

April 23, 2009

Dear Educator:

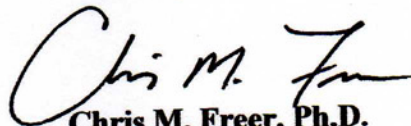
I am writing to recommend one of the most powerful assembly programs I have encountered in my fifteen years as an educator, *It Won't Happen To Me*. The stories told during this assembly program are both heart breaking and inspiring and the deaths of these innocents serve as a great reminder to our youths about how fragile life can be. This exceptional program, which unfortunately includes the story of one of our own tragic losses, has had a lasting impact on our school community.

We first invited *It Won't Happen To Me* to the Woodward Academy campus in the spring of 2005 and co-founder Lauren Winborne has returned numerous times since, including this spring. On every occasion, the students were engaged throughout the entire presentation as the kids heard the stories about kids just like them. You could hear a pin drop during parts of the program and that is quite a statement with more than five hundred high school students in one room. The students quietly sat in astonishment as they watched the beautiful pictures of other high school students living life to the fullest before they became driving fatalities.

One of the most powerful aspects of the program is the sustained, positive impact on our school. The resulting concern for safety and increased awareness did not end after the assemblies concluded. The students were still talking about the message weeks and even months after they heard the tragic stories of these young people who never thought it could happen to them. The speaker and the photos made the message relevant to our students - who quickly realized it could happen to them.

Whether you are looking to address concerns relating to teen driving or the dangers of drinking, I highly recommend you consider bringing *It Won't Happen To Me* to your school.

Sincerely,



**Chris M. Freer, Ph.D.
Assistant Principal
Dean of Student Life**