

Palmarium

The Classical Academy exists to assist parents in their mission to develop exemplary citizens equipped with analytical thinking skills, virtuous character, and a passion for learning, all built upon a solid foundation of knowledge.



Appreciation of Beauty and Excellence

In each issue of the PALMARIUM this year we have focused on a different character strength and virtue. Each month quotes have been provided, a short article has been included on the character topic written by one of our staff, and a poster with a quote ended each edition. We will continue this same focus throughout the 2015-2016 school year. To wrap-up this year, as we did with last year, I thought it a good idea to share some of the many accomplishments of our students this past school year. Enjoy scanning the multiple pages of accolades and reflect on this amazing year. A great thanks goes out to all of the parents, board members, administrators, teaching staff, support staff, and students that made 2014-2015 such a great success. Later in this issue you will find a

short essay on appreciating beauty and excellence by Samantha Luster, a 3rd grade teacher and character lead at North Elementary. You will also have the opportunity to read the speech given to the graduating seniors by Michelle Hindman, one of our high school English teachers, at this year's Senior Breakfast. Enjoy your summer – we look forward to seeing you all in August when the 2015-2016 school year kicks off.

Appreciation of Beauty and Excellence [awe, wonder, elevation]: noticing and appreciating beauty, excellence, and/or skilled performance in various domains of life, from nature to art to mathematics to science to everyday experience [taken from VIA Institute on Character classifications document].

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- Whole Person Focused
 - Relationship Based
 - Classically Oriented
 - Idea Centered



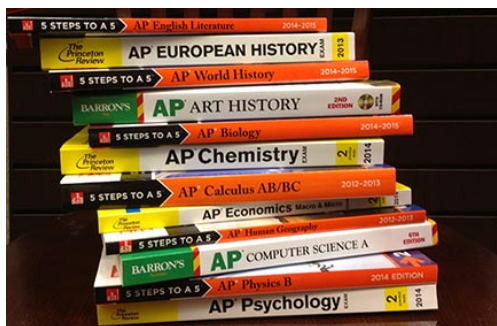
National Student Academic Awards

The AP Program offers several AP Scholar Awards to recognize high school students who have **demonstrated college-level achievement through AP courses and exams**. Although there is no monetary award in addition to receiving an award certificate, this achievement is acknowledged on any score report that is sent to colleges the following fall.

AP Scholar: Granted to students who receive scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP Exams

AP Scholar with Honor: Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, **and** scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams

AP Scholar with Distinction: Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, **and** scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams

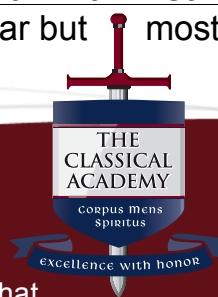


AP Scholar Recipients at TCA: Tanner Barrett, Landon Irwin, Zane Julian, Charles Malone, Matthew Miller, Megan Percy, Natalie Rees, Mikaela Schoon, William Smith, Peter Troupe, Hannah Williams, Lauren Wilson

AP Scholar with Honor Recipients at TCA: Johnathan Di Pretore, Brent Frieden, Abigail Grotelueschen, Nathaniel Johnston, Emily Tubb

AP Scholar with Distinction Recipients at TCA: none so far but most recent exams have not been included

AP Scholars



The National Merit® Scholarship Program is an academic competition for recognition and scholarships that began in 1955. High school students enter the National Merit Program by taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®)—a test which serves as an initial screen of approximately 1.5 million entrants each year—and by meeting published program entry/participation requirements. In February, some 15,000 Semifinalists are notified by mail at their home addresses that they have advanced to Finalist standing. High school principals are notified and provided with a certificate to present to each Finalist.

National Merit Finalist Recipients (Top 1% in nation):
Nathaniel Johnston

National Merit Commended Students: *Brent Frieden, Annie Harshberger, Zane Julian, Chelsea Smith*



TCA Graduates - University & College Attendance and Scholarship Totals for 2015

Upcoming graduates have been accepted and plan to attend the following institutions next year: Cornell University, Seattle Pacific University, Pikes Peak Community College, Pomona College, Whitworth University, Colorado State University, University of Northern Colorado, Abilene Christian University, Colorado Mesa University, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, Samford University, Moody Bible Institute, Bethel College, Iona College, Westmont College, Pepperdine University, Grand Canyon University, Indiana Wesleyan University, University of Colorado at Boulder, Colorado School of Mines, Regis University, Grove City College, John Brown University, The Kings College, Universal Technical Institute, University of Montevallo, University of Denver, AMDA – College and Conservatory of the Performing Arts, Fort Lewis College, Vanguard University of Southern California, University of Puget Sound, Metropolitan State University of Denver, University of Dallas, Jacksonville State University, Azusa Pacific University, Neumont University, Arizona State University, University of Cincinnati, Montana State University - Bozeman

For TCA's graduating Class of 2015 nearly **\$3.1 million** of scholarships have been offered to our students.

AAA Awards for 2014-2015

Academic, Athletic, and the Arts

Titan of the Year Awards

Scholar of the Year: *Jonathan Di Pretore*

Fine Arts Students of the Year:

Lea Supplee and Matthew Miller

Athletes of the Year:

Leah Hinckfoot and Nicholas DeRay

Students of the Year Awards

Latin: *Lauren Wilson*

Spanish: *Justin Shaffer*

French: *Sara Parsons*

Physical Science: *Nathaniel Johnston*

Earth / Environmental Science: *Seth Young*

Life Science: *Charles Malone*

English (Senior): *Josephine Wind*

English (9th-11th): *Dylan Brown*

Math: *Johnathan Di Pretore*

History (Senior): *Kaitlyn Cameron*

History (9th-11th): *Dylan Brown*

Physical Education:

Megan Percy and Jayce Hall

Forensics (Interpretation of Literature):

Tatiana Lowman and Dante Macy

Forensics (Debate/Public Address):

Nicolaus Sullivan and Braden Jones

Journalism: *Chelsea Smith*

Band Students of the Year:

Lauren Wilson and Justin Shaffer

John Philip Sousa Award:

Lauren Wilson and Justin Shaffer

Band-Director's Award: *Seth Davidson*

Louis Armstrong Award: *Dylan Strevett*

Theatre: *Matthew Miller and Lea Supplee*

Vocalist: *Lea Supplee, Jacob Althouse, and*

Matthew Miller

Visual Arts: *Reed Stanton and*

Sarah Klingensmith



Titan Exemplars

Senior students that embody the mind, body and spirit characteristics of exemplary citizens.

