

LEADER'S MESSAGE



Lonnie Scott, '74 2010 Scholarship Dinner Chair & Donnelly Trustee

Alumni and Friends,

It's hard to believe the summer has passed, and the Fall 2010 semester is well underway. Donnelly's campus is buzzing as new students roam the halls, and upperclassmen are reacquainted with their classmates and professors.

Fall is always a busy time of year at Donnelly, with some of the year's biggest events taking place: the Convocation Day Mass held Thursday, Sept. 16, Fourth Annual Scholarship Dinner on Thursday, Sept. 30, and the Donnelly Dash 5K Run/Walk scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 6.

The Scholarship Dinner is a time for the entire Donnelly community to come together and show support for both Donnelly as an anchor in the community, as well as for the students who benefit from Donnelly's Catholic, liberal arts education.

As a former Donnelly student, I remember how important student scholarships were to me and my fellow classmates. Without them, so many Donnelly students and alumni would not have been able to go to college. Today, this need for scholarships is even greater given the tough economic times.

By giving to Donnelly's annual fund or attending the Scholarship Dinner, you're transforming a life and giving someone one of the greatest gifts you can give – an education. With this education, as many of our alums have demonstrated, DC graduates will go out in the community and do incredible things. Perhaps they'll start a business, or become a teacher, nurse, politician, police officer or doctor. You can find Donnelly alumni in each of these – plus many other – fields today that are impacting society.

In addition to raising money for scholarships, the dinner will honor J. Ernest Dunn, Sr., and the J.E. Dunn Family for their many contributions to Donnelly throughout its history.

Don't miss this fantastic evening and the opportunity to impact the future of so many students, their families and future generations.

Sincerely,

2 | FALL 2010 donnelly.edu

Lanie C. Scott

ABOVE: President Steve LaNasa shakes hands with LPN student Keiona

ABOVE: President Steve LaNasa shakes hands with LPN student Keiona Nicole Miller and presents her with a certificate signifying her completion of Donnelly's Practical Nursing Program. **ON THE COVER:** President of Newman University Noreen Carocci, Ph.D. and Donnelly President Steve LaNasa, Ph.D., sign a dual-admissions agreement to offer DC associate degree graduates scholarships and ease of transfer to Newman.

FEATURES

- 5 Nine inmates earn their associate degrees
- 6 Scholarship Dinner is right around the corner!
- 10 DC advances mission with help of six grants

IN EVERY ISSUE

- 2 LEADER'S MESSAGE: Lonnie Scott, Donnelly Trustee
- 4 AROUND DONNELLY

Recent and Upcoming Events, page 4

Nine inmates earn their associate degrees, page 5

8 ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

A Lifetime Bond: Bill & Kathy Reardon's story, page 8

Last call! 2011 Alumni Hall of Fame nominations are due October 1, page 9

10 ADVANCING DONNELLY

DC advances mission with help of six grants, page 10

2009-10 Annual Report: Recognizing those who help DC transform people, places and spirits, *pages 12-14*

16 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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Donnelly is sponsored by the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas. The College is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission and a member of the North Central Association, 30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400, Chicago, IL 60602; (800) 621-7440; www.ncahlc.org. Donnelly College maintains an open and welcoming environment, and does not discriminate on the basis of a person's sex, race, color, creed, religion, age, national origin, ancestry or disability.

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FALL 2010 | **3**

RECENT EVENTS



FIRST BOARD SOCIAL TAKES PLACE

Donnelly's first-ever Board Social, held Wednesday, June 30 and hosted by JE Dunn, brought current and past Board members together and celebrated outgoing members for their many contributions to the College.



Donnelly held its annual New Student Orientation on Saturday, Aug. 14. Students came to learn about campus resources, college expectations, explore advanced program options, and meet faculty, staff and fellow students. A representative from each academic program was available to answer questions, and many gave presentations and led small-group discussions. There was also a student panel where new students could ask upperclassmen questions about college life.



FATHER JOHN MELNICK BLESSES STUDENT ROOMS IN RESIDENCE HALLS

During the first week of classes, a group of students approached Father John Melnick, Director of Campus Ministry and Religious Studies Faculty Member, asking him to bless their residence hall rooms. A small crowd gathered as Father John offered a blessing on each room and a prayer for student success in the upcoming academic year.

