

KEYNOTER

The Magazine of the Delaware County Christian School

SPRING 2016



Spring

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MISSION:

Our mission is to educate students who will serve God and impact the world through biblical thought and action.

SCHOOL VERSE 2016-17

For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline. 2 Timothy 1:7

The Delaware County Christian School (DC) *Keynoter* is published bi-annually to communicate our school vision and news to alumni, friends, family, and prayer partners of the school. DC was established in 1950. Today, the school serves 742 pre-K through grade 12 students on campuses in Newtown Square and Devon, PA. DC is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools and by the Association of Christian Schools International. DC admits students of any race, color, and national/

ethnic origin to all of the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, or national/ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, or athletic and other school-administered programs. In addition, DC is authorized under federal law to enroll nonimmigrant students.



Photo by Mark Strohm

DELAWARE COUNTY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

UPPER CAMPUS · GRADES 6 - 12

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DEVON CAMPUS · GRADES PRE-K - 5

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From the Head of School

*"I am proud of you,
Class of 2016.
You have served
your peers and your
school well.*

*You have impacted
your world.*

*You have made us all
laugh – and today, we
cry too, because you
will be missed here
at DC.*

*Most of all,
you have served our
God in so many ways
– and for that
we all are proud."*

*– Tim Wiens,
2016 Commencement*

Remarks

This issue of the *Keynoter* features the Class of 2016. While many of these students have been classmates since kindergarten or the first grade, others have spent just a few years of their educational years at DC. Two of our seniors, Ryan Hutzel and Kyle Winters, are DC's first third generation graduates!

Collectively this class of 78 students is filled with young women and men who exemplify what DC is all about, demonstrating our Core Values (Rooted in Christ, Scholarship, Excellence, Community, Servanthood, and Impact) in numerous ways. Our seniors served overseas, led study groups in Chester, won championships on the field and court, performed to a packed house, and excelled inside the classroom. As they have done so, they have demonstrated St. Paul's calling in Colossians 3 to do all heartily as unto the Lord. They have worked hard, they have served one another and DC, and now, they go into the world, prepared to continue as servant leaders.

This year's graduates will attend forty-five different schools in the fall. We are proud to send them to each institution equipped with the knowledge and understanding necessary to serve God and impact the world through biblical thought and action. I am excited to think about the future of our graduates and the impact they will make upon our world.

Over the three years of my tenure at DC, I have gotten to meet and know many of our graduates. I continue to be impressed with those I meet and with the work they are doing both locally and around the world. I am highly pleased we continue to do the work started 66 years ago. This year's Alumnus of the Year, Chris Tabakin, is profiled in this issue of the *Keynoter*. His life and service as a social entrepreneur is a wonderful example of the work a DC alum is doing to make a global impact. As I listened to him speak in chapel and at the Annual Fund Dinner and Auction in April, I was amazed at the influence he is having in the Middle East as he meets both the physical needs and the spiritual needs of many who are desperate for hope. Through his actions and words, he has opened doors that in many cases had never been opened before and he has demonstrated the power of the Gospel in a land in desperate need of grace. I encourage everyone to read about Chris and better understand the important work he is doing through iHi International.

May everyone reading this issue of the *Keynoter* be inspired to likewise impact the world, as is our prayer for the Class of 2016 as they enter higher education seeking all that God and life have to offer in the years to come.

Soli Deo Gloria,



Timothy P. Wiens, Ed.D.
Head of School

From Kindergarten to Twelfth grade...



**Nathan Daniel , Class of 2016
Eliot Wiens, Class of 2028**

March 13, 1997
Jamie Newton
4025 Connaught Blvd
Camillus NY 13011

Dear Jamie:
It is a great pleasure for me to inform you that your have been selected to receive a Syracuse University Excellence Scholarship. Each year students who have distinguished themselves through outstanding academic achievement and personal excellence are chosen from the entering class to receive this honor.
Syracuse University Excellence scholars receive a tuition scholarship of \$5,000 each year of undergraduate study.
The Excellence Scholarship can be combined with other University tuition awards not to exceed the amount of tuition for each year. Students who receive full tuition funding from sources other than the Excellence Scholarship are recognized as Excellence Scholars without additional funding.
Please note that students receiving a scholarship from Syracuse University must be enrolled full-time and maintain a cumulative 2.5 grade point average (gpa) to continue to receive their scholarship. Transfer students have two semesters to attain the 2.5 cumulative gpa.
Please accept my sincere congratulations on your selection for this great honor. We genuinely look forward to your joining the Syracuse University community.

Sincerely,
David C. Smith
David C. Smith

Administration Building | Syracuse, New York 13244-1100
800.432.0700 | Financial Aid: 315.443.1521 Email: FNSMAIL@ADM.SYRE.EDU

COLLEGE BOUND

PROPER PLANNING YIELDS RESULTS FOR DC GRADS

As the Class of 2016 embarks on the next chapter of their lives, Trevor Creeden, Director of College and Career Planning, recaps the important work his office takes on each year to assist high school students in the college selection and admissions process.