(in alphabetical order)

Kaitlyn Cameron

Brent Friedan

Nathaniel Johnston

Zane Julian

Megan Percy

Chelsea Smith

Lauren Wilson

Marcus Witzel

TCA Titan Exemplars of the Year

Brent Frieden

Chelsea Smith

Latin Honors

(in alphabetical order)

With Highest Praise

Co-Valedictorians

Jonathan Di Pretore & Abigail Grotelueschen

Sydney Fowler, Brent Frieden, Nathaniel Johnston, Zane Julian, Riley Mast, Elizabeth Miller, Megan Percy, Natalie Rees, Mikaela Schoon, Chelsea Smith, Emily Tubb, Lauren Wilson

With Great Praise

Kaitlyn Cameron, Daniel Davidson, Alison Harshberger, Annie Harshberger, Landon Irwin, Patience Jurkiewicz, Charles Malone, Emily Parker, Elliott Thomasson, Katelynd Trinidad, Hannah Williams, Marcus Witzel

With Praise

Jacob Althouse, Logan Branch, Piper Dodder, Cassidy Drury, Nicolaus Krause, Kimberly Krutsinger, Mariah Musser, Marissa Rea, Justin Shaffer, Peter Troupe, Nina Westcott, Josephine Wind, Madeline Yu

AAA Awards for 2014-2015

and Other Special Awards / Participation

TCA Community Service Awards - Seniors

Jacob Althouse, Patience Jurkiewicz, Emily Tubb, Nina Westcott, Kaitlyn Cameron, Piper Dodder, Nick Hazelwood, Natalie Rees, Michael Zoller, Elizabeth Miller, Madison Sheveland, Alaina Waterhouse, Charles Baker, Sydney Fowler, Elisabeth Churchman, Nathan Burgo, Brianna Carman, Brent Frieden, Bailey Gent, Riley Mast, Trent Warren, Leah Hinckfoot, Megan Percy, Hosanna Ramsdell, Matthew Miller

Rensselaer Medal for Math and Science

Zayna Pieper

Susan B. Anthony and Frederick Douglass Award: University of Rochester

Kendra Frieden

George Eastman Young Leaders Award and Scholarship: University of Rochester

Zayna Pieper

Xerox Award for Innovation and Information Technology: University of Rochester

Graham Jennings

Bausch and Lomb Honorary Science Award: University of Rochester

Abigail Elmendorf

Society of Women Engineers Certificate of Merit with Highest Honor

Kendra Frieden

Society of Women Engineers Certificate of Merit with High Honor

Abigail Elmendorf

Society of Women Engineers Certificate of Merit with Honor

Mackenzie Peckham

Wellesley College Book Award

Zayna Pieper

Gazette Best and Brightest

Kaitlyn Cameron

Comcast Leaders and Achievers Scholarship

Bailey Gent

Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizen Award and Scholarship

Bailey Gent

Rocky Mountain Youth Leadership Conference Selected Attendees Summer 2015

Kendra Frieden
Tatianna Lowman



Athletic Awards for 2014-2015

FALL SPORTS

<i>SPORT</i>	<i>MOST VALUABLE</i>	<i>MOST INSPIRATIONAL</i>
Soccer	Titus Grant and Micah Mesward	Micah Mesward
Softball	Taylor Patnaude	Jubilee St. Louis
Golf - Men	Bobby Ball	Tanner Harris
Cross Country - Men	Tanner Norman	Canaan Lamberth
Cross Country - Women	Megan Percy	Hannah Williams
Football	Kyle Peterson (MVP) Luke Bethany (Defensive MVP) Nick Deray (Offensive and Special Teams MVP)	Chuck Calvert
Volleyball	Emma Porter (Front Row) Chloe Weeks (Back Row)	Alison Harshburger and Maggie Zielinski

WINTER SPORTS

<i>SPORT</i>	<i>MOST VALUABLE</i>	<i>MOST INSPIRATIONAL</i>
Basketball - Men	Will Ball <i>Most Improved</i> <i>Defensive Player of the Year</i> <i>Offensive Player of the Year</i>	Will Smith Adam Selvage Titus Grant Will Ball
Basketball - Women	Kendra Frieden	Leah Hinckfoot and Madison Sheveland
Wrestling	Nathaniel Johnston <i>Most Improved</i>	Ben Hinds Nicylas Roitsch
Cheer	Bre Eskeldson	Rachel Moen

SPRING SPORTS

<i>SPORT</i>	<i>MOST VALUABLE</i>	<i>MOST INSPIRATIONAL</i>
Baseball	Kyle Peterson	Thomas McMahan
Golf - Women	Melissa Doole	Hannah Carter
Soccer - Women	Alison Smith and Alessa Muir	Grace Thompson and Audrey Walter
Track - Men	Nick Deray	Alex Miller
Track - Women	Andrea Willis	Megan Percy

Athletic Awards for 2014-2015

OTHER ATHLETIC HONORS

LEAGUE/CONFERENCE HONORS

Soccer – Men CSML Co-Player of the Year: Titus Grant*; CSML 1st Team: Titus Grant*, Jeremy Baldes**, Jaden Borja*, Anders Carlson*, Andrew Peck*, Chris Chasteen** (*= CHSAA All State – 1st Team, **= CHSAA All State – 2nd Team); CSML 2nd Team: Noah Klaus; CSML Honorable Mention: Jake Slater, Jeremy Schenck