DONNELLY SIGNS DUAL-ADMISSIONS AGREEMENT WITH NEWMAN UNIVERSITY

Newman University President Noreen Carrocci, Ph.D., Donnelly President Steve LaNasa, Ph.D., staff and alumni from both colleges came together on Donnelly's campus Wednesday, Aug. 11, to sign an agreement that establishes a new dual-admissions program to students who have completed their associate degrees at Donnelly. The agreement allows students with a 2.0 GPA or above to transfer to Newman after earning their associates degree, enter at junior level standing, and receive a \$3,000 per year scholarship.





t first glance, everything about the Friday, Aug. 27, commencement ceremony appeared routine. "Pomp and Circumstance" began and attendees stood proudly as a small group of individuals in academic regalia walked up the aisle followed by graduates in caps and gowns.

But, this was not your typical graduation ceremony. To enter, attendees had to pass through metal detectors and a series of checkpoints. Underneath the graduates' commencement robes were matching pale blue button-up shirts and jeans – the uniform of a Lansing Correctional Facility inmate.

Despite these conditions, the graduates stood proudly, preparing to receive the associate degrees they worked so hard to earn.

Nine inmates received their degree from Donnelly that day. Six of the nine took part in the ceremony.

Speakers at the ceremony included Donnelly President Dr. Steve LaNasa, inmate graduate Kenneth Waddell, Secretary of the Kansas Department of Corrections Roger Werholtz, Donnelly's Lansing Program Coordinator Dr. Steve Jansen, and Most Rev. Joseph F. Naumann, Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas.

Werholtz was the featured speaker and encouraged the inmates to continue thinking about their futures.

"Being in prison, you may think the path you are on leads you to nowhere, but that's not the case," said Werholtz. "Your decision to enter into Donnelly's program shows that you are not only capable of achieving big things, but you are worthy of admiration.

"I admire you for what you have accomplished here, and am inspired to think about what you will achieve in years to come," he added. "I encourage you to go forward and be a role model, helping others to grow and prosper."

Graduate Kenneth Waddell also spoke at the ceremony, thanking Donnelly College for the tremendous opportunity he has been given.

"I am the first in my family to get a higher education, so this degree means a lot to me," said Waddell. "I have more pride in myself and a sense of security knowing I have a better chance at getting a job in the future."

Following the ceremony, graduates were able to visit with families, friends and visitors at a reception.

"I'm so proud of my brother because under his conditions of being in prison, he has unlocked doors in his mind that no gates, locks or barriers can ever contain," said the sister of graduate Charles Johnson. She, along with their mother and cousin, drove more than six hours through the night from Tulsa, Okla., to attend the ceremony.

The family of graduate Joel Butler drove more than nine hours from Shreveport, La., to be there. "I had to be here," said his mother. "I am so proud of him because he has made the best of being in prison. There is a huge difference between who he was 18 years ago when he went to prison and who he is today."

Notable facts about Lansing Prison Program inmates:

- 50 Educated each year
- 341 Have taken classes in the program
- 23 Earned their associate degree
- **155** Released from prison
 - 2 Percent recidivism

Three (or two percent) of the 341 inmates have returned to prison – a significant success in comparison to the national rate of 25 percent.

Clockwise from top left: Kenneth Waddell, Carl Mitchell, Maurice Harris, Archbishop of Kansas City in Kansas Joseph F. Naumann, Charles Johnson, Ahmed Bey, Joel Butler, and Donnelly's Lansing Program Coordinator Steve Jansen, Ph.D

SCHOLARSHIP DINNER IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER!

Individual tickets and sponsorship opportunities still available

onnelly's Fourth Annual Scholarship
Dinner will take place Thursday, Sept. 30,
at the Jack Reardon Convention Center
located at 500 Minnesota Ave. in Kansas City, Kan.
A cocktail reception begins at 5:30 p.m., dinner at
7 p.m., and a drawing at 8 p.m.

This year, the College hopes to raise \$200,000 in scholarships at the dinner, which would make up half of the \$400,000 in scholarships raised for students each year.

In addition to raising these essential scholarship dollars, this event will also honor the leadership of the J.E. Dunn Family, specifically the contributions of J. Ernest Dunn, Sr., who supported the College in its earliest years.

