



For Immediate Release  
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**Principal of St. Francis Xavier School Receives the 2018 Damen Award  
from Loyola University Chicago**

Ms. Kim Cavnar, Principal of St. Francis Xavier School, received Loyola University of Chicago's 2018 Damen Award from the Institute of Pastoral Studies on Wednesday, September 12, 2018. Each year, Loyola recognizes alumni from each of their schools who embody the qualities of leadership and service to others that are the hallmark of a Loyola University Chicago education. The Damen Award, named for Loyola's first President, Father Arnold J. Damen, S.J., is among the highest honors bestowed by the University.

Ms. Cavnar, was invited to receive this award because of her commitment to Jesuit education through her hard work in schools. Loyola University President said, " Ms. Cavnar's focus has been on advancing the principles of Ignatian spirituality. She has devoted her life to teaching and leadership in education."

Before pursuing graduate studies at Loyola's Institute of Pastoral Studies, Ms. Cavnar earned a bachelor's degree in communications from Loyola. Upon graduation, she served as the University's associate director of campus ministry and also taught part time from 1977 to 1980 in the Department of Communication Arts. In addition, she has taught religious studies and served in campus ministry at Nazareth Academy in LaGrange, St. Louise de Marillac High School in Northfield, and St. Ignatius College Prep in Chicago. She taught and served in leadership roles at the Academy of Our Lady of Peace in San Diego, Brophy Jesuit College Preparatory in Phoenix, and Loyola High School of Los Angeles. Ms. Cavnar earned a second master's degree in educational leadership from Arizona State University.



Ms. Cavnar received the award at Loyola’s annual Founder’s Dinner, which is a Loyola tradition that celebrates the extraordinary achievements of the schools talented alumni and raises crucial funds for student scholarships.

St. Francis Xavier School is a Jesuit Elementary School, Preschool – 8<sup>th</sup> grade, located in north central Phoenix, 4715 N. Central Avenue, Phoenix, 85012, 602-266-5364, [www.school.sfxphx.org](http://www.school.sfxphx.org).

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