

COMMONWEALTH KUDOS



MATT BEHRINGER was awarded a Hopwood academic scholarship at Lynchburg College, the highest one-time scholarship awarded to freshmen, based on his GPA and SAT scores. In addition, he entered and won an essay competition at Lynchburg which provides a yearly scholarship. Matt will attend Lynchburg in the fall.



MATT BAIRD was awarded academic scholarships at both Mitchell College and American International College. He was also accepted to Marshall and West Virginia Wesleyan.



MICHAEL GAINOR was offered academic scholarships at Xavier, John Carroll University, Washington and Jefferson College, St. Joseph's College, McDaniel College, Washington College, and Juniata College.

Congratulations to our seniors!

Some of the first semester and third quarter Honor Roll students gather for a group photograph. See page 2 for a complete list of Honor Roll students.



ENROLLMENT REACHES 100 STUDENTS!!!



Director of Admissions, Cathy Feehan

Commonwealth Academy first opened its doors ten years ago with a just handful of students. This month, we are proud to announce that we now serve 100 students. Our long-term enrollment goal, as a model school for students who benefit from small class size and instruction designed to address

various learning styles, is 140 students. We are well on our way, finishing the admission season with increased attendance at Open Houses and the highest number of applications received in the history of our school.

What has contributed to our success? First and foremost are our proven program and our current and former parents who recommend C/A to others. The success of our students, both at Commonwealth and in their post-secondary studies continues to attract new students to our school.

Behind the scenes, Head of School Dr. Susan Johnson challenged all staff members to be responsible for admissions, and it has been a very successful community effort. C/A's first Director of Admission, Cathy Feehan, was hired. She has increased our participation at educational fairs, including the national CHADD convention. Developing relationships with local media, professional therapists, school consultants and educational assessment organizations, she has better communicated C/A's mission to the larger community. Assisting with inquiries, tours, and shadow days, Ms. Feehan enabled Dr. Johnson to spend more time conducting essential personal interviews with prospective students and their parents.

Our faculty and staff hosted more Shadow Days than ever before, creating a warm and welcoming environment. After spending a day at C/A, prospective students commented on how much they "liked the kids" and how they "liked the way C/A teachers teach." Parents expressed amazement at "how comfortable their child felt at C/A."

Wendy Grant worked tirelessly with Cathy Feehan and Director of Advancement Peg DiGiammarino to fully

implement our admission software.

Also contributing to our success was our continued development of communications materials, both internal and external. Terry Witowsky (Kelly '09) and Director of Communications Mari Foret redesigned the C/A website, adding more timely information and more photographs. Ms. Witowsky serves as our webmaster, keeping the web content current. She also implemented the CAPA Connection this year, CAPA's weekly email update. Ms. Foret also designed several outbound mailings, brochures and presentation tools to better communicate the C/A story.

100 students is a major milestone in our history. Thanks go to every member of our community for making it happen.

CARE AWARDS DINNER

The CARE Awards Dinner is this Tuesday, April 29th. We will honor Dr. Alan Merten, President, George Mason University; Darrell Green, Founder, Darrell Green Youth Life Foundation), special education teacher Edward Slavinskas, and the C/A Teacher of the Year.

Proceeds will benefit our scholarship program.

FIRST SEMESTER & THIRD QUARTER HONOR ROLL

Congratulations to all our students who earned Honor Roll for the first semester and 3rd Quarter:

FIRST SEMESTER

High Honor Roll (All A's)

Matty Carville, Evan Flynn, and Dean Julien

Honor Roll with Merit (A's and A-'s)

Douglas Olinger

Honor Roll (B's or better)

James Anderegg, Matt Baird, Colleen Chiamonte, Sam Curtis, Alexander Halstead, Joey Keller, Richie Klein, Kathleen Mattoon, Nick McCulloch, Noah McGrath, Megan Nadeau, Bertram Nicholls, Cameron Piper, Conor Powell, Ryan Travis, and Kelly Witowsky.

THIRD QUARTER

High Honor Roll (All A's)

Evan Flynn, and Dean Julien

Honor Roll with Merit (A's and A-'s)

Matty Carville, Megan Nadeau, Douglas Olinger, Conor Powell, and Kelly Witowsky.

Honor Roll (B's or better)

James Anderegg, Behnam Bonyadian, Marcus Cox, Sam Curtis, Tematayo Dare, Joey Keller, Kathleen Mattoon, Nick McCulloch, Noah McGrath, Joshua Nyden, Cameron Piper, and Matthew Sullivan.

SPRING FLING

The SGA hosted a successful Spring Fling on March 29th. Approximately 35 high school students attended the dance, held at the school, and enjoyed music provided by All in One Entertainment. High School SGA students attended to all the details of the dance, including advertising, selling tickets, buying the food and decorations, and cleaning up. Congratulations on a terrific event!



High school students take a break from dancing at the March 29th Spring Fling.

RECENT FIELD TRIPS

MEDIEVAL TIMES

After studying the Middle Ages, ninth graders enjoyed a March 28th field trip to Medieval Times where they lunched and watched the pageantry of the times as brave knights fought in a series of extraordinary battles.



Ninth graders enjoyed the performance at Medieval Times.



FOOD FOR OTHERS

On Friday, April 18th, 24 middle school students and one high school student joined the warehouse staff at Food for Others. This was our second community service trip to the pantry. After a brief orientation, students sorted produce, made food boxes for distribution, sorted canned goods for stocking, checked expiration dates on baby food, and stocked shelves. Because there has been so much enthusiasm for this activity, Ms. Lavelle, Community Service coordinator from CAPA, will be exploring monthly visits to the facility next year.



ALUMNI NEWS

KARLEE OATES SAENZ '03 writes, "I moved to Las Cruces, NM in 2007. We bought a house in August and my husband Juan and I are expecting our first child in June. We are having a boy!"

UPCOMING EVENTS

The **Annual CARE Awards Dinner** will be held on April 29th at the National Museum of Women in the Arts.

The **Prom** will be held on May 10th at the Mt. Vernon Country Club.

The **Middle School Science Fair** is scheduled for May 20th.

The **High School Art & Poetry Show** will be held on May 27th; the **Middle School Art & Poetry Show** will be held on June 5th.

Summer School. June 16 is the deadline for signing up for summer school. For more information, contact Chris Hathaway at chris_hathaway@commonwealthacademy.org.

Additional photos of recent field trips, the SGA Spring Fling, and Honor Roll recipients are posted on the web. Visit: CommonwealthAcademy.org and click on Photo Gallery under "Quicklinks".

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