"My dad was a simple man who set an example for those around him, showing us how to lead a charitable life," said William Dunn, Sr., son of J. Ernest Dunn, Sr. and Chairman Emeritus of JE Dunn Construction. "He first met Sister Jerome Keeler, founder of Donnelly, at Bishop Lillis High School when she was principal there, and later learned she was establishing a new college in the area. When Donnelly needed a renovation shortly after its opening, my dad let me lead that project – the first job I got to run by myself."

In addition to this early involvement, the Dunn Family assisted in the renovation of Donnelly's second (and current) home – the former Providence Hospital building – on 18th Street, and Bill Dunn, Jr. has served on Donnelly's Board of Trustees since the 1990s.

"There are few benefactors who have supported Donnelly and invested in its mission throughout the College's entire history like the Dunn Family," said Dr. Steve LaNasa, Donnelly President. "From renovating both campuses, to contributing more than a decade of Board leadership, to assisting us with strategic planning to help the College reach its potential, we know Donnelly would not be where it is today without their generous support. It was J. Ernest Dunn, Sr., who promoted a lifestyle of giving – something Donnelly still benefits from today through the support of the current generations of Dunn Family leaders."

Attendees will have the chance to meet a number of Donnelly students, including the 2010-11 Student Ambassadors, as well as alumni and friends from throughout the country.

"We want everyone to leave the event knowing how much their contribution will change the lives of our students," said Lonnie Scott, '74, Scholarship Dinner Chair and Donnelly Trustee. "We need all our alumni and friends to come out and show their support to help break down the financial barrier that stands between most of our students and a college education.

"More support means more students receiving an education. It also means less stress for these students, and more time to think about their course work, educational plans, and career aspirations."

The event's emcee is the Unified Government's Manager of Diversity and Small Business Affairs, Jason Banks. Learn more about Banks by reading the sidebar on the far right.

The night will conclude with a live prize drawing, giving participants a chance to win one of four fabulous prize packages (see sidebar on right). Drawing tickets start at \$25 each or five for \$100. Tickets can be ordered on the event's web site at donnelly.edu/dinner.

Please plan to join the Archbishop, Benedictine Sisters, chair Lonnie Scott, honorary chairs Bill and Kathy Reardon, the Dunn Family, Donnelly faculty, staff, alumni and friends the evening of Thursday, Sept. 30. Help us continue to pave the way for underserved students in higher education!

We encourage you to visit donnelly.edu/dinner for more information and to register online.

6 | FALL 2010 donnelly.edu

THE PRIZE DRAWING

Enter the dinner drawing for a chance to win one of the great prizes listed below! Tickets are \$25 each or five for \$100 and can be ordered online at donnelly.edu/dinner.

KANSAS SPEEDWAY NASCAR® PACKAGE

Two tickets to two premier NASCAR® races, the Spring Cup and Nationwide Series the weekend of October 2-3. Package also includes Track Passes, pre-race concert tickets and parking passes.

KANSAS CITY EXPERIENCE

Win a year's worth of outings to KC's hottest attractions, including hotel stays, tickets to performing arts and sports venues, restaurants and more!

PICTURE THIS

\$1,000 worth of artwork from master photographer

Don Wolf and watercolor artist Lee Knox.

BLING!

Worth more than \$3,000, this package includes a sophisticated 18-karat, white-gold ring with diamonds totaling more than a ½ carat from Vinca Jewelry, and an exquisite diamond bracelet from Balano Jewelers.





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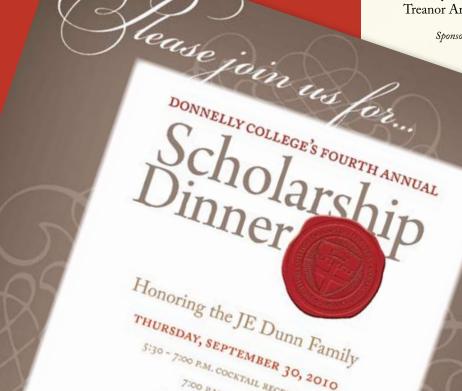
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There are many ways to sponsor the 4th Annual Scholarship Dinner—contact Laura Bryon (913) 621-8752 or lbryon@donnelly.edu for sponsorship information.