Soccer – Women CSML 1st Team: McKenna Bender, Hanna Burgo, Nicole Hale, Catalina Hernandez, Emily Mueller, Aleesa Muir, Mikayla Murphy, Alison Smith; CSML Honorable Mention: Natalie Rees

Cross Country – Men CSML 1st Team: Everett Johnson, Canaan Lamberth, Matthew Loftin, Tanner Norman, Michael Oldach; CSML 2nd Team: Nathaniel Johnston, Ryan Moen

Cross Country – Women CSML 1st Team: Casey Griggs, Bethany Johns, Megan Percy, Kat Peterson, Hannah Williams; CSML 2nd Team: McKenzie Elliott, Erin Percy

Football SCL 1st Team: Luke Bethany, Chuck Calvert, Nick DeRay, Kyle Peterson; SCL Honorable Mention: Anders Carlson, Jayce Hall, Alex Miller, Dakota Yourkowski

Softball CSML 1st Team: Melissa Doole, Taylor Patnaude; CSML Honorable Mention: Madison Cooper, Gail Elmendorf, Emma Johnson

Volleyball CSML 1st Team: Emma Porter, Chloe Weeks; CSML 2nd Team: Maggie Zielinski; CSML Honorable Mention: Marlo Masters, Jordan Sudbrack

Wrestling CSML 2nd Team: Nicylas Roitsch, Nathaniel Johnston, Micah Schwarz, Sam Raphael; CSML Honorable Mention: Nathan Boyles, Ryan Francis

Basketball – Women CSML 2nd Team: McClain Walker; CSML Honorable Mention: Kendra Frieden, Leah Hinckfoot; CSML All Defensive Team: Madison Sheveland

Basketball – Men CSML 1st Team: Will Ball* (*= CHSAA All State – 1st Team)

Golf – Men CSML 1st Team: Tanner Harris

SPORTS ACADEMIC HONORS

Soccer – Men 1st Team: Reese Tonsits; Honorable Mention: Noah Klaus, Micah Mesward, Trevor Nelson, Jeremy Schenck

Soccer – Women 1st Team: McKenna Bender, Sarah Buzetta, Emily Mueller, Aleesa Muir, Mikayla Murphy, Natalie Rees

Football 1st Team: Austin Bervig, Ryan Francis, Patrick Gheorghe, Joe Knapp, Nick Krause, Alex Miller, Kenny Plant, Reese Plantenberg, Peter Troupe; Honorable Mention: Luke Bethany, Bryce Dalrymple, Jonathan Jeffreys, Kyle Peterson, Dakota Yourkowski

Softball 1st Team: Madison Cooper, Abigail Elmendorf, Abigail Grotelueschen, Phoebe Khaliqi, Shelby Smithouser

Cross Country – Men 1st Team: Nathaniel Johnston, Michael Oldach; Honorable Mention: Everett Johnson, Matthew Loftin

Cross Country – Women 1st Team: Casey Griggs, Bethany Johns, Kirsten Kropkowski, Maddie Mullen, Megan Percy, Hannah Williams; Honorable Mention: Teresa Ambuul

Track – Men 1st Team: Andrew Bauer, Austin Bervig, Brian Blevins, Tim Gallagher, Patrick Gheorghe, Alex Miller, Trevor Nelson, Kenny Plant, Reese Platenberg; Honorable Mention: Luke Bethany, Will Campos, Jonathan Jeffreys, Everett Johnson, Matt Loftin, Matt Ross

Track – Women 1st Team: Teresa Ambuul, Bailey Brown, Madison Cooper, Cassidy Drury, Kendra Frieden, Leah Hinckfoot, Bethany Johns, Kirsten Kropkowski, Maddie Mullen, Megan Percy, Emelia Ray, Madison Sheveland, Hannah Williams, Andrea Willis, Maggie Zielinski; Honorable Mention: Kayla Schlaudt

Volleyball 1st Team: Sarah Buzetta, Alison Harshberger, Annie Harshberger, Chloe Storm, Maggie Zielinski; Honorable Mention: Sarah Klingensmith, Emma Porter, Chloe Weeks

Wrestling 1st Team: Ryan Francis, Nathaniel Johnston, Samuel Raphael

Basketball – Women 1st Team: Kendra Frieden, Leah Hinckfoot, Madison Sheveland

Basketball – Men 1st Team: Logan Branch, Brent Frieden, Joshua Haddad, William Smith

Baseball 1st Team: Logan Grizzell, Joshua St. Marie, Peter Troupe, Trent Warren; Honorable Mention: Kyle Peterson, Alec VanEaton

Golf – Men 1st Team: Tanner Harris

Golf – Women 1st Team: Hannah Carter

Cheer 1st Team: Ahley Coles, Jamie Feller, Hannah Foster, Brooke Francis, Rachel Hoyt, Rachel Moen, Alysia Padilla; Honorable Mention: Breanna Eskeldson, Catherine Graf

4A ACADEMIC STATE CHAMPIONS: **Wrestling – 3.91 Overall GPA**

Science Awards for 2014-2015

Regional Science Fair Results

2015 Pikes Peak Regional Science Fair

On February 21, 2015 at UCCS, 60 TCA students (thirty-nine 7th graders, nineteen 8th graders, and two high school students) competed at the **2015 Pikes Peak Regional Science Fair**. The Classical Academy dominated with numerous awards given. Specifically, 7th grade won 65% of the category awards for their division and the 8th grade won 50%. The prizes ranged from \$15 to \$500. Mr. Caruana, Ms. Kyle and Mrs. Muir are extremely proud of the students that competed at regionals. Fifteen junior high students and the two high school students represented TCA at the Colorado Science and Engineering Fair in April competing for bragging rights and cash prizes (results of the state competition are listed above).

