Celebration of Light 2017 was an enormous success again this year, celebrating Catholic education in the Archdiocese of Seattle and raising over $1.4 million dollars in support of Fulcrum’s mission. More than 1,100 Fulcrum supporters gathered at the Sheraton Seattle Hotel and were treated to an outstanding program.

See videos from the event at: FulcrumFoundation.org.

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Celebration of Light 2017

Steve Raible
Emcee

Fulcrum was proud to have this Seattle icon emcee again this year. Well-known as co-anchor for KIRO 7 News, former wide-receiver for the Seattle Seahawks and currently the team’s play-by-play announcer, Steve is also a product of a Catholic school education.

Steve captivated guests with anecdotes of his youth, many of which clearly showed the influence of a Catholic education on his life.

Richard Pierce Cooley
Archbishop’s Award
Posthumously awarded and accepted by his wife, Bridget

Richard Pierce Cooley, known to us as Dick, believed passionately in the importance of education—and in the unique value of Catholic education—for students, for our community, for the Church and the world.

“Dick took what he learned in life and from business, and gave of it so generously to support Fulcrum and Catholic education.

He was a giant of a man, but he was also humble. He was incredibly successful, but always more interested in what he could do for you. Through it all, a man of deep faith. Dick chose to support those organizations—to put his energy behind those ideas—that were an extension of his faith. Fulcrum and Catholic education here in the Archdiocese of Seattle were a perfect fit.” —Archbishop J. Peter Sartain

“Dick joined the Fulcrum Foundation in 2002 as one of the first trustees because he strongly believed in a Catholic education and the positive effect it could have on one’s life.

And it is an honor for me to accept this award for Dick and for all he did for Fulcrum and for Catholic education.” —Bridget Cooley

FulcrumFoundation.org
My name is Zack Cunningham and I am the principal of St. Mary Magdalen Catholic School because someone like you supported a Catholic school kid like me back when a Catholic education was a dream for my family. It’s this gift of Catholic education that has made me who I am today; it has shaped the way I see Catholic schools, and the way I see families when I sit across the table from them to talk about my school. You see, in those moments, I see my grandma, seeking a Catholic education for her children, and when I look these parents in the eye, I see my own parents and the dreams they had for me.

Because of my friends, teachers, and family, I am continually empowered to stand even taller, to dream even bigger.

My friends and family, my teachers and mentors shaped me into who I am now. Even though many are no longer a part of my daily life, they have left a lasting impression on me. They are the ones from whom I draw my inspiration.

... like Newton mused: If I have seen a little further, it was by standing on the shoulders of giants.
Fulcrum Foundation Committee Focus

Committees are invaluable assets to the work of Fulcrum’s Board of Trustees. By taking on specific and detailed tasks and developing recommendations to the Board of Trustees, committees increase the overall efficiency of the board and engage the broader community in the important work of the Foundation. Fulcrum’s committees of the board include executive, finance, distribution, development, governance, human resources and our newly established Engagement Committee.

Engagement Committee
Matthew Shanahan, Chair

The Engagement Committee’s purpose is to promote awareness of the Fulcrum Foundation among key stakeholder groups in the Archdiocese of Seattle, and across the United States. The Engagement Committee develops strategy and frameworks to propel Fulcrum’s marketing and communications efforts, and collaborates with staff and Fulcrum ambassadors to determine appropriate and relevant messages and materials. The committee works closely with and advises the engagement and development staff.

Check out our Celebration of Light 2017 photo album on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/fulcrumfoundation.

The evening’s videos are found on our YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/fulcrumfoundation.

Spotlight on a Leader
Nick Ford, Principal
Our Lady of Fatima School
Seattle

At Our Lady of Fatima, I often speak of the image of the inukshuk, a rock sculpture built by the Inuit people in northern Canada. These massive monuments are erected with the help of the entire village and stand upon the tundra as evidence for future travelers that a people has been here before.

Reflecting on my work as a Catholic educator, I see my vocation as one of helping to erect little inukshuks on the hearts of each student entrusted to our care. It is the work of our entire village. Core to this notion is the understanding of where this special symbol lives. It is not on the intellect nor the athleticism that our students embody. They carry it on their hearts.

I love working in schools because of the academic pursuit of our students. Every day, our students challenge each other to think critically and creatively about the world they are called to lead. And yet, when they embark on new paths, this is not where our graduates stand out from their peers.

I thrive on working alongside colleagues who are seeking best practices in order to cultivate engaging classrooms that inspire our learners to work collaboratively and to deepen their knowledge. And yet again, this is not what differentiates our educators from those working in other schools.

We are living a ministry. We serve the Church and help nurture an understanding of faith in each child. We nourish our community and move beyond respect and tolerance. Instead, we seek to emulate Christ as we foster a culture that promotes love and acceptance. Jesus never said, “Respect your brother as I respected you.” Nor did he suggest that we merely tolerate our enemy. This is where I see our difference in the world. Our graduates leave our halls understanding that respect is derived from love, that acceptance moves beyond simply tolerating another’s views and instead seeks to understand them.

This is the work to which I am called—to lead a community who endeavors to love and to build family in the pursuit of distinguished academic excellence, who engages our faith and strives to promote justice, who seeks to be good stewards of our resources and our environment, and who commits to doing all of this while embodying God’s joy for His eternal act of creation.

Each of these is a part of the inukshuk. Every teacher, every parent, every child—we are partners in the building of these structures on the hearts we graduate. When our alumni are out in the world, living with compassion, advocating for the poor and the vulnerable, making it a better place for all who live in it, it is at those moments when they stand tall as evidence for those they encounter that we were here.
Celebration of Light 2017
Thank You To Our Many Sponsors!

We are proud to recognize our Celebration of Light 2017 sponsors. Their support allowed our gala event to be completely underwritten, meaning 100% of gifts given that evening will support our mission. We thank them for their generosity and helping to make this year’s celebration one of greatest evenings ever for Catholic education in the Archdiocese of Seattle.

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($15,000)

Edith & Ray Aspir
The Mahoney Family

Investors
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The Private Client Reserve of U.S. Bank
Vignette Creative

Use Our Hashtags!
At the very bottom of our website’s homepage, FulcrumFoundation.org, you’ll find the most current array of photos from various social media feeds that were tagged with the hashtags below! If you have fun photos of your Catholic school or of anything that celebrates our mission, remember to use those hashtags when posting them to your public social media accounts. Posts are refreshed several times per week!

#ILoveCatholicSchools
#FulcrumFoundation

Celebrate the great work of Catholic schools with your posts—and remember to follow us!

Do we have your current email address? Let us know at info@fulcrumfoundation.org.

For sponsorship opportunities, contact Stephanie Singler, Engagement Manager, at stephanie.singler@fulcrumfoundation.org or 206.219.5811.