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Studium

Labor

The Standard

A publication of St. Andrew's Academy

Commencement 2009

This past sixth of June saw St. Andrew's Academy's fifth graduating class. These graduates hold the distinction—among many!—of having been with St. Andrew's the longest of any students so far, beginning their 5th grade year, and attending continuously for eight years. Congratulations to Rebekah Waterman and Elena Salvatore. You will be missed!

The ceremony began with choral evensong sung by the St. Andrew's Academy Choir. Joining the choir for the service were three alumni: Serena Howe, Joe Salvatore and Andrew Bradley. After the evensong, the graduates were both recognized as earning merit awards in the National Greek Exam in both

Attic and Homeric Greek. They also were both awarded the St. Andrew's Merit Scholarship for academic achievement, scholarship, and leadership, graduating Cum Laude.

The Rev'd Canon, Father Bradley S. Cunningham, from Jonesboro Arkansas, was the commencement speaker. Father Cunningham opened his commencement speech with:



It is the duty of every commencement address to offer unsolicited advice to a hostile audience composed of a group of students who want nothing more than for this to be over and to move on, and to parents and grandparents who want nothing more than one more year at home, and for a whole bunch of the rest of us who were invited to come here and be a witness and observe this bittersweet event.

If you ever find yourself in my shoes, having to deliver that speech, I suggest that you begin with a quote; preferably from someone who is very well known, profound and erudite, and popular. Someone like Clives Staple Lewis [who] wrote this:

“Our Lord finds our desires, not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea.” (The Weight of Glory)

Father Cunningham went on to speak of our lives lived in pursuing the treasures of the seashores rather



than pursuing sin and the ugliness of making mud pies in the slums. To hear Father's address, please visit the St. Andrew's website at <standrewsacademy.org>.

The seniors requested to sing an anthem during the ceremonies, and with alumni Joe Salvatore and Andrew Bradley and headmaster Father Brian Foos, they sang the American composition "Jesus Christ the Apple Tree," the last line of which is: "This fruit does make my soul to thrive; It keeps my dying faith alive; Which makes my soul in haste to be; With Jesus Christ the apple tree."

These two classmates will be able to continue their friendship as they both were accepted to Hillsdale College for the coming fall, joining alum Serena Howe (2008) in her taking of Hillsdale by storm. Both ladies will study in the Liberal Arts field, though with differing emphases.

Elena is planning to major in English Literature and to do a double minor in French and Theater. However, before she does that, she is spending the summer in San Diego at Actors' Academy, where she will learn to be dramatic. Her thesis, *A Piece of Bread and a Taste of the Soul: The Effect the Common Approaches to Food Have on the Human Being*, advanced healthy eating in community, rather than merely healthy food.

Rebekah, who now regrets the stage in her life in which she scowled for every photograph, is majoring in Comparative Literature (Russian, English, French) and minoring in Classics, to the delight of her Latin & Greek instructor. Rebekah's thesis was entitled *Something Else, Something More: How the Arthurian Fact Affects the Arthurian Legends*. She now smiles and looks quite lovely for her photos.

Top: The Rev'd Canon, Father Bradley S. Cunningham delivers the commencement address. Below, Rebekah Waterman (left) & Elena Salvatore (right) receive their diplomas from Father Brian Foos.



Welcome to Miss Anna Ashmore

The Faculty gained a new member this past March in Miss Anna Ashmore, from Detroit, Michigan. Miss Ashmore studied early childhood education at Hillsdale College, and has been a great asset to the school.

As the fifth of eleven children, Miss Ashmore is especially well-suited to the needs of a mixed-grade classroom, as well as to a school with a familial atmosphere. She has quickly become a favorite with the students, playing games and teaching new ones at lunch and break, and organizing what was called by one student "the best Lake Day ever!" for the end-of-the-year beach day in June. She has also brought helpful ideas and a new perspective to the school community, as well as many adventures and plans for further adventure with her compatriots.

After her family (and the amazing Father Beauchamp), Hillsdale College seems to hold her warmest affection, and she barely suppressed a shout of delight when she heard that this year's graduates were both accepted to Hillsdale and had decided to attend.



Miss Ashmore with students Wesley Gannon and Landin Carmichael

All in all, Miss Ashmore has been an answer to prayer, and a great help and blessing to the school. Everyone looks forward to her return in the Fall!

Winter Ball 2009

The St. Andrew's community held its second annual Winter Ball this January, welcoming not only the students, but also some parents, and even five alumni who were back for the holidays.

This year blessed the dancers with good weather, and they didn't have to trudge through deep snow to come to the festivities, as last year. The dances were varied, from individual waltzes, in the ballroom style, and group reels (like the Virginia Reel), to the foxtrot and swing, and even some salsa pieces. A longtime favorite of the students has been the Posties' Jig, a lively dance for groups of eight; and this year also Casino Rouetta, a group salsa dance.

Between the snazzy decorations, fancy clothing, and great music, the 2nd Annual Winter Ball was a smashing success.



