

THE CHIMES

HCA NEWSLETTER • FALL SEMESTER 2021-2022



Thanks for supporting our Golf Outing!

Thanks to the generosity of HCA supporters, donors, and friends, this year's annual Golf Classic shaped up to be the best, by par!

Read more about HCA's 2021 Golf Classic on pages 6-7.



HAWTHORNE
CHRISTIAN ACADEMY



Our Mission

Hawthorne Christian Academy is committed to inspire and equip students to **grow** in spiritual maturity, to **achieve** academic excellence, and to **impact** the world for Christ.



Accreditations

Association of Christian Schools International

Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools



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Cover photo by Ellen Pelliccio

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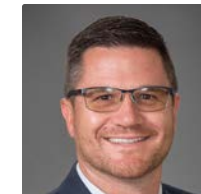
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A Word In Season

FROM THE DESK OF THE HEAD OF SCHOOL



TODD MITCHELL
Head of School

The Power of Unity

The body of Christ is unique, set apart as Christ's church within a broken world. As His Church, we are blessed to enjoy the bond of brothers and sisters united in our calling to glorify Jesus Christ with our lives and testimonies. Over the last two years, as we've faced challenges related to political uncertainty, the news of civil unrest, and COVID, my prayer has been that the Lord would strengthen the bond that unites us in Christ, both at HCA and around the world. But does unity among Christ's Church really matter? It certainly does to Jesus. In John 17:20-23, while praying Jesus asks (v. 23), "that they [believers] may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me."

Unity doesn't mean that we are in complete agreement on every aspect of life. As we learn from Paul, there is room in the Church for Christian freedom and matters of conscience. What this means is that, despite differences of opinions in non-essentials, we remain united in Christ. When the world hurls insults and hates those

who disagree, Christians love. While the world draws lines of division based on differences, the body of Christ comes together, loving beyond our differences. As Christians, our beliefs are based on the authoritative, inerrant, sufficient Word of God. We are followers of Christ first! All other aspects of life and thought are subject to that calling. Here at HCA, as long as our beliefs and practices do not contradict the Bible, we are not divided. Instead, we celebrate unity as Christians who are diverse in ethnicity, race, customs, thoughts, and political preferences, but one in Christ.

The peace that comes with unity is a great blessing for Christians. But, let us not forget the ultimate goal of a unified school and Church; that the world will know that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, sent by the loving Father, to a world in need. May HCA be a place where we are united in Christ. May the unity of Christ be evident in our relationships, interactions, words, and conduct. And may our unity glorify God and point to Jesus Christ as the Son of God and hope for the hopeless in a weary and divided world.

HCA Leadership Team



TODD MITCHELL
Head of School



KEN BURRES
Director of Technology &
Virtual Instruction



TINA TATUM
Director of Admissions &
Marketing (Chimes Editor)



MARCIA RAINEY
Principal



JEN EELMAN
Director of Guidance



TYLER VAN DYK
Director of Athletics

HCA Highlights

CAMPUS FEATURES

A Legacy Perspective

As HCA graduates, why did you send your children to HCA?

HCA has been an important part of our lives since the 1980s. We both graduated from HCA in 1991, and when it came time to find a school for our own children, we did not consider any other options. We felt it was important for them to be educated in an environment that is centered around Christ, with a curriculum that supports a Biblical worldview. We wanted their peers and classmates to be grounded in that same worldview, and we wanted their teachers to care, not only about their social and intellectual development, but about their spiritual development as well, modeling for them what it means to love others as a follower of Christ. We felt that an education without these things would not be a complete education. Because if God is truly the foundation of all things, then an education without Him at the center is missing a lot of truth. We want our children to learn the whole truth, not just part of it, and HCA provides that for them, building in them a strong foundation from which we pray they will grow into who God ultimately wants them to be.



KATIE & MIKE ANDERSEN
Class of 1991



Building A Legacy

This year, twenty-three alumni have thirty-seven children enrolled at HCA. These Legacy Students, children of HCA graduates, carry on the legacy of HCA to the next generation. Our Legacies range from preschool to grade 12.