State Science Fair Results

On April 9th-10th, student finalists from all corners of our state converged at Colorado State University to compete in the 60th Colorado Science and Engineering Fair. TCA had 17 projects represented by 17 students. Eleven of the seventeen students received recognition in their respective category. First place was \$200, 2nd place was \$100, 3rd was \$75, 4th was \$50, and honorable mention was a certificate. Twelve special awards were given.

Representing TCA in the **Senior Division** was Chase Mallory (TCA CP) and Kevyn Kelso (TCA HS).

Senior Division – Category Awards - Engineering

Kevyn Kelso (10th)

“Automatic Trombone Player” – 3rd place

Senior Division – Category Awards - Chemistry

Chase Mallory (11th)

“Renewable Energy: Synthesis of Cadmium Sulfide for Photovoltaic Cells from Nickel Cadmium Batteries” – Honorable Mention

Senior Division – Special Awards

Chase Mallory (11th)

“Renewable Energy: Synthesis of Cadmium Sulfide for Photovoltaic Cells from Nickel Cadmium Batteries”

American Public Power Association - \$75

Colorado Chemistry Teacher’s Association - \$100

Colorado State University, Department of Chemistry - \$100

Kevyn Kelso (10th)

“Automatic Trombone Player”

University of Northern Colorado - \$50

Colorado Science and Engineering Fair – Most Creative Science Project - \$50

Representing TCA in the **Junior Division** were Clara Foisie (8th), Rachel Gaona (7th), Brendan Gould (7th), Amelia Greene (8th), Jonathan Haerr (7th), Asher Hogan (7th), Caroline Jennings (8th), Olivia Jacobsen (7th), Kyrie Milliron (8th), Cole Palmer (7th), David Roberts (7th), Sachi Rohilla (7th), Steven Smith (7th), Amanda Susman (8th), and Corinne Watson (7th)

Science Awards for 2014-2015

Junior Division – Category Awards

Behavioral & Social

1st – Caroline Jennings (8th) “Ask Me Twice”

4th – Clara Foisie (8th) “Books or Nooks?”

Honorable Mention – Amelia Greene (8th) “Happy, Sad, Curious, Scared: Which are You?”

Engineering

4th – Cole Palmer (7th) “Catch’em If You Can”

Environmental Sciences

3rd – Jonathan Haerr (7th) “Dead in the Water”

Medicine & Health

Honorable Mention – Kyrie Milliron (8th) “To Vitamin D or not to Vitamin D”

Honorable Mention – Olivia Jacobsen (7th) “Weapons of Mass Percussion”

Physics

1st – Brendan Gould (7th) “Analyzing the Effects of Various Materials on a Magnetic Field”

Honorable Mention – Asher Hogan (7th) “Sound Trap”

Junior Division – Special Awards

Caroline Jennings (8th) “Ask Me Twice”

American Psychological Association - Certificate

Broadcom MASTERS Competition Nomination – Certificate/Nomination to compete in the Broadcom MASTERS national middle school science and engineering fair competition

Brendan Gould (7th) “Analyzing the Effects of Various Materials on a Magnetic Field”

United States Navy & Marine Corps – Certificate/Medallion

Broadcom MASTERS Competition Nomination – Certificate/Nomination to compete in the Broadcom MASTERS national middle school science and engineering fair competition

Steven Smith (7th) “Best Mulch for the Money”

Fort Collins Conservation District - \$50 and Plaque

Society for Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration - \$100, Certificate, and Mineral/Rock Kit

Amelia Greene (8th) “Happy, Sad, Curious, Scared: Which are You?”

American Statistical Association - \$200 and Student Membership



Fine Arts Awards for 2014-2015

Visual Arts Awards

Scholastic Art and Writing Award (Colorado Regionals – Top 7% of State):

Alaina Waterhouse (12th) – painting, Silver Key
Ashley D’Agnese (11th) – print, Honorable Mention
Robert Ball (10th) – drawing, Honorable Mention

D20 / Air Academy Federal Credit Union Art Competition:

Kimberly Krutsinger (12th) – 1st place, painting
Sara Plett (10th) – 2nd place, print
Tressa Wilson (10th) – 3rd place, painting
Dillon Rawlings (9th) – 1st place, EAC Choice Award, and
Best of Show for High School, painting

5th Congressional District Art Show:

Hannah Carter (11th) – painting

Vocal Awards

High School

Colorado All State Choir

Jacob Althouse
Matthew Miller
Lea Supplee
Hannah Williams
Bailey Brown
Trenton Gunsolley
Hannah Stevens
Amanda Turmes

Adams State Honor Choir

Emilia Ray
Alison Henry
Ashlynn Register
Dante Macy
Dorothy Pope

Instrumental Individual Awards

All State Concert Band

Lauren Wilson, Justin Shaffer, Emily Brubaker, Callen Thompson, Zayna Pieper

All City Band

Emily Brubaker, Justin Shaffer, Lauren Wilson, Christian Soper, Ryan VanWagenen

All City Jazz Band

Dylan Strevett – lead tenor

Colorado University at Boulder Honor Band

Lauren Wilson, Christian Soper

Western State Honor Band

Justin Shaffer – principal clarinet,
and *Ryan VanWagenen*

Pikes Peak Junior High Band

Sarah Brubaker, Maija Pieper, Josiah Smith, Zack Rea, Liam Jones, Amelia Greene, Julia Enger, Emma Crosley, Kate Gentry, David Shearon, Zack Atkinson

Instrumental Group Awards

Wind Ensemble

CSU-Pueblo Festival of Winds Featured High School
Ensemble Performer
CBA Regional Superior Performance – State Qualifier
CBA State Performers – Excellent Rating (one of 32 bands
in state chosen from over 90)
CHSAA – Superior Performance Rating

Symphonic Band

CHSAA – Superior Performance Rating

7th Grade

CHSAA – Superior Performance Rating



National Latin Exam and Colorado Junior Classical League Convention Awards for 2014-2015

