Arrupe Week Begins with Keynote by Dr. Khalil Muhammad, P’18

Prep’s 2017 Arrupe Week – marking the 20th year of the Arrupe Lecture Series – began with a Monday morning assembly, featuring the keynote address by Dr. Khalil Gibran Muhammad, Ph.D., professor of history, race, and public policy at Harvard University’s Kennedy School of Government. Dr. Muhammad – the first Prep parent ever featured as an Arrupe keynote speaker – opened the weeklong examination of mass incarceration in the United States. He talked about the social and economic framework that supports mass incarceration, the racial and class implications of mass incarceration, and the role of community organizations in addressing mass incarceration. Muhammad underscored that mass incarceration is a moral and social issue, not just a law enforcement issue. He called on the Prep community to continue the conversation on mass incarceration, and to take action to address this pressing social issue.

Prep Takes First Place in Italian Language & Culture Competition

Seven upperclassmen represented Prep at the Italian Language and Culture Day Competition last week at Montclair State University, placing first among the ten participating schools! This was the 9th annual competition sponsored by the Italian Teachers’ Association of New Jersey, and Prep has participated since the event began in 2009.

Each team in the competition created and performed a skit based on this year’s theme, Paese che vai...usanze che trovi which focused on Italy’s regional customs and traditions. The team from Prep chose to base their skit on Sicily, and specifically Palermo, based on what they had learned from the Italian Exchange Program.

Congratulations to (pictured left to right above) Marc Cozzarelli, ’18, Andrew Ferrier, ’17, Christopher Appello, ’17, Marco Califano, ’18, Joseph Henry, ’17, Alex DeMartino, ’17, and Dario Spina, ’18.
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The conversation has continued throughout the week, both in the classroom and beyond. On Friday, the Prep community will gather for Mass with guest homilist Mr. Zachariah Presutti, S.J. Mr. Presutti is the founder and Executive Director of Thrive for Life Prison Project in New York City, which offers services and resources to incarcerated and formerly incarcerated women and men in six correctional facilities in the New York metropolitan area. After Mass, students will participate in various breakout sessions, examining further perspectives on the issue and offering the opportunity for further discussion.