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Overbrook School inducts 23 members into National Junior Honor Society

Pledging to uphold high standards and to serve as leaders of the school, 23 seventh- and eighth-graders were recently inducted into the Overbrook School St. Thomas Aquinas Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society.

The new NJHS members are: Isa Aparicio, Douglas Arney, Mitchell Byarlay, Abby Coakley, Griffin Connolly, Claire Eckert, Page Forrest, Madeline Fox, Nicoletta Guglielmi, Luke Hazen, Britt Hunt, Aubrey Kazimi, Maddie Lawry, Emma MacCurdy, Genny Parkes, Kate Rolman, Jack Sheridan, John Slota, Maddie Sposato, Velvet Vaughn, Maggie Ward, Austin Wasylw and Ellie Wenzler.

"The students who belong to NJHS are an enthusiastic group of students who easily direct their talents to helping others," said NJHS faculty sponsors Julie Petcu and Nancy Anderson. "Even though all of their projects are NJHS-student selected and lead, the whole Overbrook student community participates and is involved with benefitting the selected charities. We really enjoy being their faculty advisors."

NJHS members participate in many different service projects throughout the year. For example, they recently raised more than \$1,600 for Catholic Charities by putting on a lip sync concert held on a Friday evening in the school's gym. The large crowd, comprised of families, Overbrook alumni, faculty and friends, rocked to the tunes of current hits as well as oldies lip-synced by junior high students. Younger students even shrieked and stormed the stage when a student posing as Hannah Montana performed.

This Friday, Mr. Bill Sinclair, executive director of Catholic Charities of Tennessee, Inc., attended Mass at Overbrook and received the check from the NJHS officers. Mr. Sinclair told the student body that the money would help the Loaves and Fishes program, which feeds Nashville's homeless. The students were elated to learn that the money they raised will provide 2,000 meals for homeless people in Nashville.

Overbrook is owned and operated by The Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia Congregation. Overbrook is a co-educational Catholic school for pre-k through eighth grade students where children grow in grace and knowledge. One hundred percent of the eighth-graders enrolled in Algebra I last year at Overbrook tested out of entry level math in high school as freshmen and are now taking higher level math. In addition, four members of the Overbrook Class of 2004 have been recognized this fall as National Merit Scholarship Program semifinalists and commended students.