This year's HCA Legacy Students are (in groups, from left to right): **Mia Grant (7)**, daughter of Angel Grant (2003), **Bria Zayac (1)**, daughter of Anna (Mingos) Zayac (2005), **Connor (3)**, **Morgan (1)**, and **Sadie De Boer (PS4)**, children of Kirk De Boer (2001), **Lillian (9)**, **Landon (7)**, **Wade (4)**, and **Everett De Boer (2)**, children of Kyle De Boer (1994), **Benjamin Jensen (PS4)**, son of William Jensen (2007), **Landon (3)**, **Harrison (2)**, and **Chase Karle (PS3)**, children of Jonathan Karle (2001), **Ty (12)**, **Ava (9)**, **Cole (9)**, and **Eli Higby (9)**, children of Shane Higby (1990), **Levi Gordon (4)**, son of Leigh-Ann (Eelman) Gordon (1996), **Mia Monteiro (3)**, daughter of Jaylene (Jardinico) Monteiro (1994), **Emma LaGrotteria (3)**, daughter of Julie (Thoman) LaGrotteria (2003), **Olivia (5)** and **Sienna Stanford (3)**, daughters of Kevin (1995) and Jennifer (McCausland) Stanford (1995), **Keri Andersen (10)**, daughter of Michael and Kathryn (Klock) Andersen (1991), **MacKenzie Bader (3)**, daughter of Matthew (1999) and Nicole (Senak) Bader (2003), **Jordan Van Duren (11)**, daughter of Drew Van Duren (1993), **Caleb (K)** and **Ellie Minnema (K)**, children of Jacob Minnema (2004), **Grace (4)** and **Elijah Halliwell (1)**, children of Stephen Halliwell (2004), **Nicholas DeBlock (11)**, son of Rachel (Livingston) DeBlock (1996), **Sara Cilderman (1)**, daughter of Christopher Cilderman (1995), **Emily (7)** and **Noah Volz (4)**, children of Jennifer (Parzek) Volz (1992), and **Ryan (11)**, **Gideon (K)**, **Lydia (PS4)**, and **Hannah Stanley (PS3)**, children of Emily (Ciotti) Stanley (2006).

Homecoming 2021

WELCOME HOME!



Better When We're Together

After foregoing our annual Homecoming event in 2020, our community was eager to gather together once again this year! Sunny skies, fun games, and good food made for a perfect day of fellowship for our Defender families. Many thanks to our PTF reps for organizing all of the exciting activities of the day. We enjoyed everything from crafts, a bouncy house, and a hayride, to the return of the ever-popular dunk tank! The kids (and parents) had a blast dunking some familiar faces around campus, such as: Aaron Van Dyk, Mike Lamitola, and Kevin Stanford. Even our head of school, Todd Mitchell, had a turn in the tank!

It wasn't just a fun day of food and games, but an amazingly successful day for HCA Athletics! All of our Defender teams won each of their games, and the beloved tradition of HCA's annual Alumni Soccer Game brought back many familiar faces to campus. As the day wound down to a close, the feelings of thankfulness and celebration were evident. We couldn't think of a better way to ring in the school year than spending a fun day together as a Defender family.



BECKY VANDERBECK
Advancement Events Coordinator

Annual Golf Classic

23RD FALL FUNDRAISER

23 Years Strong!

It's hard to believe that an idea birthed in 1998 by a group of men who loved to golf would grow into HCA's Golf Classic as it is today. We owe a debt of gratitude to the men who were responsible for putting the golf outing into full swing – Bob Van Dyk, Jim Jobson Sr., Bill Gehrhardt, Ralph Opderbeck, Ralph Spagnoli, and Jack Westall, with the support of Patty Lyttle. What could be better than doing something you love for a cause that you love with people you love? The event, traditionally held on Columbus Day, has grown over the years in number of golfers and in financial support. It has also become a great opportunity to introduce friends to HCA and to witness about the love we have for Jesus.