Spring Break Trip 2009

As happens nearly every Spring, the St. Andrew's Academy middle and high school students traveled to San Francisco this past March to see sights, hear concerts, and eat delicious food.

This year especially, walking the Golden Gate Bridge was a must, both



because some students had never done it, and because the new teacher, Miss Ashmore, had never even *seen* the Bridge, much less been on it. The group also visited the De Young and Legion of Honor Museums. The Legion of Honor Museum's antiquities collection features pieces from ancient Egypt, Assyria, and Anatolia, through the later Greco-Roman world, while the De Young emphasizes the modern period. There was also a flower show in progress at the De Young, with some very impressive exhibits.

Friday night, the choir sang evensong for St. Luke's in Los Altos Hills. This church is familiar to most the students, as the choir stays there whenever it comes to the Bay Area, and often the parishioners join the choir for supper. Thanks to Father Penfield and the parish of St. Luke's!

On Sunday afternoon, the group took in a Bach Organ Concert at St.

Mark's Lutheran Church, just off Geary and Gough streets in San Francisco. The organist for the San Francisco Symphony played a repertoire originally put together by Mendelssohn in 1840, on an organ specially built to be authentic as possible to Bach's time and the organ he most often played. The church itself was beautiful and the acoustics outstanding for this rare concert.

The students made a stop on this trip that had never before been included, in visiting St. John of San Francisco Orthodox Academy. St. John's is similar in many ways to St. Andrew's Academy, but set in the Orthodox tradition. St. Andrew's choir heard St. John's students sing their afternoon prayers, and St. John's in turn welcomed the St. Andrew's choir to perform. St. Andrew's students sat in on classes, ate lunch, and visited and played at break with the hospitable students and teachers of St. John's.

One highlight of the trip was hearing the Grammy-award winning men's ensemble Chanticleer perform live at Grace Cathedral. Called "the world's reigning male chorus" by New Yorker Magazine, the 12-part group is in its 31st year. The group performs all kinds of music, from Renaissance to gospel to jazz, and in 2008 was inducted into the American Classical Music Hall of Fame. Their concert at Grace Cathedral was called "Wondrous Free,"



from the title of the first American song, *My Days Have Been so Wondrous Free*, penned 250 years ago, featuring American music.

But the group visited more than just San Francisco. They traveled further south to Monterey Bay, and met up with alumni attending college there. They sang Sunday services at St. Alban's, a new mission in Pacific Grove. They explored Cannery Row, and went out for dinner at the Crown & Anchor in Monterey. The five-day trip was concluded by a visit to the Orthodox monastery at Mantion, a few hours away from Lake Almanor, before the travelers returned home from the, according to the Seniors, "best San Francisco Trip Yet."

Clockwise, from left: organ at St. Luke's Lutheran in San Francisco, Logan Carmichael and dessert at the protocol dinner, students, staff and alumni at Cannery Row, Monterey. Facing page, top, l-r, singing for St. John of San Francisco Academy, protocol dinner.





Boarding Program

It has been a long-term goal of St. Andrew's Academy to offer boarding for out-of-area students, and the 2008-2009 academic year saw the beginning of this goal's fulfillment with our first boarding students. We anticipate expanding and developing this program over the coming years.

For the upcoming year, 2009-2010, we estimate being able to take six freshman boarding students (depending upon gender). (For inquiries about students of other ages, please call the school for more information). As we slowly build this aspect of our community life, we plan to

accept more and more boarding students.

If you're eager to learn and don't mind hard work, but anticipate the rewards that come with it, consider becoming a part of this very unique community.

Details:

We are not a run-of-the-mill boarding school. For starters, we're young—only ten years old—and we're very small. Our students pray together every day, sing together, study together, work together, and play together. Our aim is not only academic labor, but also spiritual formation. The students are challenged to think clearly, speak persuasively, and love passionately. Most importantly, we are not only an institution, but a community.

For the time being, until we build permanent dormitory buildings, boarding students live with families in the community, in the manner of many foreign exchange programs.

Boarding students start the year a bit earlier than non-boarders, with a short Trinity Term to build language and writing skills in anticipation of the year, and take care of any required classes they may have missed. Of course, it is also a great time to get to know one another and to enjoy the beautiful outdoors of Lake Almanor, where the school resides. Trinity Term for 2009 Begins August 24.



A Note from the Parent of a St. Andrew's Academy Boarding Student

The words "thank you" do not convey the overwhelming appreciation my heart contains for what you have done for and with my daughter. St. Andrew's Academy has lit a bright light in her soul, and I hear in her the promise of incredible inner beauty. When speaking with my daughter, I hear maturity, determination and wisdom. I listen to a young woman who feels the worth of hard work; a little girl able to enjoy being a little girl; a daughter extremely respectful and loving to her mother. I thank you for your instructions, discipline and discernment in how best to 'raise' a teenage girl. I will be forever grateful for what you all are doing for my daughter.

God's prosperous blessings on St. Andrew's.