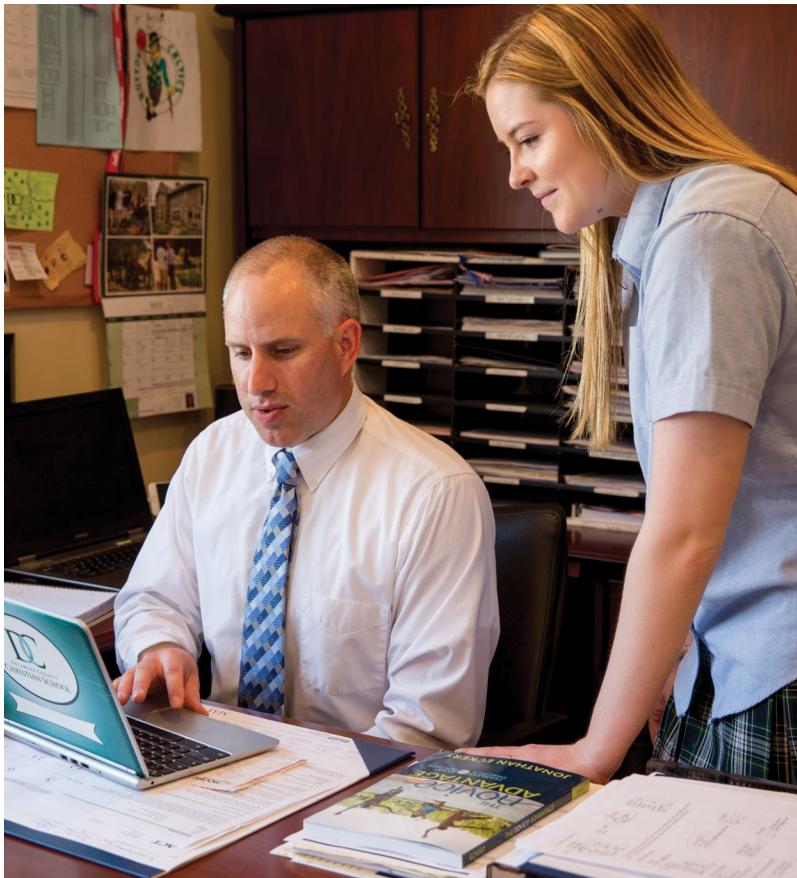
QTrevor, you have a unique role on campus because you are one of the few individuals who invest in the lives of each and every high school student. Tell us about your background – how did the Lord prepare you for your vocation and what do you like most about your work?

A"I did not take a typical route in terms of my career path. I majored in Public Administration at Cedarville University. After graduating, I applied to a number of government, ministry, and public relations positions but was hired by a Christian school in San Francisco as Director of Student Development. This role combined admissions, guidance, and college counseling. I put in a ton of time my first year – visiting colleges and attending numerous seminars sponsored by the University of California, ACSI, AP, and the College Board. I discovered I enjoyed learning about college admissions and how to counsel students through the college application process.

Two years later, I became the Guidance Director at Hilton Head Christian Academy in Hilton Head, SC where I spent the next seven years. During this time, I completed my Masters in Education and became very familiar with colleges in the South. This position gave me valuable experience – I began taking students on a college bus tour, initiated and coordinated an internship program, facilitated college scholarship interviews for students, and began using *Naviance*, a college planning software program.

I came to DC in 2010 as Director of College and Career Counseling and have enjoyed my time here.

I learned early on that I enjoy developing a rapport with high school students. This helps students feel comfortable coming to me with their needs and questions about their future."



Trevor Creeden advising junior Ciara Mullen with her college search process.

Q DC's Guidance Office provides comprehensive support to students. Can you explain the scope and sequence of the support offered through this program?

A "Our Guidance Counselor Brook Pauley meets individually with all incoming freshmen and parents. She introduces them to *Naviance*, orients them to the beginning stages of college and major selection, and spends time reviewing the importance of time management and study skills. Brook meets with sophomores on an individual basis to review academic progress and discuss student goals and aspirations for college.

We emphasize to freshman and sophomores that our top priority is to encourage them to perform well in the classroom and stay involved in the extra-curricular activities, clubs, and community service opportunities for which they have a passion. This focus allows them to have the most options when it comes to the college application process.

I teach Career Stewardship, a mandatory class for all juniors. This class covers comprehensive information regarding the college application process: researching colleges, the SAT and ACT entrance exams, college essays, the Common Application, majors, interviews, scholarships and financial aid and much more. Juniors also have the opportunity to be a part of DC's College Bus Tour. This trip takes place every November and allows students to visit six colleges and universities in three days.

Throughout their junior year, students build their college resumés and update lists of potential schools. I meet individually with each junior and his or her parents to discuss all their options. I encourage all rising seniors to take advantage of DC's College Essay Academy. This week long program in August provides the opportunity to complete three college admissions essays and includes visits from admissions staff from three competitive colleges who advise the students on ways to strengthen their essays.