The morning of October 11, 2021, was a bit foggy on the fields of Ballyowen, but by mid-morning the sun broke through for a spectacular day of golf, fellowship, prizes, and good food.



A Special Message to Our Supporters...

God has richly blessed us with so many who support God's work at HCA through prayer, service, and giving. We are truly grateful for your selfless service and generosity. We echo Paul's words in 2 Corinthians 9:12, "This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God." As this verse says, we thank you, but

ultimately, we praise God for His provision that allows HCA to glorify Him as we evangelize and disciple our students to become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ!



TODD MITCHELL
Head of School

Congratulations to the Ian Samuel foursome for taking home the prize for first place with a score of 59. Second place with a score of 63 went to the Eric Lathrop, John Jediny, Ed Partenope, Gregg Miller foursome. The 2021 golf event netted over \$93,000, which is the most ever raised.

We are incredibly humbled by the faithfulness of God through the generosity of His people. Thank you to our Host Sponsors, Kayal Orthopaedic, The Betty Sue Koeller Tuition Aid Scholarship Fund, and Ramsey Auto Group. If you have never attended the HCA Golf Classic, make the 24th your year! Mark your calendars for October 10, 2022, to join us.



ELLEN PELLICCIO
Advancement Development Coordinator

**"Success in this game depends less on strength of body than strength of mind and character."
-Arnold Palmer**



Thank You, Sponsors!

HOST SPONSORS

Betty Sue Koeller Tuition Aid Endowment
Kayal Orthopaedic Center, P.C.
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New Life Driving School

BRONZE SPONSOR

George Kuryllo

SPECIAL APPRECIATION

Ramsey Auto Group
"Hole-In-One" Car

Student Spotlight

HCA ACTIVITIES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Spelling Bee Winners

Congratulations to our Spelling Bee contestants who participated in the NNJCSA Spelling Bee in October: Hailey Boone and Andre Fragoso (2), Eduardo Perez and Daniel Rypkema (3), Esther Tuminelli and Noah Volz (4), Phillip Ponce and Brittany Said (5), Edward Hwang and Alyssa Ng (6), Laura Kim and Emily Volz (7), and Lila Bae and Ethan Cha (8). Andre Fragoso, Edward Hwang, Laura Kim, and Lila Bae earned 1st place in their grade-levels! Lower School placed 3rd and Middle School took 1st place at the competition!



MARCIA RAINEY
Lower School Principal

2021 NHS Inductees

On October 14, 2021, ten new members were inducted into HCA's chapter of the National Honor Society. NHS is founded on four principles which are highlighted in 2 Peter 1: scholarship, service, leadership and character.

New Members: Zachary Altuna (12), Hailey Bysterbusch (11), Abigail Camacho (11), Faith Guan (11), Jordan Hoogerhyde (12), Joanna Meharg (11), Luke Mitchell (11), Kate Murtagh (11), Daniella Palacios (11), and Dylan Salvigsen (11).

Returning Members: Rhiannon Atekpe (12), Mia Chandy (12), Kylie Johannesen (12), Cana Koppenal (12), Kayla Oh (12), Charity Walker (12), and Grace Yang (12).



KIM BURRE
LS STEM & GATES Teacher • NHS Advisor



Truly loving another demands that we hate the sin which prevents godly flourishing, first in our own lives, and then in the lives of our neighbor. Is this not the example that our sinless Lord sets for us? Is He not the One who was "despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain" (Isaiah 53:3) but "for the joy set before Him (you and I and all who are redeemed), endured the cross, scorning its shame" (Hebrews 12:2). Beloved, let us love one another enough to "speak the truth in love, so that we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of Him who is the Head, that is, Christ" (Ephesians 4:15). May God grant us the grace to do so!



