

For Immediate Release  
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### **Chaminade-Madonna Students Create Portraits for Ugandan Orphans through "Memory Project"**

Hollywood, FL – Angela Canosa, Art teacher at Chaminade-Madonna College Preparatory in Hollywood, wanted to teach her students not only a lesson in art this year, but a lesson in service-learning. Through the Memory Project, several of her students created portraits of Ugandan children orphaned primarily by HIV/AIDS. The orphans live with extended relatives and attend a school in Kampala.

Through its relationships with orphanages around the world, the Memory Project selected several orphans at the school in Kampala, and mailed digital photos of each child to the Chaminade-Madonna art class. The art class students then created painted replicas of the digital photos. Once the portraits were complete, the Memory Project coordinated the distribution process to return the painted portraits to the orphans.

Chaminade-Madonna sophomore Nick Money, junior Chelsea Longsworth, and senior Isabella Torres were overjoyed when they received photos from the Memory Project of the Ugandan children holding the portrait they each had created. "Seeing the faces of those boys and girls really made an impact on our lives. We look forward to doing this every year!" Mrs. Canosa exclaimed.

Ben Schumaker, Director of the Memory Project, described the day the children received their portraits as "one of the most exciting days of the year." "By the end of the delivery the entire school yard was crowded with kids running around to show the portraits to their friends..." he stated.

The Memory Project is a program of My Class Cares, a nonprofit organization whose "mission is to inspire youth to care deeply for the well being of people throughout the world" (Source: My Class Cares). The Memory Project began in 2004 to provide "children who have been abandoned, orphaned, abused, or neglected...with a special memory of their youth, to honor their heritage and

identity, and to help them build a positive self-image" (Source: The Memory Project). For more information about My Class Cares and the Memory Project, please visit [www.myclasscares.org](http://www.myclasscares.org).

### About Chaminade-Madonna College Preparatory

Chaminade-Madonna, a Catholic and Marianist high school, educates the heart and soul as well as the mind and body. It is a family-like community in which individuals of all backgrounds shape and share their faith, achieve excellence, and become caring participants and leaders in the service of community, church and those in need.

Chaminade-Madonna is one of sixteen schools in the United States sponsored by the Marianist Province of the United States. The high school is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, and has received recognition as a National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence, the highest award given by the U.S. Department of Education. The 2009-2010 school year marks Chaminade-Madonna's 50th Anniversary Jubilee. For more information about Chaminade-Madonna College Preparatory, please visit [www.cmlions.org](http://www.cmlions.org).

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