I also meet with all seniors and their parents in August to discuss where students will be applying, application deadlines, essays, potential majors, and the transcript request process. A half day seminar for all seniors in October gives a final review of all deadlines and application processes. At this meeting, I also stress the importance of getting involved in campus ministry at the college they will be attending."



Administrative Assistant Janet Smyth and Guidance Counselor Brook Pauley

Q How does DC's program differ from other independent schools?

A "I am acquainted with a number of other college counseling directors at other independent schools and have a great working relationship with each one of them. I provide similar counsel to each student that an independent school student would receive. We all use *Naviance*, provide SAT/ACT prep opportunities, help with essays, etc., but everything we do at DC is within the context of a Christian worldview.

We build into our students the understanding that ultimately God is in control and He will direct and guide them to where He desires them to go. We focus on this: wherever a student enrolls in college, they are there to make an impact for Christ and to utilize the unique gifts, talents and abilities given to them by God.

Q

What do you think are the strengths of DC's program?

A

"One thing I love about DC is that we are very diverse. Each DC student goes through the college application process under different circumstances. However, because we have small class sizes, we get to know each student and their families very well. We work hard to ensure every student is well informed before heading into the college application process.

In addition to the activities already described, I write monthly newsletters for parents and students and host college planning nights. A definite strength of our program is the value we place on helping students identify colleges that are the 'right fit' for them. There is a great deal of pressure put on students to be accepted at the 'best' colleges. Our competitive culture drives this notion by convincing students that their success in life is incumbent on acceptance at a highly competitive college.

Q

Christian v. Secular, Large v. Small, Private v. Public

- How do you advise students and their parents regarding college choice?

A

"This decision, along with geographic location and major, are the main factors that every junior needs to consider. A student can thrive at any of these different types of universities. Christian colleges are a great option. However, I have known students who have grown and matured in their Christian walk at secular universities. It all comes down to the student making the right decisions when it comes to peers and involvement in campus ministry. Ultimately, students must consider what they need in order to thrive and match those criteria against a list of possible schools. They can narrow their selection through research, campus visits, and committing the matter to prayer.

Before a student begins their senior year, I instruct them to create a 'balanced' list of target, reach, and safety schools. I am often asked 'How many schools should I apply to?' A student can apply to four schools as long as their list is balanced. If a student is applying to a higher percentage of reach schools I encourage them to add one or two more safety schools.

It is important to know the pluses and minuses of each type of school as well. Christian colleges provide a spiritually nurturing environment, but that might create the feeling of living in a bubble. Large universities offer more options when it comes to majors and activities, but students need to be more proactive when it comes to getting involved and understanding they will have larger classes.

This is simply not true. This fallacy creates a vicious cycle. When students apply to top tier schools even when their grades and scores are not consistent with the schools' admissions profiles, those schools receive a higher number of applicants. They deny more students resulting in low admissions rates, which keeps them at the top of the *US News and World Report* rankings and the process repeats itself.

I impress on each student that there are hundreds of great four-year colleges and universities out there. My job is to help identify which college best fits their personality and preferences. Ultimately, I try to help them discover how they were uniquely created by God and if they come to a better understanding of that truth, they will make wiser decisions as to which colleges would be a good fit for them."



Trevor Creeden meeting with Holly and Brian Mullen and daughter, Ciara.

The College Bus Tour specifically addresses these factors. This trip includes visits to six colleges: Grove City and Messiah (Christian), Penn State (large public), University of Pittsburgh (medium sized public, in a city), University of Maryland (large public, near a big city, and out-of-state) and either Johns Hopkins or Carnegie Mellon (both private, more competitive, in a city). The trip provides students with the opportunity to explore a wide range of institutions."

Q

What are the biggest changes you have observed in the last 10 years regarding the college admission and selection process?

A

"First, the cost of college has risen dramatically over the last 10 years because of increased accessibility to government loans. A large part of my job is to ensure students are making a sound financial decision when it comes to choosing a college. In order to be in a good position financially after college, a student's total debt should be below their starting salary. Students can help themselves by applying to colleges that are more likely to give merit based aid. I love to see seniors go to colleges where they can earn a very large merit scholarship because they were academically in the top 20% of students who applied. These are considered the 'safety' schools on a student's list, but they are still very good schools. Sometimes applying to a highly competitive college or university is a smart financial decision as well. Although these schools tend to be very expensive, they meet 100% financial need in certain cases. This is a good option for families with significant financial needs.

Second, online applications like the Common Application have made it easier for students to apply to more schools. As colleges receive a growing number of applications, the school

becomes more competitive. This is not only true of the ivies and public ivies but of state universities and other private institutions as well. It is important to understand the majority of colleges in the United States accept over 50% of their applicants. So it is not a matter of applying to schools where it is likely you will not gain acceptance, it is about spending the time and energy to identify the 'right fit' schools who will award a significant amount of merit-based aid.

Thirdly, the SAT and ACT have changed in the last ten years. The SAT went from two sections (verbal and math) to three sections (critical reading, math and writing) and is now back to two sections (evidenced based reading and writing and math) with an optional writing section. It was hard to find anyone who took the ACT in the Northeast ten years ago. At DC, we have gone from 20 students taking the ACT in 2009 to over 60 in 2016. Colleges accept either test for admission. I encourage all students to take one of each test during their junior year to see where they score higher. From there, I encourage them to take that test an additional one to two more times."