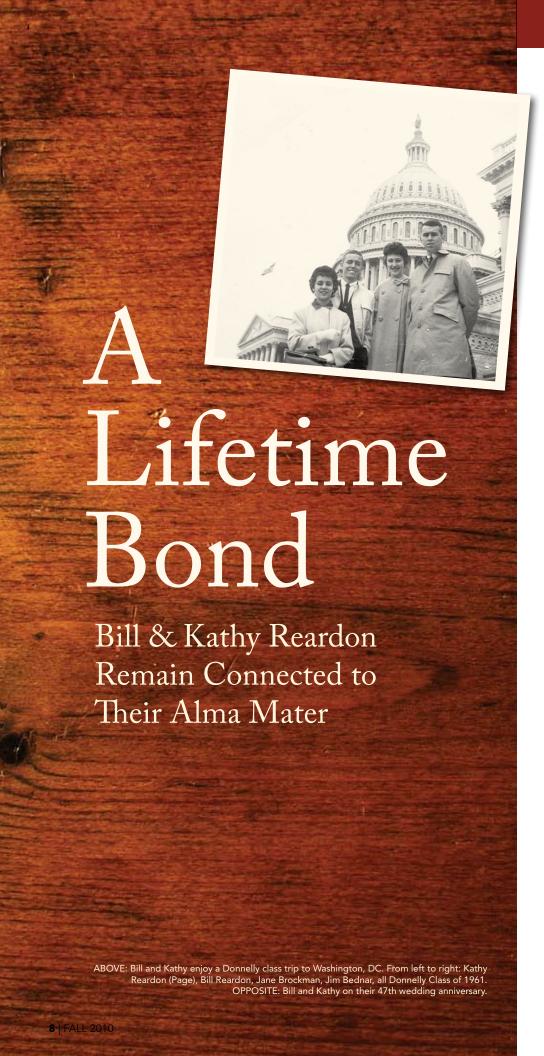
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FALL 2010 | 7



estled on a quiet street just a few blocks east of Donnelly's current campus sits Sandusky Avenue – an important place in both the history of Donnelly College as well as the memories of Donnelly alumni, Bill Reardon and his wife Kathy (Page).

"I grew up right across the street from the old Donnelly, and remember Sister Jerome vividly," said Bill. "My earliest memory of her was when she asked a group of us neighborhood kids to help her with yard work before Donnelly's official opening. We worked in the hot sun for hours picking dandelions and Sister Jerome made us think we were having fun."

Kathy's family moved into a small cottage behind Donnelly, and lived there while both Kathy and Bill attended college at Donnelly.

"Bill and I met at Bishop Ward and graduated together in 1959," said Kathy. "I remember thinking Bill was very smart, cute, and most of all, I loved how he made my friends laugh. We started dating our senior year of high school – you could say we are high-school sweethearts."

After they graduated from high school, Bill headed to Donnelly while Kathy moved to Leavenworth to attend Saint Mary College (now University of Saint Mary). One semester passed and she realized she could not afford to continue, so she came back home.

Bill, of course, says the real reason Kathy came back was because she could not stand being away from him. Kathy enrolled at Donnelly and both she and Bill graduated in 1961. Bill went on to Rockhurst University while Kathy began working to save money.

"Even at Rockhurst, my Donnelly roots kept resurfacing," said Bill. "I remember meeting with the University's president and showing him my transcript. When he saw Sister Mary Faith Schuster's name, he said, 'You mean to tell me you took a class from Sister Faith and you're NOT an English major?"

Bill went on to earn his Bachelor of Arts degree, and he and Kathy were married in 1963. He then went to UMKC for his graduate degree and began teaching at Bishop Miege High School, where he taught for more than 40 years.

As fate would have it, Donnelly came back into their lives when Kathy decided to participate in Donnelly and St. Mary's 2+2 program. Her classes were located in that same Donnelly building on Sandusky Ave.

While at Miege, Bill decided to run for a legislative position in the Kansas State House of Representatives.

"I came from a political family," said Bill. "My brother, John (Jack) Reardon, was Mayor of Kansas City, Kan., for 12 years. Today, his son and my nephew, Joe Reardon, is the current mayor."