National Latin Exam

Overall: 103 students took the exam, 50 won an award

Intro to Latin

Certificate Award

Sarah Brubaker, Allen Williamson, Aleck Snider,
Maria Plett, Caroline Jennings, Abbie Harrigan

Certificate and Ribbon Award

Brendan Johnston, Ryker Lutjens, Amanda Susman, Anna
Kemper, Aidan Johnston, Julia Enger, Ryan Beckman,
Nathaniel Bone

Latin I

Cum Laude Certificate

Saumika Mulluri, Owyn Carter, Ryan Moen,
Jared Shumway, William Sedgewick

Maxima Cum Laude Certificate and Silver Medal

Niel Bauer, Sydney Smith, Nicholas Kostin, Braden Jones

Latin II

Magna Cum Laude Certificate

Sara Plett, Dorothy Pope, Alison Henry, Ross Vlcek

Magna Cum Laude Certificate and Silver Medal

Ashlyn Brunk, Hannah Gaona, Bryce George,
Tressa Wilson, Justin Lee, George Liu, Amy Chan

Summa Cum Laude Certificate and Gold Medal

Emma Curran

Latin III

Cum Laude Certificate

Madeline Yu

Magna Cum Laude Certificate

Joshua Haddad, Michael Oldach, Hannah
Carter

Magna Cum Laude Certificate and Silver Medal

Robinson Crane, Kenneth Plant, Austin Bervig, Sarah
Laden, Rosemary Michael-Trumbull, Jennifer Knapp,
Graham Jennings, Joshua St. Marie, Rachel Moen

Latin IV

Certificate of Merit

Grant Sedgewick



Colorado Junior Classical League Convention

Overall: 25 Students attended, 20 won an award

Academic Test Awards

Latin I:

Jared Shumway – 4th Roman History

Joshua Daines – 2nd Geography

Braden Jones – 1st Greek History, 4th Reading Comp

Owyn Carter – 1st Academic Decathlon, 2nd Greek History

Latin II:

George Liu – 5th Greek History

Emma Curran – 5th Geography

Amy Chan – 3rd Latin Lit, 5th Reading Comp

Tressa Wilson – 3rd Greek History

Eric White – 2nd Roman History

Bryce George – 1st Geography, 3rd Academic Decathlon

Latin III:

Madeline Yu – 5th Mottoes and Proverbs

Sarah Laden – 4th Mottoes and Proverbs

Hannah Carter – 3rd Mythology

Graham Jennings – 1st Overall Greek History, 1st Greek History,
2nd Roman History

Performing Arts Awards

Latin II:

Sara Plett – 3rd Costume

Tressa Wilson – 3rd Costume

Eric White – 2nd Costume, 3rd Dramatic Interpretation

Bryce George – 1st Latin Oratory

Latin III:

Sarah Laden – 4th Advanced Prose

Graphic Arts Awards

Latin I:

Braden Jones – 2nd Small Model, 3rd Cartoon

Latin II:

Julia Maughan – 3rd Photography

Tressa Wilson – 1st Jewelry, 1st Pastel

Actors – 3rd Skit

Latin III:

Madeline Yu – 1st Photography, 1st Pencil, 2nd Ink, 2nd Oil

Hannah Carter – 1st Greeting Cards, 1st Map, 1st Mixed Media

Olympika Awards

Latin III:

Joe Knapp – 3rd Deucalion's Throw

Graham Jennings and Eric Hillman – 1st Psyche's Task

Swimmers – 4th Leander's Hellenspont

Journalism Awards for 2014-2015

Colorado High School Press Association Journalism Excellence Award

Best of Colorado 2015 for Yearbook Class I – Up to 800

The Colorado High School Press Association recognized the following TCA students with a "Journalism Excellence Award" for outstanding journalistic performance in this year's state competition.

1st Place:

- **Sports Spread (High School Yearbook)** – Chelsea Smith
- **Student Life Spread (High School Yearbook)** – Mikayla Nunn
- **Alternative Academics Presentation (High School Yearbook)** – Shannan Parris and Chelsea Smith
- **Alternative Student Life Presentation (High School Yearbook)** – Erin Tubb and Caitlyn DelMonico
- **Student Life Writing (Junior High Yearbook)** – Liz Fronterhouse
- **People Spread (Junior High Yearbook)** – Raegan Bervig
- **Clubs/Organizations Spread (Junior High Yearbook)** – Saumika Mulluri and Elizabeth Wittasek
- **Photo / Graphic Illustration (Junior High Yearbook)** – Liz Fronterhouse, Kala Lundahl, Hannah Foster

2nd Place:

- **Sports Action Individual Photo and Caption (Junior High Yearbook)** – Taylor Yarbrough
- **Theme Package Writing (High School Yearbook)** – Chelsea Smith, Bailey Gent, Shayla Bradford, Erin Tubb and Caitlyn DelMonico
- **Theme Package Presentation (High School Yearbook)** – Chelsea Smith, Bailey Gent, Shayla Bradford, Erin Tubb and Caitlyn DelMonico
- **People Spread (High School Yearbook)** – Caitlyn DelMonico
- **Alternative Sports Presentation (High School Yearbook)** – Shayla Bradford
- **Clubs / Organizations Spread (High School Yearbook)** – Bailey Gent



3rd Place:

- **Sports Writing (Junior High Yearbook)** – Bennett Holmes
- **Personality Profile Writing (Junior High Yearbook)** – Lindsey Valdez
- **Academics Spread (Junior High Yearbook)** – Allison Smith
- **Alternative Academics Presentation (Junior High Yearbook)** – Olivia Khaliqi and Sheridan Hunter
- **Alternative Sports Presentation (Junior High Yearbook)** – Kristen Kater and Hannah Foster
- **Sports Action Individual Photo and Caption (High School Yearbook)** – Ali Henry and Jessica Hunter
- **Environmental Portrait (High School Yearbook)** – Shayla Bradford and Mikayla Nunn