Q

What final "Words of Wisdom" do you have for the Class of 2016?

A

"Seniors, be sure to thank those who contributed to getting you where you are today. It is important to humble yourselves and make sure parents, relatives, teachers, coaches, etc. are appreciated. Enjoy the summer after you graduate, but make sure you do something service oriented. Whether that is volunteering once a week, working at a camp with kids, going on a missions trip, etc., it is important to spend time helping and serving those less fortunate than us. Once college starts, get involved in a campus ministry and attend a church within the first three weeks of school. Finally, be a continual learner in something you enjoy! Never settle on the idea that you know enough, especially when it comes to your relationship with the Lord and knowledge of the Bible."





CONGRAT



CLASS OF 2016



ULATIONS



Senior Prefects & Senior Class Officers



Grace Newman
Arts Prefect

Josh Van Meerbeke
Student Life Prefect

Natalie Marziani
Development Prefect

Brie Weaver
Class President

Anna Beth Corson
Administrative Prefect

A group of six students are posed in a library. In the foreground, two boys sit on the floor. The boy on the left wears a green 'KNIGHTS INDOOR TRACK' sweatshirt and beige pants. The boy on the right wears a dark blue sweatshirt with a teal 'DC' logo and yellow pants. Behind them, three girls and one boy stand. The girl on the far left wears a white jacket over a green shirt with a large 'DC' logo and blue jeans. The girl in the center wears a white polo shirt and blue jeans. The girl on the right wears a dark blue t-shirt and blue jeans. The boy on the far right wears a dark blue t-shirt and blue jeans, leaning against a shelf. They are all smiling at the camera. The background shows bookshelves filled with books.

Davis Gibson
Class Officer

Thomas Chung
Class Officer

Bekah Good
Admissions Prefect

Emma Ellsworth
Athletic Prefect

Ben Chung
Class Officer

Ben Rowe
Class Officer

The 2016 Graduates

DELAWARE COUNTY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



Jae Yong (David) Bae
University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign



Lu (Ava) Bai
Pratt Institute



Kiela Brewer
Widener University



Steven Luke Butler
Penn State Brandywine



Dylan Campbell
Ithaca College



Gabrielle Carter
Liberty University



Carrie Cha
Fashion Institute of Technology



Maya Chaney
George Mason University



Jarissa Cheston
George Mason University



Jun Seo (Joe) Choi
University at Buffalo SUNY



Benjamin Chung
Eastern Nazarene College



John Thomas Chung
Wheaton College



Charles Cobourn
University of Pittsburgh



Michaela Cole
Indiana University at Bloomington



Anna Beth Corson
Covenant College



Nathan Daniel
Messiah College



Grace DeMent
Vanderbilt University



Amir Dorsey
University of Pittsburgh



Emma Ellsworth
Gordon College



Lilianna Farinas
Eastern Nazarene College



Andrea Frantz
High Point University



Jesseca Freeman
The University of Tampa



Jillian Freeman
The University of Tampa



Davis Gibson
Wheaton College



Rebekah Good
Arcadia University



Jack Grim
Washington & Lee University

The 2016 Graduates

DELAWARE COUNTY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



Karah Hamel
North Carolina
University



Olivia Han
Eastern University



Wyatt Harkins
John Jay College of
Criminal Justice of the CUNY



Ford Harvey
Elon University



Theresa Hughes
Taylor University



Ryan Hutzel
Grove City College



Haijing (Lydia) Jia
University of Toronto



Jalen Johns
Temple University



Crystal Kibe
Boston University



William Larson
Syracuse University



MeiYi Li
University of Pittsburgh



Chun-An (Joanne) Lin
University of
Pittsburgh



Kyrell Little
Temple University



Michael Logie
Grove City College



Haley MacArthur
Penn State University
Brandywine



Natalie Marziani
Temple University



Abigail McManus
The University of the Arts



Siani McNeil
West Chester
University



Rachel Meell
Liberty University



Stephen Mitchell
Albright College



Seungsu Mok
Stony Brook University



Ian Myers
West Chester
University



Maya Neal
Cairn University



Kailey Neef
Liberty University



Grace Newman
Eastern University



Ju Eon(Rachel)No
The George Washington
University



Yeonggyeong (Emily) No
Stony Brook University



Joshua Ogg
Temple University



Rosa Orthey
Temple University



Giho Park
Johns Hopkins
University

The 2016 Graduates

DELAWARE COUNTY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



Monica Powell
Penn State University



Emily Quillen
Cairn University



Julia Quillen
The University of the Arts



Elena Rapp
York College of Pennsylvania



Madison Rhine
Penn State University



Brenna Richards
Penn State University



James Roulston
Drexel University



Benjamin Rowe
Gordon College



Brooke Serra
Grove City College



Bryce Shook
West Virginia University



Jiahe (Jimmy) Song
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University



