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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Cal Maritime President Thomas Cropper to Present at
Academy of Our Lady of Peace High School**

San Diego, Calif.— (August 16, 2016) – The Academy of Our Lady of Peace (OLP), the oldest high school in San Diego and the only all girls’ school in the county, will welcome California State University Maritime Academy (Cal Maritime) President, Thomas A. Cropper, Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy, on Monday, August 22, 2016.

President Cropper will address the entire OLP student body about the unique STEM pathways and opportunities Cal Maritime offers for women. As part of the presentation, OLP will teleconference with first American female cruise ship captain and Cal Maritime graduate, Kate McCue who will be at sea, leaving New Jersey en route to Bermuda.

“I have seen first hand, through my own brother’s CAL Maritime educational experience, the opportunities available through their outstanding programs,” said OLP Head of School Lauren Lek. “The concentration of the university to engage more women to STEM fields is powerful especially given the research from the US Dept. of Commerce showing that women in STEM careers earn 33% more than their peers in other fields. Being 38% of our 2016 class are pursuing STEM majors, exposure to the programs offered at Cal Maritime is essential.”

Similar to the OLP Women’s Symposium, Cal Maritime annually hosts the Pearls of Power/Women on the Water Conference supporting the success of women in maritime, transportation, and related industries and offers excellent opportunities for career development, authentic leadership and productive networking for women and those who venture to support them.

Additionally, Cal Maritime boasts the highest alumni earnings in California 10 years after enrollment. President Cropper states: “Demand for a Cal Maritime education has increased in the last decade. Most degree programs require applicants to compete for admission. The overwhelming majority of graduates start lucrative careers within four months of graduation.”

Cropper holds master’s degrees from the U.S. Naval War College (National Security and Strategic Studies), the University of Tennessee (Aviation Systems) and the Catholic University of America (World Politics).

For more information about Academy of Our Lady of Peace, please visit www.aolp.org or call 619-297-2266.

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About Academy of Our Lady of Peace

The Academy of Our Lady of Peace (OLP) is a rigorous four-year college preparatory school with an unparalleled leadership program and variety of co-curricular activities. Founded in 1882, OLP has faithfully served families of San Diego County for the past 134 years. Young women are educated in the spirit of excellence and innovation that characterizes the founding Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet.

Inspired by the charism of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, OLP students are challenged to become academic, social and spiritual leaders of the CSJ mission. The school follows its mission to engender a collaborative worldview in the tradition of the Gospels. OLP ensures that its students find their voice and develop the skills to compete at all levels, regardless of career and life aspirations.

The Academy of Our Lady of Peace is located at 4860 Oregon Street, San Diego, CA 92116. For more information, visit: www.aolp.org.