Honorable Mention:

- **Sports Spread (Junior High Yearbook)** – Vanessa Wormack
- **Environmental Portrait (Junior High Yearbook)** – Shayla Bradford and Sarah Miller
- **Personality Profile Writing (High School Yearbook)** – Erin Tubb
- **Academic Spread (High School Yearbook)** – Shannan Parris and Chelsea Smith
- **Academics Writing (High School Yearbook)** – Mikayla Nunn



Colorado High School Press Association Photographer of the Year 2014-2015: 2nd Place – Shayla Bradford

From the judge, Michael Ciaglo / Photojournalist at the Colorado Springs Gazette, "Second place had more posed shots, but showed technical skill with her camera and editing applications above and beyond what I would expect from someone in high school. The photo of the eyes was so creative and textural I found myself stuck on the photo for an incredible amount of time."

Other Student Awards

Poetry Out Loud Winners

Nina Westcott (Sr) – 1st place TCA High School
Shealy Salas (Jr) – 2nd place TCA High School
Tavi Davis (Sr) – 1st place TCA College Pathways
Anna Cole (Jr) – 2nd place TCA College Pathways

Poetry Out Loud starts at the classroom level, with each student at TCA, grades 7-12, memorizing poetry. Winners at the grade level (grades 9-12) go on to compete at the school level, and the TCA winners compete at the state completion in Lakewood, CO.

Published Students

Hannah Carter and Lee Boner
 published stories in *Teen Ink*

Dante Macy

has a poem that is to be published in
Verbaleyeze Young Writers Anthology

Brian Blevins

has a novel that is currently under consideration by a
 publishing house

Betty Field Memorial Youth Writing Contest

Mystery Story – First Place

Joseph Nye – *The Pink Cloth*

Kathryn Homoki – *Dead as a Doornail*

Linda McGee - *Mr. Quack and the Bubble Conundrum*
 (also won 2nd place for Best Title)

Mystery Story – Third Place

Teresa Lapointe – *Three Thieves and a House*

Junior High Math Counts Pikes Peak Regional Math Competition

Team Competition: Nathan Johns (8th), Ryker Lutjens (8th),
 Brendan Gould (7th), Jonathan Pollard (7th) - **placed 2nd overall.**

Destination Imagination

TCA students participating in the Destination Imagination club were
STATE CHAMPIONS in the secondary scientific challenge (will
 compete at the Global Finals in Knoxville, TN in May). A team of fifth
 graders placed 6th in the Structural Engineering challenge and the HS
 Improv team finished 8th in their main challenge.

Speech and Debate

State Qualifiers

Josiah Lilijvist and Patrick Gheorge (Duo)
Tatianna Lowman (Humor)
Eleni McClure and Ana Obergfell (Duo)
Trent Warren and Emmae Thomasson (Duo)
Serene Singh (Original Oratory)

State Champion

Serene Singh (Original Oratory)

National Qualifiers

Serene Singh (Original Oratory and Senate)
Dante Macy (Drama)

Cottage School Program Spelling Bee Awards

4th-8th Grades: 24 finalists competed

Jonathan Brown (5th) – Winner
Camden Cornwell (6th) – Runner-Up

Cottage School Program D20 Art Show Awards

Hadassah Derosier (5th Grade) – **Blue Ribbon**
 (clay turtle project)

National History Day

Congratulations to the first-ever TCA National History Day competitors
 who worked hard to earn their way to the
 Colorado Springs Regional Contest

**(Eldaah Asfaw, Katherine Bolin, Amalie Harvey, Whitney
 McCoy, Garrison Smalley, and Katie Wilson)**

Special Recognition:

Graysen Kraft - Best Project Southwestern History on
 the Buffalo Soldiers

Maegan Winter – 3rd Place on project about
 Chief Black Kettle

TCA Community Service Day

Each year our Titan Teams band together and go out in the community for a service day. Forty-two Titan Teams (over 600 students) worked on twenty-three different projects this year. Work activities took place at each of the following locations: Flying W Ranch, Black Forest Park, Habitat for Humanity Restore, Meadows Park Community Center, Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, Woodland Park – Fire Mitigation and Restoration, Urban Peak, Marian House Soup Kitchen, YMCA (Prospect Lake), Arc Thrift Store, Catamount Institute, Pikes Peak Riding Therapeutic Center, Western Museum of Mining, YMCA Briargate, Crossfire Ministries, Special Kids Special Families, Spruce Mountain Mitigation, Pikes Peak Hospice, and a blood drive at TCA.



GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY



A FEW EXAMPLES OF TCA GROUPS / STUDENTS HELPING OTHERS

- **Power and Justice Campaign (throughout the school year):** Provided 1,747 pounds of food to *Care & Share*; donated \$1,000 to *Shining Light International*; donated \$1,600 to *Hopes Promise*; donated \$1,200 to *Sarah's Home*; provided 800 pairs of shoes for *Yobel International*; provided 40 backpacks, filled with toiletries, snacks and school supplies to *Urban Peak (Homeless Youth of Colorado Springs)*.
- **Junior High Carnival:** raised enough funds to donate \$1,913 each to *Wild Blue* and *Marian House* and \$871 for the Junior High Student Council.
- **Wreaths Across America:** On this the 150th anniversary of Arlington National Cemetery, TCA contributed funds to lay 242 of the 230,000 wreaths placed at Arlington National Cemetery this past December.
- **Sample of Elementary Efforts:** Many of our elementary classes gave back to the community via food drives (CSP donated 55 pounds of food to *Care and Share*), the Rwandan Uniform Project, the Wreaths Across America TCA-wide effort, and other worthwhile projects.

TCA Overall School Recognition

John Irwin School of Excellence Award

given by the Colorado Department of Education (CDE). This award is given to the top 8% of Colorado public schools. The awards are given to schools that demonstrate excellent academic achievement.

