiti including the story of the Journey of Hope; and the Royal Palm, the national tree of Haiti.

The Remembrance Plaza was designed by architect Luis Sousa, who also designed Lynn's Perper Plaza and Perper Tennis Complex. Sousa remarked that he wanted to commemorate the past while being inspired by the future. "The plaza embodies the six who were lost while allowing others to reflect."

COMPLETION AND DEDICATION

Although Lynn University does not yet have an official completion or dedication date, an unveiling ceremony is expected to be held in Spring 2012.

ABOUT THE REMEMBRANCE PLAZA FUND

- The university's goal is to raise $650,000. Over 600 donors have contributed cash, pledges and gifts of service. The university is still accepting donations.
- Donations are welcomed from all alumni, parents and friends, corporations and foundations and from the internal campus community.
- A donor recognition wall will reflect all gifts of $2,500 and more.
- Pledges of $25,000 and more may be completed in up to 5 years.
- All donors, at all levels, will be recognized in the dedication program.

PHOTOS

Digital, high-res photos of the Remembrance Plaza renderings and photos of the plaza under construction are available for download on www.lynn.edu/remembranceplazaphotos.

About the Remembrance Plaza Architect and Construction Firm

Sousa Architecture is a Miramar-based design firm that embraces the South Florida community through its design innovation. Specializing in institutional projects, including universities and hospitals, Sousa Architecture believes in commemorating the past while being inspired by the future.

In addition to Lynn University's Remembrance Plaza, the firm is also working on the design of a 9/11 memorial for the City of Miramar Fire and Police departments. Principal Luis Sousa's passion for designing monuments and memorials dates back to his master's thesis research at the Georgia Institute of Technology. Sousa, a Fulbright Scholar, received honorable mention for his entry in the Korean Veterans War Memorial national design competition. His work was exhibited by the prestigious Smithsonian National Building Museum in Washington, D.C.

Gerrits Construction is a third-generation company whose business began in 1945 in South Florida with a business plan to be quality oriented, owner friendly. Over the years Gerrits has done projects on every building on the Lynn campus.

Gerrits Construction has built buildings around the world including England, Scotland, Saudi Arabia, Brazil, Argentina and 17 different states where projects have included hospitals, Pepsi Cola plants, libraries, retail and industrial projects.

About a Journey of Hope – Haiti 2010

On Tuesday, Jan. 12, 2010, a magnitude 7.0 earthquake shook Port-au-Prince, Haiti where twelve Lynn University students and two professors were for a January Term course entitled, "Journey of Hope to Haiti." The Lynn University group was staying at the Hotel Montana in Port-au-Prince. Eight of the Lynn University students returned home after the quake, but four students and two professors were lost.

Lynn students' dedication to helping others – feeding the poor, aiding the sick and comforting the hurting – began with the first trip to Haiti in 2008, and their passion spawned the Students for the Poor Club and subsequent missions.

Timeline:

- **March 2008 (Spring Break)**
  14 students spent 5 days in Haiti
  Faculty: Father Marty Devereaux and Gary Martin

- **January 2009 (J-Term)**
  Journey of Hope to Jamaica
  Faculty: Dr. Patrick Hartwick and Richard Bruno, M.D.

- **April 13-17, 2009**
  Students for the Poor Week / House Demonstration on campus, raised $33,000

- **January 2010 (J-Term)**
  Journey of Hope to Jamaica
  Faculty: Stacey Bauberger and Melissa Knight

  Journey of Hope to Haiti
  Faculty: Dr. Patrick Hartwick and Richard Bruno, M.D.

Students on the Journey of Hope – Haiti 2010

- Stephanie Crispinelli, Katonah, N.Y.*
- Michael DeMatteo, Southlake, Tex.
- Lindsay Doran, Clearwater, Fla.
- Melissa Elliott, Hartland, Wisc.
- Nikki Fantauzzi, Simsbury, Conn.
- Britney Gengel, Rutland, Mass.*
- Christine Gianacaci, Hopewell, N.J.*
- Courtney Hayes, Douglas, Ga.*
- Daniela Montealegre, Managua, Nicaragua
- Julie Prudhomme, East Greenwich, R.I.
- Thomas Schloemer, Fox Point, Wisc.
- Paul Tyska, Wilmette, Ill.