Kia Sutton
Hampton University



Kieran Thompson
Gordon College



Nazim Trammell-Wells
Hampton University



Elene Tsokilauri
Boston College



Joshua Van Meerbeke
Covenant College



Enyu Wang
Wheaton College



Gabrielle Weaver
Messiah College



Kyle Winters
Widener University



Elizabeth Yeung
Penn State University



Jin Sun Yoo
Boston University



Jia He (Henry) Zhang
West Chester University

2016 Valedictorian:

Elizabeth Anne Yeung

2016 Salutatorian:

Mei Yi Li

Congratulations

to DC's first **THIRD GENERATION GRADUATES**

Kyle Winters – son of John Winters '87, and grandson of Joel Winters '62

Ryan Hutzel – son of Lynne Alexander Hutzel '84 and grandson of Janice Bell Gillen '61

GRADUATES WHO ATTENDED DC SINCE KINDERGARTEN OR FIRST GRADE

Steven Luke Butler	Godfrey Wyatt Southard Harkins	Monica Lynn Powell
Benjamin Ross Chung	Jalen Vance Mack Johns	Elena Renee Rapp
Charles R. Cobourn IV	Michael Jesse Logie	Madison Grace Rhine
Anna Elisabeth Adams Corson	Haley Marie MacArthur	Benjamin Mark Rowe
Nathan Ives Daniel	Abigail Lin McManus	Bryce Thomas Shook
Grace Madigan DeMent	Ian Jeffrey Myers	Joshua David Van Meerbeke
Emma Kathryn Ellsworth	Maya Kay Neal	Gabrielle Day Weaver
Jesseca Rose Freeman	Kailey Anne Neef	Kyle James Winters
Jillian Grace Freeman	Joshua Taylor Ogg	Elizabeth Anne Yeung

EARNED SCHOLARSHIPS AT COLLEGE OF CHOICE TOTAL AWARDS: \$1,864,572

Kiela Camille Brewer – Widener University
Dylan John Campbell – Ithaca College
Maya Callie Christine Chaney – George Mason University
Benjamin Ross Chung – Eastern Nazarene College
John Thomas Chung – Wheaton College
Anna Elisabeth Adams Corson – Covenant College
Nathan Ives Daniel – Messiah College
Emma Kathryn Ellsworth – Gordon College
Liliana Kristina Farinas – Eastern Nazarene College
Jesseca Rose Freeman – University of Tampa
Jillian Grace Freeman – University of Tampa
Davis Abbott Gibson – Wheaton College
Rebekah Anne Good – Arcadia University
Olivia Amber Han – Eastern University
William Chester Larson – Syracuse University
Chun-An (Joanne) Lin – University of Pittsburgh
Kyrell Christopher Little – Temple University
Haley Marie MacArthur – Pennsylvania State University
Abigail Lin McManus – University of the Arts
Siani Lillian McNeil – West Chester University
Rachel Elizabeth Meell – Liberty University
Maya Kay Neal – Cairn University
Kailey Anne Neef – Liberty University
Grace Catherine Newman – Templeton Honors College,
Eastern University
Joshua Taylor Ogg – Temple University, Honors Program
School of Science and Technology
Rosa Orthey – Temple University
Monica Lynn Powell – Pennsylvania State University
Emily Michelle Quillen – Cairn University
Julia Alyssa Quillen – University of the Arts
Benjamin Mark Rowe – Gordon College
Brooke Alexandra Serra – Grove City College
Joshua David Van Meerbeke – Covenant College
Kyle James Winters – Widener University



Spotlight on The Arts



Students enjoyed the pre-ceremony photo op. Left to Right: Hellen Sun, Ying Zhou, Ava Bai

ARTS RECOGNITION NIGHT FEATURES KELLY JONES '03

DC Friends of the Arts hosted its second annual Arts Recognition Night on Friday, May 13th. This red carpet gala recognized and showcased the accomplishments of our high school arts students. The 2016 Arts Alumnus of the Year Award was presented to Nickelodean story board artist Kelly Jones '03.

The recognition ceremony was preceded by a reception in Lowrie Hall featuring refreshments and photo ops for all attendees. Students and guests enjoyed their red carpet walk from the reception across to The DeMoss Center for Worship and The Arts for the Awards Ceremony. Current DC Parent and Master of Ceremonies Mr. Charles Carrington brought his own color and entertainment to the evening, much to the delight of the audience. Performances featured various student ensembles and the energetic "Supercal" scene from *Mary Poppins*. Student awards were presented in fine arts, theatre, choral, instrumental, and technical arts categories.

In her Arts Alumnus of the Year acceptance speech, Kelly Jones '03 shared encouraging words to current students regarding their future artistic endeavors, including the importance of remaining grounded in the faith and being prayerful in all things.

In DC tradition, current members and alums of the concert choir closed the celebratory evening with their signature benediction, *O To Be Like Thee*.



Danielle Strafford and friends walk the "red carpet".