**TCA Elementary
TCA Junior High School
TCA High School
TCA College Pathways**

Governor's Distinguished Improvement Award

is given to schools that demonstrate exceptional student growth. On the school performance framework that is used by the state to evaluate schools, these schools "exceed" expectations on the indicator related to longitudinal academic growth and "meet or exceed" expectations on the indicator related to academic growth gaps.

TCA High School

2015 U.S. News and World Report Rankings

TCA High School – #16 ranked school in Colorado
(#602 high school nationally out of 21,000 schools = **top 3% program**)

TCA College Pathways – Bronze Award
(equates to top one-third of high schools in the nation –
highest rating for schools without AP programs)

2014 U.S. Newsweek Rankings

TCA High School – #3 ranked school in Colorado
(#229 high school nationally out of ~14,500 schools = **top 2% program**)

ColoradoSchoolGrades.com School Rankings for 2014

TCA Elementary (ranked #252 of 1101 schools in CO)
TCA Junior High School (ranked #84 of 505 schools in CO)
TCA College Pathways Junior High (ranked #101 of 505 schools in CO)
TCA High School (ranked #9 of 345 schools in CO)
TCA College Pathways (ranked #1 of 345 schools in CO)

Titan of the Year Finalists for 2014-15

Kevin Collins (Administration), **Linda Retting** (Central), **Tracy VanCura** (East), **Yvette Butler** (North), **Candus Muir** (JH), **Bleys Kueck** (HS), **Nikki Upchurch** (CP), **Paula Higgins** (CSP)



Our Table *by Michelle Hindman*

a speech presented to the graduation Class of 2015 at Senior Breakfast

When I exchange small talk and people ask what I do for a living, I always illustrate the wonderful uniqueness of my job by telling them I “work at a small charter school where I get to teach around a table” instead of desks.

I’m aware that likely the image I put in their minds is something like this [picture to the right]. I admit, I want them to assume I am gracefully facilitating a pristine learning experience, where young adults sit around a polished oak table nodding sagely about Shakespeare like adolescent CEOs.



What I cannot explain to strangers is that on a daily basis, my beloved and bragged-about table looks a little more like this (*see below - don’t worry parents, I had them pose for that picture, they weren’t being rude.*)



I do *not* detail the inexplicable doodles or the spaces pennies can be squashed into; I don’t try to explain how students perfect the slide of a text book along a slightly sticky surface, or that I sometimes scold, “take your feet off the table”, and on one memorable, slightly concerning occasion, “stop crawling under the table, Hudson.”

While I might occasionally long for the quiet dignity of stock photos, I know in my heart, even while scrubbing off hot chocolate stains and brushing away eraser crumbles, that this is what the table should be. Because education is not a black tie affair. It is too precious and too essential to be roped off and perfectly polished. Education, and especially at tiny, quirky TCA, is a family dinner. Or, breakfast.

A table symbolizes both unity and simplicity. While important decisions can be made around them, they are more often simply the place we go to gather for some of life’s basics: being together, and eating. At the small college I went to, the campus pastor used to emphasize the importance of chapels, saying that while you don’t remember every meal you eat, every one is necessary, and you wouldn’t be who you are today without the meals you’ve shared with other people.

The table has always symbolized the unique approach to academics at TCA, especially in the Senior year. I sit down at the table with you, because I am not Michelle Hindman, irrefutable pillar of knowledge, doling out information you’re expected to swallow without question. I am human and

curious and needing conversation too and the table symbolizes that I too want to learn from the text, and also from *you* and your own insights.

Some of you have brought absolute brilliance and generous humor to the table. I have been humbled not only by your academic prowess, but by the strength and love in your lives as you live them. Some of you have brought your personal stories and beliefs, your acknowledgements of the shortcomings of humanity. Some of you have brought your precious honesty in a world full of facades, whether simply admitting you didn't read or that there are questions in life that have no answers. Some of us come to the table with nothing to offer, exhausted beyond thought, discussion of Dostoevsky the last thing on our minds.

But this falls away at the table, because regardless of what we come with or what we might feel we lack, we come together, every day, to laugh, to complain, to listen, to discuss. A very small part of the privilege of my job is helping you understand literature. The real gift is seeing you learn how to listen and how to speak with one another. You have learned how to use your voice to articulate your passions, but yet you have also learned how to listen sincerely and show compassion to others who view the world differently.



I can't thank you enough for restoring hope to me, on a daily basis, not just because you've understood semi-colons and become passionate about Orwell, but because you care for one another, and you've even managed to care for me. Whether you were prepared for it or not, this year you have shared too much around too many tables to remain apathetic. Whether playing super smash or debating absolute truth, your education has evolved to be much more about your shared humanity than your GPAs. You have achieved the remarkable, not just in your academics, but in the development of your characters.

And that's why I don't mind that my table is battered and treated like your own living room furniture and why I've never taken offense if I spy drooping eyelids. Because my most sincere hope is that you've felt welcomed at my table in whatever state you have come to it, with all of your imperfections and mine - because learning is about being better, not just smarter.

Education is not about the content you cover, but who you become in the process. Your learning does not happen in ten page papers or other landmark events. Even formal ceremonies like this only mark an intangible and slow change that has already happened - *growing up* - which has snuck up on you and your parents day-by-day, hour-by-hour. Before you knew it, all of those daily conversations and meals added up and formed you into the person you are, sitting here.

Up until now, you have not chosen who joins your table and your conversation. Your fumbling instructors and your imperfect classmates and your difficult courses have been foisted upon you. And

you have done well, learning far more in your time at TCA than MLA formatting and the exact amount of time it takes to get to the Loaf and back before class. But whatever is next for you, your education will continue, and while you are leaving behind the many tables of TCA, the world is waiting for you to form your own. My question as you continue into the world is this: who will you invite to your table?