**Deceased*

Faculty on the Journey of Hope – Haiti 2010

- Dr. Richard Bruno*
- Dr. Patrick Hartwick*

**Deceased*

January Term
Lynn University's January Term (J-Term) lasts about 2 weeks and is based on experiential learning opportunities – learning by doing. J-term is required of all traditional undergraduate students. Students can select a course outside of the focus of their majors and opt for any J-Term course.

Journey of Hope to Haiti 2010 Course Description
Prior to departure, the students met on campus for two lead-up sessions that investigated countries in need, the humanitarian organizations in place to help those countries, and what individuals can do to support the humanitarian organizations. During the trip to Haiti with Food for the Poor, students were scheduled to visit and provide activities to orphans and handicapped children, adults and the elderly. They also were to paint houses. Students were to explore this complex country during a trip that was designed to examine economic and cultural diversity only experienced by seeing it firsthand. Students were told, "Surrounded by the hungriest and poorest people in the world, you will experience kindness and beauty that will make you question everything you believe in and appreciate everything you take for granted."

About Lynn University Haiti Funds and Scholarships

1. **The Stephanie Crispinelli Endowed Memorial Scholarship**
   The scholarship will be awarded to students who emulate Steph's enthusiasm for reaching out to help others and commit themselves to responsible citizenship in our global society. The funds will provide tuition and travel assistance for selected students who wish to participate in humanitarian courses approved and sponsored by Lynn. As an endowed fund, this scholarship will live on in perpetuity.
   - Three students received funds to go on the 2012 J-Term "Bali Service Project" where students will engage in service projects with local elementary schools in Bali, Indonesia and learn about Balinese culture, geography and history.

2. **The Christine Gianacaci Journey of Hope Award**
   Christine Gianacaci's parents, in honor of Christine's life and love to help others, especially children, created the award.
   - This award helped fund four students' travel costs for the 2012 J-Term to Brazil where they will learn about issues related to poverty, nutrition, access to health care and housing by exploring local culture, engaging local citizens and interacting with school children.

3. **Briggs Family Haitian Scholarship for earthquake survivor**
   The Briggs family wished to provide tuition for a student from a Haitian university whose education had been interrupted by the earthquake.
   - Gwendoline Darguste, a 21-year-old sophomore majoring in international relations, was identified through the Haitian Embassy and the U.S. Department of Education.

About Lynn University

Lynn University is an independent, nonprofit university located in Boca Raton, Fla. The university is home to five academic colleges (business, liberal education, international communication, hospitality and education), a Conservatory of Music, School of Aeronautics and the Institute for Achievement and Learning, and is dedicated to individualized learning, innovative approaches and an international focus. Lynn currently enrolls more than 2,000 students representing 40 U.S. states and more than 81 nations and competes in NCAA Division II. The school will host the final 2012 presidential election debate and will start celebrating its 50th anniversary this year.

Mission
Our mission is to provide the education, support, and environment that enable individual students to realize their full potential and to prepare for success in the world.

Vision
Lynn's vision is to be recognized as one of the most innovative, international, and individualized small universities in America. Lynn University will capitalize on its youth, location, and close student and faculty bonds to become a forerunner institution, a different kind of learning center, an independent, innovative 21st Century university that is unusually devoted to preparing young persons for America's and the world's future.

Important Links

www.lynn.edu/dayofcaring

- Read the Knights Unite Day of Caring news release and watch a short video from the day. (Story to be posted by 12 noon, Friday, Jan. 13).

www.lynn.edu/dayofcaringmediakit

- Download and share the complete media kit.

www.lynn.edu/remembranceplazaphotos

- Digital, high-res images of the Remembrance Plaza renderings and photos of the plaza under construction are available for download.

www.lynn.edu/dayofcaringphotos

- Photos taken by Lynn University's photographers will be available for download by 9 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 12.

www.lynn.edu/haiti

- Lynn University's remembrance site for the Journey of Hope – Haiti.

Contact Information

Laura Stephens, Lynn University public relations specialist
lstephens@lynn.edu or call 561-237-7967 / 561-289-0159 (m)

Joshua Glanzer, Lynn University director of public relations
jglanzer@lynn.edu or call 561-237-7761 / 561-212-2924 (m)