Arts Alumnus of the Year, Kelly Jones '03



Charles Carrington, Master of Ceremonies



Junior Cody Moorhatch and Freshman Peter Wang

Spotlight on The Arts

MARY POPPINS – PRACTICALLY PERFECT IN EVERY WAY

The cast and crew of *Mary Poppins* delivered a total of five fantastic performances to sell-out audiences in March. Directed by Mr. Andrew Smalley, the production was one of the best in DC's history. The students' hard work also received notable recognition from the Greater Philadelphia Cappies Association. Senior Maya Neal was the recipient of The Best Female Vocalist award for her performance as Mary Poppins. Seniors Kieran Thompson, Grace DeMent, Madison Rhine, Ian Myers, and sophomore Caleb Gorneau received the award for Best Set.

Additionally, DC was one of five schools in the area to receive the nomination for Best Musical. Additional nominations for the production included Best Female Lead (Maya Neal), Best Featured Actress (Abbi Simbiri for her role as Miss Andrews), and Best 11th Grade Critic (Molly Harnish).



STUDENTS DISPLAY WORK AT WAYNE ART CENTER

The Wayne Art Center recently showcased the original artwork of numerous DC students as part of the center's juried TEENworks Exhibition that featured the work of young and teen artists from the Main Line and Western Philadelphia Suburbs. DC's own Morgan Broome '15, was awarded Best of Show in Mixed Media for her original collage *Iris*. Current senior Abby McManus received an Honorable Mention for her drawing of ravens, entitled *Never More*. Additional DC students participating in this year's show include middle school students Ersy Neal, Jordan Deane, Benjamin Myers, Ella Hines, and Olivia Wagner, and high school students Kuodio Toukou, Julia Quillen, Karah Hamel, Beka Myers, and Ava Berzinsky.



SPRING CONCERTS & ART SHOWS CAPSTONE A YEAR OF EXCELLENCE IN THE ARTS

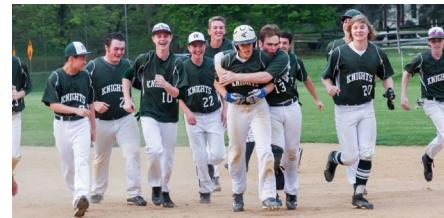
This year's spring concerts and art shows were strong examples of DC's deep and long standing tradition in the arts. The excellence demonstrated through these seasonal venues confirmed the expanding skill sets of our students as they continue to recognize God as the "master artist" and to honor Him through a variety of artistic mediums.



MS AND HS BANDS COMPETE IN MUSIC IN THE PARKS COMPETITIONS

Congratulations to Mrs. Mandy Limpert and the members of the high school concert band who participated in the Music in the Parks adjudication held at Busch Gardens in Williamsburg, VA on April 29th. The band received an excellent rating in Class A competition, narrowly missing a second place finish.

The middle school band traveled locally to Music in the Parks at Dorney Park in Allentown on May 27th. This group, comprised of a large percentage of sixth graders, earned a superior rating and placed second in their division. The middle school band was also awarded the Esprit de Corps trophy which recognizes the group with the best off-stage conduct and performance.



CONCERT CHOIR TOURS NEW YORK CITY

The eighty member concert choir toured in and around New York City in April. Under the direction of Mrs. Renee Bussey, a highlight of the choir's performance schedule was their participation in the St. Patrick's Cathedral Guest Choir Concert Series. This "by invitation only" program features hundreds of performers each year in top-level high school, college, church, cathedral and professional choirs from around the world. Approximately 250 people attended the afternoon concert in the world renowned cathedral. Additionally, video of the choir posted to DC's Facebook page was viewed by over 4,800 people. Other highlights of the tour included concerts at NYC area Christian schools and taking in an evening performance of the current Broadway musical *Beautiful*, which tells the story of singer-songwriter Carole King.

Campus News

COMMUNITY

Class of 2016 Gifts Outdoor Seating

Students are enjoying the addition of six new Adirondack chairs in the Upper Campus Courtyard. The chairs were gifted by members of the Class of 2016 under the direction of fellow senior and Development Prefect, Natalie Marziani. As Development Prefect, Natalie spent part of each Wednesday interning in the Development Office learning the ins and outs of academic advancement and fund raising strategies. As a result, Natalie successfully organized and executed all facets of this year's Senior Gift Campaign – much to the delight of underclassman who will enjoy circling up the chairs for conversation or chill time for years to come. The practice of a senior class gift is a long standing DC tradition encouraging a spirit of giving back to their alma mater.



OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Seventh Grade Explores Spruce Lake

Against the back drop of 800 beautiful acres of woodlands, streams, and waterfalls, the seventh grade class recently enjoyed a three day outdoor education program operated by the Spruce Lake Christian Retreat Center located in the Pocono Mountains. Students enjoyed full days of adventure, science education, teambuilding, and spiritual reflection. 2016 marks the 27th year seventh graders have traveled to Spruce Lake. Science teacher Mrs. Robin Zecca reflects, "Spruce Lake is a wonderful way to experience God's Creation firsthand for our seventh graders. We have been studying Life Science all year and to see the interaction of living and non-living parts of the ecosystem by direct contact brings the classroom to life. The students grow as a class as they have to depend on each other in activities like the Challenge Course, and face personal obstacles like the Zip Line."