I encourage you to expand your table. Welcome those others might not to your conversation. Sometimes those without social graces or your opinions are exactly the voices you need. Be curious, instead of defensive, knowing that what is most precious to you cannot be taken away from a mere discussion. Set your table with generosity. Be forgiving, seek out the whole story, and try to listen. Knowledge will never hurt you and the Truth cannot be overcome, even by your doubts. Be courageous as you fill your table, and be sincere. Cynicism and snobbery are easy and the world doesn't need any more sophists in love with their own voice. Real love and real learning and true conversation take work and risk. Be yourself. Don't worry about the polished-oak-and-blazers-model of education. Let the cracks and the dirt show and invite others to be themselves too.

Most of all, don't be afraid. You will join and leave many tables in life, but while those losses are real, they are never final. This is what we mean when we say we hope students become "life-long learners." Even if we don't trip over you reading Russian novels in the future, we hope you stay forever curious, forever kind, forever willing to admit you were wrong and acknowledge another's genius, willing to push yourself past your limit and then one step further. We trust and believe that the tables you invite others to will be lavishly furnished with critical thought, compassion and creativity. So here's to you, class of 2015 and the magnificent conversations we've shared with you so far. May your table be showered with joy and discovery from this point forward and may the long conversation, your life-long education, continue with great love.



This is the Most Beautiful Thing in the World That I Have Ever Seen

by Samantha Luster – North Elementary

Little ones, as they always have, get very excited when they learn something interesting such as how a rock was formed. I was out at recess with my class shortly after we had finished our rock unit. I had a little one come to me with a big rock in his hands holding it up saying, “Look, look Miss Luster! This is the most beautiful thing in the world that I have ever seen.” In my mind I thought to myself it is just a rock. This excited little boy wanted to explain why he was so delighted with this common stone. He gave me every detail from the outside, to the grain inside of what he thought was valuable gold. Of course, this was a first grader and I humored him. He talked, I listen and asked questions. Through our long conversation, I still saw a rock and still couldn’t find one ounce of beauty to appreciate.



Orange Hornet
a Dale Chihuly chandelier
image from website linked below

<http://artteacher.blogspot.com/2014/02/5th-grade-and-56-discovery-art-chihuly.html>

To understand this virtue of appreciation of beauty and excellence is to find what is pleasing in our eyes. However, we must understand that what is appealing to one, will not be to another. Recently, the North third grade students went on their last fieldtrip to the Fine Arts Center. My students were the last to enter, so we received the tour first. While there, the head docent stopped me to compliment our third graders on their enthusiasm and attention to the art. She told me that she doesn’t see much of that from other schools. As we walked with the children we stopped at the beautiful glass sculpture titled *Orange Hornet Chandelier*. We listened as the students articulated what they had seen and how each of them perceived it. The docent then began to explain to me how amazing it is to hear the different descriptions; people look at this piece of art in many different ways. Some people saw this glass sculpture as being the backs of hornets. Others found something different such as carrots from a garden or an explosion of fire. In our conversation, she told me that people see this differently because we all view the world differently. I have to say that I am in agreement with her. On my many visits to the Fine Art Center I always look forward to seeing the orange, hanging work of art because I can gaze at its color for hours.

Opinions can differ on what should be appreciated or what is beautiful and excellent. It was Plato who said, “Beauty lies in the eyes of the beholder.” As we finish the school year with our busy lives, I want to challenge you. Your challenge is to take a moment to find beauty and excellence in something at least once a week. Open your mind to see what others see. Take a moment to enjoy all that has been created, whether made by man or nature. Pause a moment to appreciate the little things. When you do, think of a sentence or two about what you are seeing. For me in the past several weeks, it has been the mountains in the morning. I wish that I could gather family close to see how the mountains seem to be a changing painting against the blue sky. Recently, I have seen the beauty of a shy child give their all to say their poem in front of their peers. These may be little, but it’s moments like these that I find myself thinking of sentences to describe what I appreciate about them the most.



Upcoming DAS Meetings and Due Dates:

ALT Meetings (11:00 am-12:30 pm):

- May 29: ALT Meeting – Colorado Room
- Jul 29: ALT Meeting – Colorado Room (first mtg of 2015-16)

Due Dates and Upcoming Events:

- May 22: TCA Graduation
- May 23: TCA College Pathways Graduation
- May 25: Memorial Day
- Jun 8: TCA Board Meeting (6:00-10:00 pm)
- Jun 15: TCA Annual Golf Tournament
- Jul 4: Independence Day
- Jul 11: Annual TCA Board Retreat
- Aug 11: Elementary Info Fair (10:00-2:00 & 5:00-7:00)
- Aug 17-20: First week of classes for Cottage School Program
- Aug 18-21: First week of classes at College Pathways
- Aug 19: First day of classes for kindergarten traditional
- Aug 19: First day of classes for 7th and 9th grades traditional
- Aug 20: First day of classes for 1st-6th grades traditional
- Aug 20: First day of classes for 8th, 10th-12th grades traditional

Please stay aware of the due dates listed on this page of the newsletter. It will help us make sure we are up-to-date on all upcoming requirements/suspenses. See compliance and accreditation specifics in the next column.



Compliance and Accreditation Corner

“Titans love, respect, and protect one another.” In the spirit of the Titan’s Creed, Policy AC-TCA *Nondiscrimination and Equal Opportunity* has been updated and is now available on the TCA website: [[click here](#)]. This policy outlines the procedures on how students, parents, staff, and the community may file complaints and how TCA will work to resolve all complaints.

If you have any questions about the updated policy, please talk to your local principal or feel free to contact the TCA Compliance Specialist/Title IX Coordinator Cheri Birkey at cbirkey1@asd20.org, 488-6209, or in Room 1114 at the TCA North Campus.



Please Note: Every effort was made to include as many submitted awards as possible in this issue. I’m sure that some deserving students were inadvertently not included in this year-end wrap-up. I apologize in advance for any oversights and misspellings contained herein.