Bill won his seat in the Kansas House and served 15 consecutive terms - one of only two state legislators in the history of Kansas to do so.

"Even when I was working in politics, if I mentioned Donnelly, people would ask me questions about Sister Jerome," said Bill. "It's amazing how even years later, her mission was still a discussion topic – the same mission that continues to flow through the hallways on Donnelly's campus today."

In 2004, Bill retired from teaching but kept his focus on education by taking a lobbyist position with the Kansas City Kansas School District. "Donnelly is and always has been such a part of our lives," said Kathy. "I remember how tough the classes were – the Sisters never let you slide on by."

"I've graduated from three colleges, and Donnelly was the best place I went," said Bill. "The College has helped so many people. It adapts to the ever-changing needs of our community."

Today, the Reardon's remain connected to Donnelly as ongoing advocates, currently serving as the honorary chairs for this year's Scholarship Dinner on Thursday, Sept. 30.

"We encourage all alumni and friends to consider attending the dinner," they said. "Not only is it a great way to reconnect with the College, but it's a way to directly impact the future of our community by helping students access an education."

For more information on the dinner, turn to page 6.



WE NEED YOUR ALUMNI HALL OF FAME NOMINATIONS!

DUE OCTOBER 1

Know someone who would be a good candidate for our Alumni Hall of Fame? Chances are great you do! Our more than 30,000 alums have gone on to impact their communities in incredible ways and we want to recognize their achievements.

We encourage you to nominate an alum, living or deceased, who has demonstrated actions expressing both the mission and spirit of Donnelly.

While submissions can be received and are encouraged year-round, those submitted by October 1 will be considered for the next Spring's inductees.

There are three ways to nominate someone for the Alumni Hall of Fame:

- **1. Visit donnelly.edu/halloffame** to submit a nomination online.
- 2. From the site, download a form, print and mail to Donnelly's Alumni Office at 608 North 18th Street, Kansas City, KS 66102.
- 3. **Call the Alumni Office** at (913) 621-8744 to request a form to be sent to you.

Questions? Contact Roger Berg at rberg@donnelly.edu.

2010 Inaugural Inductees:

Judge Thomas Clark, '58 Albert Roos, '63 Sister Connie Krstolic, '64 Father Dennis Wait, '66 John Mendez, '74 Delia Hernandez, '84

2011 Alumni Hall of Fame Ceremony & Reception

5 p.m.,Thursday, May 12, 2011 Donnelly's Meeting Room

Advancing our mission

Throughout the last few months, Donnelly has received a number of grants – totaling \$2.4 million – to help advance its academic resources on campus. Each of these grants will help the College continue its mission of providing high-quality programs to "those who might not otherwise be served." Read on to learn more about each of these exciting advancements!



NURSING WORKFORCE DIVERSITY, \$671,256

The U.S. Department of Health & Human Service's Nursing Workforce Diversity grant program awarded Donnelly a three-year grant to improve access and retention efforts for disadvantaged nursing students, aiming to help more students earn their associate degree in nursing. Donnelly is partnering with Kansas City Kansas Community College (KCKCC) to offer this Diversity NOW (Nursing Opportunities in Wyandotte) licensure track program to 33 participants, taking them from the LPN level through an Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN). The grant and the Diversity NOW project will enhance existing nurse training supports at Donnelly and KCKCC, and provide stipends for participating ADN students. Donnelly was one of 20 colleges selected from among 91 applications.



MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVE, \$57,572

Funded by the Healthcare Foundation of Greater Kansas City, this two-year grant will promote awareness of mental health concerns and access to mental health services for Donnelly students. This support will increase programming activities focused on the mental health of Donnelly students through one-on-one counseling and educational workshops. It will also be used to staff a mental health professional on campus along with an office, resource center, and meeting place for counseling. Training for faculty and staff to recognize signs that a student may be suffering from duress will also be provided.



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY, \$77,357

This grant will allow Donnelly to develop a specialized computer server classroom in support of our expanded Information Technology studies at the certificate, associate, and baccalaureate level. This lab will provide students with the opportunity for hands-on manipulation and configuration of multi-processor systems.



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, \$200,000

A grant from the Department of Education will allow Donnelly to update our network infrastructure, put in a new security system with IP-based surveillance cameras, upgrade our phone system, and bring numerous technology upgrades to classrooms, the library, meeting room and other areas.