SCIENCE IN ACTION

Robust Robotics Season for Middle School Teams

DC's middle school robotics program continues to gain traction with both strong student participation and competition success. Under the leadership of middle school teacher Mrs. Christi Rhine along with parent mentors Andrew Cook and Pat Schumaker, a total of 28 students participated in the 2016 season. The students were grouped into a total of nine teams and competed in a total of four qualifying tournaments, including the VEX Regional Event hosted by DC in late January. Based on the qualifiers, two of the teams advanced to state competition including Team 1267S – eighth graders Linus Cook and Zane Hobaugh. This rising pair won an impressive total of twelve awards over the course of the season.



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS



Strategies for Success

The Elementary Chess Club continues to be one of the most popular after school clubs for students in grades 2-5. Faculty sponsor and fourth grade teacher Miss Karen Young explains that students learn several key skills through the mastery of chess. An obvious benefit is the use of strategic thinking. She notes "Chess is a classic game of strategy, invented more than 1500 years ago. Interest in playing chess has grown steadily in the United States since the 1980's. In schools across the country, chess is making a strong contribution to children's learning across academic areas. Studies conducted over the last 30 years show that students IQs increase and test scores improve after less than a year of systematic chess study."

An equally, but sometimes overlooked benefit of the game is the fostering of social skills through good sportsmanship including conflict resolution through rules and official rulings. Miss Young observes "Elementary students benefit from learning to plan ahead and react to changes. Their emotions are sometimes high and they need to learn to control their emotions, consider the other person's point of view, learn from their mistakes, and play to their best ability. They are also making new friends with students in other grades."

Miss Young has led the Elementary Chess Club since 2008. She also learned chess as an elementary student and enjoyed going head to head in many a match with her brother, Dave. Her love for the game along with her natural teaching abilities combine to make this after school enrichment opportunity enjoyable for all participants. Fourth grader Christopher Smith sums the experience very well, "I like chess club because of the different strategies, playing with all my friends, and having fun."

SCIENCE IN ACTION

Exploring Careers in STEM

Ten DC students along with 150 seventh-grade girls from schools in Delaware and Chester counties visited Penn State Brandywine on Thursday, May 12, for the campus' 2016 STEM Options Day. The event was designed to give girls a day of exploration and discovery in STEM-related topics and careers.

The workshop included 17 different sessions led by successful women in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields. Topics covered during the sessions included occupational therapy, environmental engineering, mobile app development, biology, and many more.

STUDENT LIFE



Let the Games Begin

The 2016 Summer Olympics provided a festive theme for this year's Eighth Grade Banquet.

Students enjoyed celebrating the end of their middle school careers in true Rio style. All of the evening's events were planned by the class parents. The banquet remains as an iconic DC rite of passage for students as they transition to high school.



Campus News

EXCELLENCE IN THE ARTS

Elementary Explore! Enjoyed by All



Elementary parents and students enjoyed participating in Elementary Explore! This special event in early April included interactive workshops focused on STEM, humanities, and the arts. The annual elementary art show and band concert rounded out this enjoyable and engaging evening at the Devon Campus.



OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Science Studies Come to Life in the Great Outdoors

DC's thirty acre Devon Campus is the perfect setting for our elementary students to learn outdoors. This spring second graders honed their observation skills in a science unit on life cycles. Working in conjunction with educators from Riverbend Environmental Educational Center in Conshohocken, teachers Mrs. Linda Nixon and Mrs. Patti Chung taught an engaging unit of study which moved students outdoors to the stream and woods just beyond their classroom doors.



This hands-on opportunity allowed the class members to take a close up look at living things easily missed unless intentionally observed. Through this experience, students learned how decomposers break down living things to enrich soil which supports new growth. The life cycle of animals and how they benefit one another within various habitats was a highlight of this unit as well. Mrs. Nixon notes this is another example of how "The blessing of the natural setting of the Devon Campus continues to extend learning for students beyond the classroom walls."

COMMUNITY

No Sun, But Plenty of Fun on 2016 Field Day!

Gray skies, cool temperatures, and some afternoon rain, did not dampen the spirits of our elementary students as they decked out in their team colors for some field day fun.

Congratulations to the Red Team, who captured first place in this year's competition.



COMMUNICATION

Lights, Camera, Action

DC's Department of Marketing and Communications recently partnered with Narberth based Arsenal Media Works to produce a new school admissions video geared to educate and inform prospective families on the value of Christian education at Delaware County Christian School. Key messages center on each student being challenged, nurtured, and known. Director of Marketing and Communications Lisa Campbell states "Our data confirms a high percentage of families who visit our campuses follow through with an admissions application. A primary purpose in creating this new video is to reach Christian parents in a visually engaging and informative media form with the express purpose of moving them to a personal visit, which in turn will translate to a higher number of admissions applicants." The new video was released in early April and has been promoted via social media outlets and on DC's webpage. To watch the video, search "Discover Delaware County Christian School" on Youtube.



