



**CATHOLIC
EDUCATION
OPPORTUNITIES
FOUNDATION**



MISSION

The mission of the Catholic Education Opportunities Foundation is to provide tuition assistance for students attending K-8 Catholic schools in the Central and Eastern Kentucky counties encompassed by the Diocese of Lexington.

VISION

The Catholic Education Opportunities Foundation will grow future servant-leaders strong in values, academics, and the Catholic faith.

2025 ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

In 1994, my husband and I moved our young family to Lexington. He and I had grown up in Northern Kentucky and were blessed to have attended Catholic school for twelve years. Imagine our shock when we were told that there were not enough seats in any of the local Catholic elementary schools for our oldest son. That issue has been addressed by the Diocese of Lexington. We have space.

Today we face a different challenge. We have open seats in our schools, and we have families who are unable to pay the tuition and fees. Founded in 2018, the Catholic Education Opportunities Foundation (CEO) works to meet the needs of those families – through YOUR donations. Approximately \$200,000 has been distributed to the 12 elementary schools in the Lexington Diocese over the past 5 years. Those distributions come from our current \$2 million in assets with an annual distribution of 3-5% each year.

As a vital part of their local community, Catholic schools are service oriented while also building a strong academic foundation. The supportive environment for children of all faiths emphasizes the development of strong moral character. CEO has a vision to grow future servant-leaders strong in values, academics, and the Catholic faith. Please join us in that vision.

CEO can accept donations of all kinds, including public company stock, land, and IRA distributions. You will find a list of other opportunities in the Ways to Give section in this newsletter or by visiting our website:
<https://www.ceoflex.org>. Thank you for considering a donation to make a difference in the life of a child.

Dr. Carol Steltenkamp





**LUMINARIA 2025
DISTINGUISHED
EDUCATOR
AWARD**

Tracy Cupolo



**LUMINARIA 2025
DISTINGUISHED
ALUMNUS
AWARD**

Fran Riddell

Luminaria 2025 Winners

Congratulations to the 2025 Distinguished Educator Award winner, Tracy Cupolo, and the Distinguished Alumna award recipient, Fran Riddell.

For nearly three decades, Tracy Cupolo has devoted herself to the education, personal well-being and spiritual growth of hundreds upon hundreds of students who have been in her charge. Whether in the classroom or at the extended day program at Christ the King School, students from preschool to middle school count on her energetic attitude and contagious smile as they navigate through their own day. Parents will tell you that perhaps Tracy's most remarkable trait is her ability to show compassion when working with them and their children.

Fran Riddell proves that lifelong connections in our Catholic community can happen with a mere stroke of a pen, a quick wink of humor, and a sprite-like smile. Fran's devotion to her God-given talent as an artist and her servant heart to share that gift in many classrooms throughout the Diocese of Lexington makes her the perfect recipient for her award. She never misses the chance to use her gifts and talents to bring joy to others.



We are pleased to welcome Mr. Faustin Weber as the keynote speaker for Luminaria 2026. Faustin joined Prince of Peace School in Plano, Texas, as President in 2022. He grew up in Mobile, AL, a product of the K-12 Catholic schools, then graduated from the University of Notre Dame.

Faustin began his career teaching, then moved into administrative positions serving as Principal and President of several different schools before moving to Plano. Asked to explain his lifelong commitment to Catholic education, he is direct:

"I believe the future of our schools is the future of our Church. In a world that too often settles for what is easy, shallow, or fleeting, Catholic schools call young people to what is bold, deep, and everlasting. Our students not only learn how to solve equations or to craft essays - they learn who they are: sons and daughters of a King, called to holiness, made for greatness!"

Luminaria 2026



A Celebration of
Catholic Education

Luminaria

April 23, 2026

Dinner and Awards Ceremony with Guest Speaker

Mr. Faustin Weber
President, Prince of Peace School, Diocese of Dallas

The Campbell House
Lexington, Kentucky

www.ceoflex.org



EVENTS

Golf Scramble



Stallions, Sips, & Savories



The 2nd annual Stallions, Sips, & Savories was held September 27th at Coolmore America's Ashford Stud. Guests visited with friends old and new while bidding on unique silent auction items as they enjoyed delicious food and refreshing cocktails. The highlight was touring the farm and meeting two Triple Crown winners, American Pharoah and Justify.

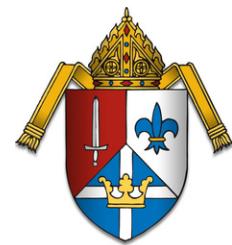
Proceeds from this event benefit the CEOF Equine Fund, established in 2022 thanks to the generosity of the Clay family of Runnymede Farm.