Sally Shoup, NC

Once the year begins, what is it like for a boarding student? They attend classes for a good part of each school day, as in a day school. They participate in study halls during the week where faculty are available for extra help. Some weekends have hiking, snowshoeing, lake excursions, or other field trips. They get to know and become part of their host families. In addition, Sunday attendance at the collegiate Church is a requirement for boarding students.

Alumni Happenings

Alum Serena Howe, class of 2008, was asked to write a note on what she is up to this summer. We received an email back with the following. — Ed.

In December of 2008, my senior year, Ken Myers spoke at St. Andrew's Academy's annual Hilary Lectures about the proper relationship between culture and the Church. I had been increasingly interested in this subject of "wise cultural engagement," as Mr. Myers would say, for some time, and in fact was writing my senior thesis on the spiritual and cultural significance of church music. When Mr. Myers came to school the next day to talk to our philosophy class, he mentioned that he had a summer internship available at his organization, Mars Hill Audio Journal. I knew that this was what I wanted to do: study culture—especially the arts—from a theological and Christological perspective.

Mars Hill Audio was begun by Mr. Myers in 1993 when he became increasingly aware of the need for thoughtful Christian cultural resources. He says in one brochure, "Wise and faithful cultural

engagement requires an understanding of what culture should do and be, amended by an attentiveness to how the divinely established structures of Creation and of human nature should shape our cultural lives." The Journal's thoughtful interviews with writers, artists, and thinkers seek to "equip Christians for wise cultural engagement," in

What we do with our bodies matters; what we do with our technology and entertainment matters because as Christians, everything we do is in light of the Kingdom of Heaven.

pursuit of a life lived wisely, beautifully, and faithfully in service of Christ.

As I write this, I have been at the Journal, located just outside Charlottesville, VA, for about a week, and I'm already up to my eyeballs in reading

material, artwork, and movies. Interning here is not so much like having a summer office job as taking an intensive course on contemporary culture—its history and theological and practical significance to the Church. Among the books on my desk right now and begging to be read are Peter Leithart's *Against Christianity*, Jacques Barzun's *The Use and Abuse of Art*, a selection of Flannery O'Connor's essays, Dorothy Sayers' *Letters to a Diminished Church*, and, last but certainly not least, about two dozen back-issues of *IMAGE*, "A Journal of the Arts & Religion." I think that *Babylon 5*, a local fiddle extravaganza, and hikes through our corner of Appalachia will also be among the lineup of my cultural experiences for this summer, not to mention PBS's *History of American Art*. Charlottesville itself, of course, is an almost inexhaustible source of history and culture. It's amazing being surrounded by people who are both thoughtful and exuberant about their cultural lives.

Having enjoyed Mars Hill Audio for several years now, I am very blessed to be part of it for the summer. With Christ, all things have been made new, culture included. What we do with our bodies matters; what we do with our technology and entertainment matters because as Christians, everything we do is in light of the Kingdom of Heaven. Christ has redeemed all of human life, and I'm here to learn more of what that means.

ST. ANDREW'S ALUMNI

Nicole de Martimprey traveled to India this year to work with women in Calcutta, and is now working for the US Forestry Service, and planning to attend nursing school in September.

Marc Duval missed his *alma mater*, and is spending his summer until August as an intern for St. Andrew's. After that, he will begin basic training in Missouri with the US Army. His friends try not to laugh when he says "military intelligence."

Lisa Outland is busy being the best airplane mechanic yet produced by St. Andrew's Academy, and boldly enduring winters in Montana where she now lives.

Charris Memory recently earned her Certified Nurse's Assistant license, and is living in the Bay Area, though she travels up to see her friends at Lake Almanor every so often.

Andrew Bradley is back at Lake Almanor for the summer, and will be working for Cal-Fire (formerly California Department of Forestry) before returning to CSU Monterey Bay in the fall. To his chagrin, he has had to cut his hair for the new job.

Serena Howe is *intern extraordinaire* at Mars Hill Audio in Virginia this summer, a job envied by her former teachers, and boasted about by herself. She plans to return to Hillsdale College this fall.

Amanda Kelley likes little children, and is interning with a local education program this summer in her home of Greenville, California. She plans to return to CSU Monterey Bay this fall.

Joseph Salvatore finished his first year at Villanova University as a Navy ROTC cadet, and will be working for Cal-Fire this summer before returning to Villanova. His mother is praying for a very wet season.

Sarah Waterman completed her first year of college at CSU Monterey Bay, and has found summer accommodations in an upscale part of Chester known as Martin Ranch, only blocks from a famous celebrity. She will return to Monterey Bay in the fall.

Following are Colleges and Universities that have accepted St. Andrew's graduates

Biola University
California State University, Monterey Bay
Drexel University
George Fox University
Gordon College
Hillsdale College
Moody Bible Institute
New St. Andrews College
Samuel Merritt College
Seattle University
Seattle Pacific University
Simpson University
St. Olaf College
Thomas More College of Liberal Arts
Trinity Western University
University of California, Davis
University of California, Merced
Villanova University
Western Oregon University
Whitworth College



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