MICHAEL LAMITOLA
HCA Chaplain • MS/HS Bible & History Teacher

Lower School Highlights

Summer Reading Winners

Lower School students kept their love of reading going all summer long, logging a grand total of 243,592 pages! Our top readers by grade level include: Kindergarten Evelyn Vanderbeck (1,407 pages), 1st-grader Evelyn Lee (11,998 pages), 2nd-grader Kaiah Anzardo (17,295 pages), 3rd-grader Penny Schmookler (7,646 pages), 4th-grader Simeon Warren (12,062 pages), and 5th-grader Trevor Anzardo (15,176 pages). Well done, Lower School!

Friendship Fridays

We couldn't think of a better way to welcome our newest families to the Lower School this fall than to host Friday ice cream sales and playground fun! How wonderful to see friendships develop and families make connections.



MARCIA RAINEY
Lower School Principal

A Note from PTF...

HCA's Parent-Teacher Fellowship is an amazing group of parent volunteers. With Christ as our unifier, PTF strives to unite parents, faculty, and school. We seek to encourage fellowship within HCA's community by being a positive facilitator of prayer, relationship, events, and communication. PTF supports the efforts of our teachers with representatives in each grade who communicate class information. We meet monthly to discuss upcoming events and new ways we can better support HCA. However, the most important role of PTF is in prayer. We pray for each other, our teachers, our staff and our community. We are united in Christ, and when we pray, we are strengthened, uplifted and blessed. Whether you are new or have been here for many years, we want you to feel connected, supported, and cared for. HCA is a special and unique place. What a blessing to be part of this community!



MARGUERITE LAMITOLA
Parent-Teacher Fellowship President

Spiritual Emphasis Retreat

This past November, HCA high school students and staff members had the privilege of attending our biennial Spiritual Emphasis Retreat at Shiloh Bible Camp. We heard from HGC Pastor, Tim Stanley. Pastor Stanley challenged our students concerning what genuine faith looks like. He asked them, when dealing with a friend who may be in need of loving confrontation, are we willing to say what needs to be said or do we shrink back in fear? "What is more important, your friendship, or your friend?" If the friendship is more important than the friend, do we really love our friend? Or is our comfort more important to us? Love is seeking the true good of another as God defines the good. Loving your neighbor as yourself requires that we see others through the lens of Scripture and a willingness to face rejection if the Lord so ordains it. The Apostle Paul reminds us that "Love must be sincere." We are to "hate what is evil, and cling to what is good" (Romans 12:9-10).

New High School Electives for the Course Catalog!

Introduction to Practical Arts

This year, HCA offered an Introduction to Practical Arts elective for 11th and 12th grade students. This survey course was taught by Mr. Steiner, covering ten topics, including: gardening, automobiles, construction, cleaning, wall repair, decorating, sewing, electrical work, food preparation, and plumbing. There were 13 students enrolled in this year's class who engaged in hands-on activities allowing them to experience these practical skills. This afforded students the opportunity to determine if they have an aptitude and interest to pursue any of these arts more deeply. It also built their confidence to use these skills in their day-to-day lives before and after they graduate from high school.



PAUL STEINER
MS Science Teacher • HS Business Teacher

Teen Entrepreneurship & Online Business

HCA introduced a new Teen Entrepreneurship & Online Business course this fall, and the hype is already spreading throughout campus! This exciting course, written and taught by Mr. Peterson, provides guidance on how to brainstorm, create, and grow an online business by harnessing the power of digital marketing. It is designed to strengthen critical thinking, improve communication skills, encourage integrity, teach leadership qualities, and help teens become business savvy to begin earning money with their online businesses. The course encourages students to focus on their passions, skills, and talents while finding their niche and developing a business model.



JOHN PETERSON
LS/MS/HS Instrumental Music Teacher

Faculty Features

WELCOME ABOARD!



Mrs. Tracy Apaestegui

MS/HS SPANISH TEACHER

Tracy Apaestegui and her husband, Dante, live in Prospect Park, NJ. Mrs. Apaestegui has felt led to Christian education since 2018, and has previously taught preschool, 2nd-grade, and Elementary Latin, until feeling God lead her to HCA this year. She is now teaching 3 Spanish courses to middle schoolers and high schoolers at HCA, and is committed to inspiring and equipping students spiritually and academically! The Apaesteguis are also celebrating the news of the impending arrival of baby Apaestegui, who will be making his or her entrance in August 2022!