SERVICE LEARNING, \$85,000

The Corporation for National and Community Service awarded more than \$85,000 to Donnelly to help advance its service-learning program, which was piloted on campus in the last 18 months. This two-year grant enables Donnelly to hire a full-time Service Learning Program Coordinator who will work with faculty to expand service learning opportunities on campus. The grant will also help grow student programming and provide critically needed funds to cover the cost of service learning projects, supplies and trainings. Donnelly was one of only 28 organizations selected of more than 190 college and non-profit applicants.



TRIO – STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES, \$1.36 MILLION

The U.S. Department of Education's five-year TRIO grant provides additional academic, financial literacy and leadership development services to Donnelly students to address gaps in persistence, academic standing and graduation/transfer for first-generation, low-income or disabled students. The grant helps equip them with skills they need to be successful at the college level through services such as orientation and mentoring, academic advising and transfer assistance, creation of individual success plans, financial aid assistance, economic literacy and financial planning for college, tutoring and supplemental instruction (professional and peer), as well as multicultural, service and leadership experiences.

SHARE YOUR DONNELLY FACULTY MEMORIES!

Donnelly is looking to establish a Donnelly Faculty Memories column in the Digest, and we need YOUR help!

We're looking for memories you have of Donnelly faculty members who helped transform you life, boost your confidence, made you laugh, or impacted you in some way.

Sharing your memories is easy! Just follow these simple steps:

- 1. Start by updating your information with us by visiting **donnelly.edu/update**.
- 2. After updating your contact information, you are asked three questions one of them focusing on faculty memories. The more information you provide, the better chance your memory gets published in an upcoming issue of the Digest!
- 3. At the bottom of the page, click Submit.

Contact Jennifer Price, Marketing Coordinator, at (913) 621-8707 or jprice@donnelly.edu with questions.

Honor Roll of DONORS

It is your generosity that makes it possible for Donnelly to continue to provide a high-quality, Catholic education to students from throughout the KC metro and across the globe.

Thank you for helping the College carry on its steadfast mission and proud tradition of transforming people, places and spirits through education.

The Donnelly College community acknowledges with sincere gratitude the following gifts made from July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2010.

WHAT YOUR GIFTS MADE POSSIBLE THIS YEAR:

- Provided a high-quality education to more than 1,100 students
- Awarded \$375,000 in student scholarships
- Renovated the second floor advising offices, tutoring spaces and waiting room
- Raised a record \$126,000 at Third Annual Scholarship Dinner
- Launched a Student Ambassador program
- Hosted our first series of Arts in the Heart events on campus
- Brought the community together at our first outdoor Multicultural Festival

SAINT SCHOLASTICA CIRCLE (\$50,000 +)

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Fun for the whole family, we invite you to join us for the 2010 Donnelly Dash – a 5K, mostly downhill, run/walk through the neighborhoods surrounding campus. Scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 6, the race will begin at 9 a.m., with registration and check-in opening at 8 a.m.

Registration fees are \$15 per person (children under age 12 are free), and \$5 for students. The individual registration fee goes up to \$20 after October 25. Price includes registration fee, official Donnelly Dash t-shirt and healthy breakfast.

To register, go to donnelly.edu/dash.

SEPT 30: Fourth Annual Scholarship Dinner, 5:30 p.m.

Jack Reardon Convention Center 500 Minnesota Ave., Kansas City, KS Visit donnelly.edu/dinner for more info

OCT 1: Nominate an alumnus for the 2011 Hall of Fame

See page 9 to learn more or visit donnelly.edu/halloffame

NOV 6: Donnelly Dash 5K Run/Walk

Visit donnelly.edu/dash for details and registration 🐧

NOV 18: GRATIA, 4:30-7:30 p.m.

Annual event honoring our generous donors and volunteers

Short program starts at 6 p.m.

APR 1-30: Arts in the Heart celebration

A month-long series of events celebrating the arts and humanities

APR 30: Multicultural Festival

MAY 12: 2011 Alumni Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, 5 p.m.

MAY 14: 2011 Commencement Ceremony

ALUMNI, FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS ARE INVITED TO JOIN US AT ANY OF THESE EVENTS!