SCHOOLS AND BOARD

SCHOOLS SERVED BY THE FOUNDATION

Christ the King, Lexington
 Good Shepherd, Frankfort
 Holy Family, Ashland
 Mary Queen of the Holy Rosary, Lexington
 Our Lady of the Mountains, Paintsville
 St. Agatha, Winchester

St. John, Georgetown
 St. Leo, Versailles
 St. Mark, Richmond
 St. Mary, Paris
 Sts. Peter and Paul, Lexington
 Seton Catholic School, Lexington



OUR BOARD

Back Row; Left to Right:
 John Stewart, David Bowling,
 Dan Bork, Fr. Dan Noll, Don Lloyd,
 Bill Hoskins, Kyle Lee

Middle Row
 Bishop John Stowe,
 Dr. Beth McNulty, Kim Thompson

Front Row
 Dr. Carol Steltenkamp,
 Julia Taylor



Bill Hoskins, CEOF President
 Partner, Jackson Kelly; Parishioner, St. Leo

Dr. Carol Steltenkamp, CEOF Vice President
 External Chief Medical Officer, UK HealthCare;
 Parishioner, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Dan Bork, CEOF Treasurer
 Leadership KY Treasurer
 Parishioner, Mary Queen of the Holy Rosary

Fr. Dan Noll, CEOF Secretary
 Vicar General, Diocese of Lexington

Kim Thompson, CEOF Executive Director
 Parishioner, Christ the King

David Bowling
 Retired businessman; Parishioner, St. Leo

Julia Taylor
 Accountant; Parishioner, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

John Stewart
 Retired businessman; Parishioner, Holy Family

Most Reverend John Stowe, OFM Conv.
 Bishop of Lexington

Dr. Beth McNulty
 Associate Professor, Otolaryngology-Head and
 Neck Surgery, UK HealthCare
 Parishioner, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Donald Lloyd,
 President/CEO, UK St. Claire HealthCare
 Parishioner, Jesus Our Savior Catholic Church

Dr. Kyle Lee
 Superintendent of Catholic Schools
 Parishioner, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Dr. Andy Moore, CEOF Leadership Council Liason
 Retired Surgeon, Surgery on Sunday, Founder and Chair
 Parishioner, Christ the King

Lauralee Estill, CEOF Leadership Council Liason
 Businesswoman; Parishioner, St. Paul

CEOFOF LEADERSHIP COUNCIL 2025

Adam Bowling	Will Deaton	Jay Ingle	Joshn & Katie Ruggles
Jennifer Brennan	Sara DeMuth	Julie Klein	Scott Schuette
Ann Bryant	Robert & Mariah Dence	Julie Kleir	Tara Suetholz
Tim & Anna Cambron	Angie DiMeo	Larry McGinnis	Kelly Taylor
Lauren Cambron	Chris & Diane Evans	Marlene McLaughlin	Mark Taylor
Angie Beavin Carney	Fr. Andy Garner	Leah O'Meara	Brian & Alissa Tibe
Mathilda Carter	Rachel Gerrald	Missy O'Mera	Mindy Towles
John David Christman	Stephanie Hall	Scott Osborn	Mary-Alicha Weldon
Kelly Colliver	Kara Heissenbuttel	April Perry	
Tracy Cupolo	Linda Hollembeak	John Pica	
Katelyn Dauer	Linda Hume	Julie Preston	

HOW YOU CAN HELP

LEAVE A LEGACY

We are pleased to offer planned giving as an additional way to support our mission in providing tuition assistance for families with low-to-moderate income. Your legacy gift will ensure Catholic education is accessible for children for many years to come.

Leave A Legacy gifts help ensure that the Catholic Education Opportunities' goal of enabling children of any faith background to have access to a great Catholic education can be met for years to come.

Please contact Kim Thompson, kthompson@ceoflex.org or 859-303-9555 for more information.



WAYS TO GIVE

The demand for tuition assistance has never been greater among our Catholic schools. You can help fund scholarships for low-income students this year in many ways.

Contact us to discuss any of the gifts below, or visit

[VISIT CEOFLEX.ORG/WAYS-TO-GIVE/](https://ceoflex.org/ways-to-give/)



You can support the Catholic Education Opportunities Foundation with gifts including:

- Gifts by cash, check or credit card
- Gifts of stocks or bonds
- Gifts from an IRA – such as your Required Minimum Distribution or Qualified Charitable Distributions
- Distribution from your Donor Advised Fund
- Real estate, property, vehicles, etc.
- Gifts from bequests/wills, trusts or estates
- Matching gifts from employers
- In memory of a loved one
- Honor an alumnus, class teacher or priest

FINANCIAL CORNER



Year to Date information through September 2025

Revenue	\$385,872
Investment income	\$269,060
Total revenue	\$654,932
General expense	\$97,937
Scholarship distributions	\$70,772
Total expense	\$168,709

Total net assets September 30, 2025 \$2,086,386

Catholic Education Opportunities Foundation
444 Lewis Hargett Circle Ste. 125
Lexington, KY 40503

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The Catholic Education Opportunities Foundation is committed to raising funds for tuition assistance for Catholics and Non-Catholics in grades K-8 to attend Catholic school in the Diocese of Lexington. The Diocese of Lexington was established in 1988, from parts of the Archdiocese of Louisville and the Diocese of Covington. The Diocese of Lexington serves not only the "Horse Capitol of the World" in Fayette and surrounding counties, but also the 40 Appalachian counties of Eastern Kentucky, where 74% of children live below the poverty line. The Diocese of Lexington is designated as a mission diocese within the United States.