Mrs. Chelsea Barrett

2ND GRADE TEACHER

Chelsea Barrett lives in Hawthorne, NJ with her husband, Jonathan, and dog, Hazel. Jonathan graduated from HCA in 2009. Mrs. Barrett has been teaching since 2015. Before coming to HCA, she taught in public school and is happy to now be teaching in a Christian environment. She attends Church at Bergen, and serves on the worship team and as a Sunday School teacher. When Mrs. Barrett is not teaching, she enjoys trips to Vermont and the beach, singing, and spending time with her family. Congratulations, also, to the Barretts, who will welcome baby Barrett this spring!



Mrs. Sandra Bysterbusch

PRESCHOOL-4 TEACHER

Sandra Bysterbusch began teaching in 2001. Over the years, she has taught Kindergarten, Preschool, and Art. She joined the faculty at HCA in 2019 as a Preschool assistant teacher, and feels blessed to be teaching Preschool-4 this year. Mrs. Bysterbusch is a proud HCA parent. Her five children have been thriving at HCA since 2019. She loves watching her children and her students grow in their love for learning, but more importantly, in their love for the Lord. She enjoys spending time with her family, sporadic dance parties, cooking, hiking, and spending days at the beach.



Mr. Salvatore Cusmano

HS BIBLE TEACHER

After working in public education for 30 years as a teacher and administrator, Sal Cusmano retired and joined the faculty of Pillar College, where he taught ESL students for five years. During one of those five years, he also taught Spanish at HCA. Mr. Cusmano is overjoyed to be back at HCA teaching Bible 10 and growing with his students in the grace and knowledge of Jesus. For the past several years, Mr. Cusmano has also been teaching at the Hawthorne Community Bible School, which he has been attending for 15 years and from which he earned a Bible diploma.



Mrs. Courtney De Boer

1ST GRADE TEACHER

Courtney De Boer holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education from Houghton College. She spent her first four years after college teaching first grade. After taking time to raise a family of four children, she joined the HCA team as an enthusiastic first grade teacher. She enjoys the exuberance, curiosity, and pure joy that her students bring to each day! Mrs. De Boer is also joined at HCA by her four Legacy children, Lillian (9), Landon (7), Wade (4), and Everett (2). Her husband, Kyle De Boer, graduated from HCA in 1994. The De Boers now live in Midland Park, NJ.



Miss Elainie Gonzalez

LS ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Born and raised in Paterson, NJ and fully bilingual, Elainie Gonzalez became an HCA parent in 2020. Miss Gonzalez worked in ministry for six years at Lighthouse Pregnancy Resource Center, a faith-based nonprofit organization. After a short period back in the corporate world, the Lord led her to HCA to fill the position of Lower School Administrative Assistant. Miss Gonzalez and her son, Niko, reside in Hawthorne, NJ, and are blessed to be a part of the HCA family. She also attends Church Alive, where she serves faithfully and leads their Women's Transform group.

HCA welcomed ten new teachers and two new staff members this year! We are blessed to partner with these godly men and women who love their subject areas, love their students, and love Jesus!



Mrs. Jennifer Krumrei

5TH GRADE TEACHER

Jennifer Krumrei has enjoyed teaching for many years. Throughout her career, she has taught in a variety of grades from 2nd-8th and has spent the last seven years serving as an instructional coach for a computer science magnet school in California. Although moving to New Jersey has been a big change, she has really enjoyed getting to know her 5th-grade students at HCA. Mrs. Krumrei enjoys reading, visiting the ocean, and serving on the music team at her church. She is married and has two children: Kyle, who was recently married, and Kayla who is in college.



