

Monday, June 2nd, 2008

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From this week's Business of Life

Info Junkie: Pamela Jordan

By: Christina Le Beau June 02, 2008

Pamela Jordan, 47, head of school at the Chicago Academy for the Arts, is launching the private high school's first capital campaign, aiming to raise \$30 million to move from rented digs to its own building in West Town. How she stays in the loop:

Skims the **Tribune** while watching **WGN-TV** morning news. "They just put me in a good mood." Flips between ABC's "**Good Morning America**" — "It's serious news for 20 minutes, then fluff" — and **CNN**, for "issues that might be buzzing around among our parents."

"**Take the Risk: Learning to Identify, Choose and Live with Acceptable Risk**" by pediatric neurosurgeon Ben Carson inspires her to think big. "He looks so simply at the obstacles we think we face and asks, 'What's the worst that can happen?'"

A cookbook collector, she devours magazines such as **Cook's Illustrated**, obsessively clipping and filing recipes, and is addicted to the **Food Network**. Finds cooking similar to her work: "When you manage as many aspects of an organization as I do, you're always thinking about how everything comes together and how to get the outcome you want."

Gets world art headlines from www.artsjournal.com and education news from **Independent School** magazine, like recent coverage encouraging higher compensation for new teachers.

Required reading: "**Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria? And Other Conversations About Race**" by Beverly Daniel Tatum. "It's about that point in life when you're asked to select an affinity group to identify with, and how that

affects the development of adolescents."

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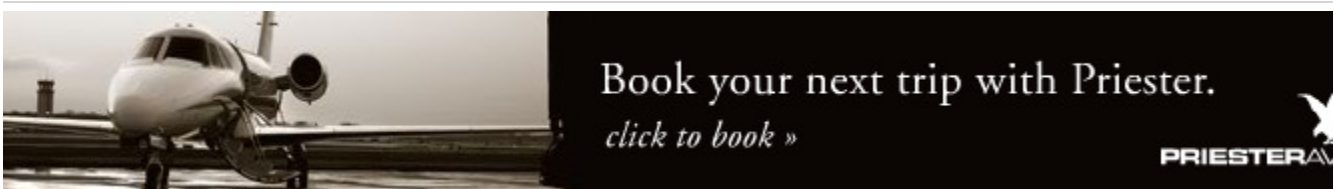
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