

For immediate release

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Queen of Peace Names Valedictorians, Salutatorian

Queen of Peace High School is pleased to announce that Lindsey Frederick and Mary Kate Murray have been named co-valedictorians of the Class of 2011. Senior Erin Kolasinski earned the distinction of salutatorian.

“Lindsey and Mary Kate have inspired the Peace Community by their many and often unbelievable accomplishments,” principal Mary Kay Nickels said.

The two co-valedictorians each earned a GPA of 4.2 and have been best friends since the age of four when they attended preschool at St. Gerald in Oak Lawn. Lindsey Frederick consistently strived for excellence. She earned A’s in all of her courses – including six Advanced Placement classes - throughout her four years at Peace and was also named an Illinois State Scholar. President of the National Honor Society and the treasurer of Mu Alpha Theta – the Math National Honor Society, Lindsey was active in Peace’s Campus Ministry program as a retreat minister and a Veritas leader. Lindsey’s other activities included Spanish National Honor Society, Senior Class Council, Human Rights Task Force, Math Team, Peace Ambassadors and captain of the Robotics Team.

An accomplished athlete, Lindsey competed in volleyball for four years. Earlier in the school year she was named the Fall Scholar Athlete and recognized as a member of the GCAC Red Division All-Conference Team. Next year she will major in Engineering at Purdue University, where she received the Presidential Scholarship.

Mary Kate Murray’s love of learning and books contributed to her great success at Peace. An Illinois State Scholar, Mary Kate was vice-president of National Honor Society, a member of the Spanish National Honor Society, Vice President of Special Projects for the Human Rights

Task Force and part of the Student Ministry Team. Mary Kate was the president and founder of Book Club, secretary of the Art Club, a contributor to the literary magazine, “Mosaic”, and an editor for the student news station, “WQOP.”

In the fall Mary Kate will pursue a double major in English and Creative Writing, with a minor in History, at Knox College.

Peace’s salutatorian Erin Kolasinski earned a GPA of 4.1.

“Erin has earned this honor as a result of her intellectual curiosity, her diverse interests, persistence, drive and personal commitment to be actively engaged in learning and growing in as many ways as possible,” Nickels said. “She has excelled in every area of the curriculum and demonstrates a special interest and skill in math and science.”

Erin was a member of the National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, Student Council, Mu Alpha Theta (Math National Honor Society) and Peace Ambassadors. She was also dedicated to Peace’s Robotics Team, Math Team and retreat program. Her interest in athletics as a four-year member of cross country and soccer inspired her St. Catherine of Siena Scholars’ project which explored the effects of obesity on adolescents. Erin will attend the University of Notre Dame, where she plans to study Engineering.

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Photo Captions:



Queen of Peace congratulates the Class of 2011 co-valedictorians Mary Kate Murray (left) and Lindsey Frederick (center) and salutatorian Erin Kolasinski (right).



Lindsey Frederick



Mary Kate Murray



Erin Kolasinski