Miss Debbie Lincoln

3RD GRADE TEACHER

Debbie Lincoln has a passion for teaching in Christian education. She taught for many years at Ringwood Christian School prior to coming to HCA. She now joins our Lower School as a passionate and dedicated 3rd-grade teacher. She is excited to be able to join the HCA faculty and continue her ministry in Christian education, teaching students to learn not only academic subjects, but also to grow in their knowledge of, and love for, the Lord. In her spare time, Miss Lincoln enjoys making homemade greeting cards and caring for her two golden retrievers.



Mrs. Erica Marota

KINDERGARTEN TEACHER

A Christian Educator since 2003 working with various ages, Erica Marota now joins the HCA faculty as a kindergarten teacher. Mrs. Marota considers working for the Lord her calling, and her gift is in educating young children and nurturing their hearts for Jesus. She has also enjoyed teaching Enrichment classes, such as Little Scientists, Little Mathletes, Little Crafters, Little Actors, and Little Chocolatiers. A devoted wife and proud mother of two daughters, Mrs. Marota enjoys in her spare time reading, crafting, walking, and traveling with her family.



Miss Christal Rolling

HS SCIENCE TEACHER

Christal Rolling graduated with an Associate of Arts in Liberal Arts from Nyack College, and with a Bachelor of Science in Biology from William Paterson University. She comes to HCA with experience conducting and presenting research findings related to these fields. Miss Rolling has been involved in youth groups and children's ministries for several years at Hawthorne Gospel Church. She has a passion for helping others, especially adolescents, learn and grow as individuals in Christ. In her free time, she enjoys word puzzles and time with family and friends.



Miss Shelby Tortorello

HS SCIENCE TEACHER

Shelby Tortorello is an HCA alumna who felt called to come back to serve HCA as a high school Psychology teacher. She holds an MS in Clinical Mental Health Counseling, and is actively pursuing her state counseling license for both New York and New Jersey. Miss Tortorello has worked as a counselor in both psychiatric inpatient and private practice outpatient settings. She is passionate about incorporating mental health principles into the study of psychology, as well as teaching her students to view psychology and mental health through the lens of a Biblical worldview.



Mrs. Rebecca Vanderbeck

ADVANCEMENT EVENTS COORDINATOR

Becky Vanderbeck joined the HCA Advancement team after serving as President of HCA's PTF organization for two years. Prior to joining the HCA staff, Mrs. Vanderbeck ran her own event production and design business for over a decade. She is excited to bring her knowledge base and work experience to serve the community at HCA. Mrs. Vanderbeck is married to Tom, and is mom of 2 children, Tessa and Logan, who are both proud HCA Defenders. In her spare time, she loves being active, whether it's on the treadmill or on a hike, and spending time with her family.

Academy Athletics

GO DEFENDERS!

Fall 2021 Defender Athletics



TYLER VAN DYK
Director of Athletics

During the fall season of the 2021-2022 school year, the HCA Athletic Department experienced a number of victories and highlights, and capped it off with our Annual Defender Beefsteak in November!



High School Cross Country

The High School Cross Country program continued where it left off last season and hit the ground running. The Varsity Girls team matched their success from the 2020 season and earned 2nd place overall in the NJIC Patriot Division. The 2nd place finish earned them a spot in the inaugural NJIC Conference XC Championship Meet. This was a great honor for the Defenders and the direct result from their training and discipline. Seven Defenders received All League and/or All County post-season recognition and Coach Chi Chi Van Dyk was voted as the NJIC Patriot Division Cross Country Coach of the Year! Coach Chi Chi was recognized as the unanimous recipient of this notable distinction.



Varsity Boys Soccer

Despite a difficult first two games, the Varsity Boys Soccer team made some in-season adjustments in a very difficult league and earned their eleventh consecutive NJSIAA State Tournament. The Defenders advanced to the Semi-Final round of the tournament. A focus of the season was leadership and accountability; and measurable growth within the program was achieved by a young and inexperienced group. Considering the strength of the league and HCA's small size, qualifying for the State Tournament eleven consecutive seasons is a tremendous accomplishment. With no seniors on the 2021 team and thirteen freshmen in the program, the future is bright for Defender Soccer!



HCA 2021 Varsity Girls Soccer with Head Coach, Katie Exley



HCA 2021 Girls Volleyball with new Head Coach, Tracy Apaestegui

Special Events & Awards



2021 Defender Beefsteak Dinner

The Annual Defender Beefsteak was held on campus this year in the beautiful new Fireside Room that was a part of the HGC Sanctuary addition. The evening was terrific! We had over 100 supporters of Defender Athletics present. We heard a testimony from HCA senior, Charity Walker, who is a two-sport varsity student-athlete, about what her time as a Defender has meant to her. The theme for the evening was, "Equipping for the Future," and we were blessed to hear from Michael Lamitola (class of '21) about how HCA Athletics helped equip him for college. Two alumni parents also shared reflections of their time within the HCA Athletic community: Doug Hart, who has had four children graduate as Defender student-athletes and has two current Defenders, and Tim Mastroberti, who has had three children all graduate from HCA as student-athletes. It was a wonderful night of reflection and celebration. The financial goal of the evening was to raise funds for the refurbishment of HCA's Lower Gym. We are pleased to announce that almost \$40,000 was raised at the Defender Beefsteak for this project, and now the whole campus and community will benefit from the facility upgrades. God is good!



Fall Sports Awards

HS CROSS COUNTRY

Victor Henriquez-Baez (9)
Honorable Mention All County

Abigail Camacho (11)
Honorable Mention All League

Amanda Meshraky (10)
Honorable Mention All League

Kathryn Rappaport (10)
1st Team All League,
Honorable Mention All County

Hugh Ryan (9)
Honorable Mention All League,
Honorable Mention All County

Anna Rypkema (10)
1st Team All League,
Honorable Mention All County

Grace Yang (12)
1st Team All League

VARSITY BOYS SOCCER

Brock Burres (11)
2nd Team All League, 2nd Team
All County, 2nd Team All State

AJ Mark (11)
2nd Team All League
2nd Team All County

Matthew Mitchell (9)
Honorable Mention Team All League

VARSITY GIRLS SOCCER

Charity Walker (12)
Honorable Mention All League

Joanna Meharg (11)
Honorable Mention All County

Ava Hartung (9)
Honorable Mention All County

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Sophia DiGregorio (10)
Honorable Mention All County

Maia Kriesel (11)
Honorable Mention All League

Hannah Maloney (12)
Honorable Mention All County

Music Notes

AND ALL THAT JAZZ

Annual Fundraising Dinner 2021

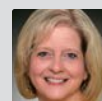
Hawthorne Christian Academy's Music Booster Fellowship held its annual Fundraising Dinner on October 30, 2021, to benefit HCA's select choir, the Servants of the King. It was a special evening hosted in the beautiful home of Roi and Catherine Chandy, with gourmet food provided by AJ and Soo Oh. Guests were treated to special music provided by Servants of the King, followed by a mini-concert by Stephen Paynter of the Metropolitan Opera, and a student testimony by Kayla Oh, a senior member of Servants of the King. The wonderful food and music were accompanied by conversation about the goals and purposes of the HCA Music Department and the ways that participating in festivals and competitions can challenge and grow students, and have a great impact on their lives. This year, thanks to the support of generous donors and friends of the HCA Music Department, Servants of the King will be traveling to San Diego, CA in April to participate in the prestigious Heritage Festival Competition.



Introducing... Honors Voice!

How do we challenge and encourage HCA students who love classical music and have a passion for singing? We offer an Honors Voice Class! The goal of this class is to enhance student performance and enjoyment of God's gift of music through the study of advanced-level solo vocal literature. Students dig deeply into college-level vocal repertoire, doing research, writing essays, and then performing the five songs that they have prepared for a panel of professionals. Participants are required to prepare an Italian song from the 17th-18th century, an art song in another foreign language, a 20th-21st century American/English art song, a musical theater song or operatic aria, and another song of their choice. As students explore this music, they study vocal technique, diction, music history, music theory, artistic expression, and performance

technique. The juries for the Fall 2021 semester were held in late January, and the panel of judges included a vocal coach/accompanist from Montclair State University, a singer from the Metropolitan Opera, and a local operatic professional, who each gave feedback, suggestions, and encouragement to the students. This experience helps prepare students for college auditions and experiences, and challenges them to cultivate their God-given talents!



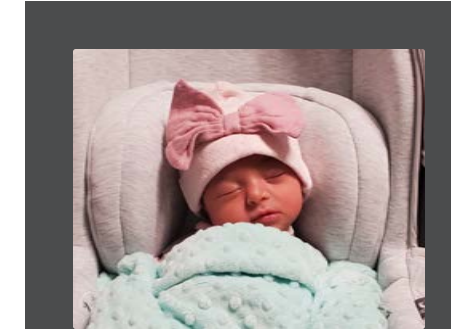
ANNE PAYNTER
Middle & High School Music Teacher

Alumni News

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



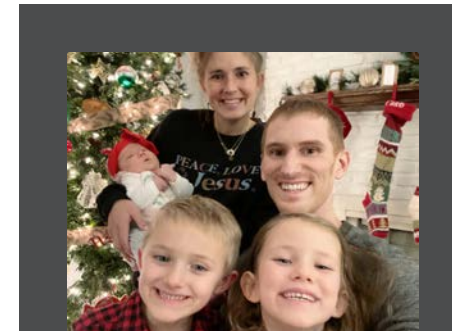
Andrew Brucella ('12) and his wife, Christina, announced the birth of their first daughter, Quinn Michelle Brucella, on March 21, 2021. Quinn Michelle made her entrance at 7 pounds, 2 ounces, and 20 inches long. Andrew and Christina chose the name "Quinn" after the school (Quinnipiac University) where the couple met. Quinn's middle name, "Michelle" is Christina's mother's name.



William Brucella ('10) and his wife, Laura, welcomed their first daughter, Emilia Theresa Brucella, on January 12, 2022. Emilia weighed 6.7 pounds at birth, and measured 20.5 inches long. The Brucellas are overjoyed at the arrival of Emilia Theresa, who joins her Defender cousin, Quinn.



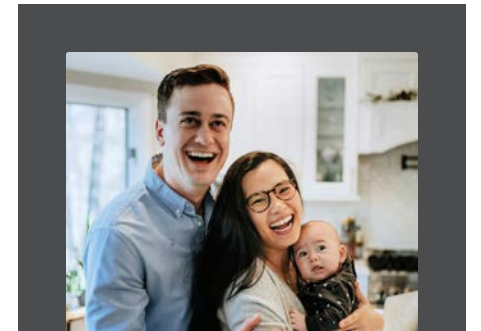
Jerry Jacob ('07) and his wife, Jisha, announced the birth of their first daughter, Lael Esther Jacob, on February 13, 2021. Jerry is a biomedical engineer from NJIT (with an MBA from Harvard) and Jisha is a pediatrician in New York. Jerry also serves as a Sunday school teacher, youth leader, and worship leader at his church. Jerry, Jisha, and Lael currently make their home in Paramus, NJ.



Jacob Minnema ('04) and his wife, May, welcomed their third child, Maggie Grace Minnema, on November 16, 2021. Upon her arrival, Maggie weighed in at 8.2 pounds and measured 20 inches long. Maggie joins her two siblings, Caleb and Ellie, who are both kindergarten Defenders!



Megan (Teschon) LaManna ('10) and her husband, Alexander, announced the birth of their first son, Owen James LaManna, on October 11, 2021, at 10:30 in the morning. Owen James came into the world weighing 5 pounds, 7 ounces, and measuring 19 inches long. The La Mannas met as attendees of a small group young adults' Bible study at Emergence Church, where the family continues to attend.



Joshua Warnet ('09) and **Alexandra (Browne) Warnet ('11)**, welcomed their first child, Caleb Peter Warnet, on October 4, 2021. Caleb weighed 6 pounds, 13 ounces, and was 21 inches long. The Warnets met as students at HCA, and both graduated from Wheaton College.



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