STUDENT LIFE

2016 Junior/Senior A Home Run Event

Dressing up and stepping out, our upper classmen enjoyed the festivities of this year's Junior/Senior, which was held at Citizens Bank Park. This venue was a home run for all in attendance.

READ-A-THON

Readers Set New School Record

Elementary students read a total of 59,112,760 words during the month of February, setting a new school record in their traditional month long read-a-thon. Organized by elementary librarian and technology coordinator, Mrs. Kristen Levis, the theme of this year's read-a-thon was "Go West Young Readers."

The students began the month of February by studying westward expansion including key events such as the Lewis and Clark Expedition and the California Gold Rush. Along the way, the students read and read and read – so much so that they surpassed their school wide goal of 58 million words. The students celebrated this wonderful achievement with a fun-filled day that included a variety of western themed food and activities.



Faculty Profile

Through Connection, Leadership, and Creativity Chad Fenley Fosters a Contagious Love of Learning



Chad Fenley, wife Jamie and sons Milo, Oliver, and Amos

When does a double block of middle school math fly by, feeling like a single class? When a student is in Mr. Chad Fenley's 7th grade Pre-Algebra class. "I love this class!" says one 7th grader. "Mr. Fenley makes learning math fun." Other students note that Mr. Fenley explains math well, breaking concepts down so students can understand them. They add that he engages everyone and often asks how their day is going. Using a variety of instructional techniques, Mr. Fenley segments his class into content delivery, guided practice problems, small group work, review games, and team competitions. His varied approaches to learning not only address several learning styles, but also scaffolds learning in such a way that students grow in their ownership of the concepts being taught.

According to Chuck Young, middle school principal, "Chad loves being with kids and they know it. The joy he has sparks the learning that goes on in the classroom - and he does it naturally." He also describes Mr. Fenley as "...a strong leader in the classroom [who] holds a high standard for his students and for himself in his day-to- day work. He is a fabulous role model for young teachers and a consistently positive voice on the faculty." One fellow teacher noted, "Because of the academic rigor of his classroom, I have, on several occasions, sat in on his classes to try to learn from him. He is clear in his teaching, and his students benefit from his applicable-to-life instruction." Another colleague pointed out, "Chad's ability to understand and love middle schoolers for who they are is outstanding. Chad encourages his students continually, and makes kids enjoy and

want to learn math. "Also sparking high interest in learning is Mr. Fenley's SAIL course, entitled Wind Energy: Engineering, Environment, and Economics. In this course, co-taught with Mrs. Jocelyn Pacitto, 8th grade students collaborate to engineer a cost-effective and energy-efficient wind turbine to increase their community's reliance on renewable energy. The course has been well-received by students and is one that rising 8th graders are eagerly anticipating!

As Mr. Fenley's students move on to high school, he has the opportunity to continue speaking into the lives of those who play football. As part of the high school football team coaching staff, Mr. Fenley teaches, challenges, encourages, and guides young men in very much the same way he does in the middle school math and SAIL classrooms.

Mr. Fenley explains what drives his passion for working with young people: "I care so much about educating the whole student. Not just the math part. Life is hard, and confusing, and doesn't always make sense in middle school. I get that; middle school is not my fondest memory. I went to public school and I wish I had someone at school that I could have talked to and who would have encouraged me through the journey. I believe this is my calling and it is my passion. I love working with students and challenging them to be who God designed them to be. It brings me so much joy to see students that I taught in middle school come back as college students, following Jesus and pursuing a life that pleases the Lord. It is ultimately those conversations that I have with students after the years of DC that motivate me!"

Faculty News

Andrew Smalley Accepts New Role

After fifteen years of building DC's theatre and arts department, Mr. Andrew Smalley has accepted a new position as Director of the Arts at Regent Christian School in Austin, TX. Andrew will be remembered at DC for his strong connections to students and alumni and for always reminding us to use our abilities and talents "All to the Glory of God."



Sue Hutchison Concludes 41 Years of Service

Dr. Sue Hutchison will be retiring at the end of this school year after 41 years of service at DC. Sue arrived in 1975 as a second grade teacher, coached many teams, led many school mission trips and was a faithful attendee at school events. She will be most remembered for starting and then directing DC's Discovery Center. Notes of appreciation may be sent to Sue at 462 Malin Road, Newtown Square, PA.



Williams College Honors Tracy Motley

High school math teacher Tracy Motley was recently awarded the Olmstead Prize for excellence in secondary school teaching from Williams College. Tracy is completing her first year of teaching math at DC after spending ten plus years at The Westtown School in West Chester, PA.

Faculty Members Awarded Templeton Grants

Thanks to the generosity of the Templeton family, Addison Martin (HS Biology) and Stephen Pulliam (HS Chemistry and Science Department Chair) were awarded the Templeton Fund for Science Development Grant, established this spring to encourage the professional growth of full-time science faculty members. Specifically, the grant seeks to improve student learning in science by catalyzing faculty leadership to address specific topics in science education, and to enrich classroom teaching and/or a teacher's understanding of his or her professional field. The funding enables teachers to engage in a summer-long project directly pertaining to the teaching of their discipline.



Mr. Martin's project is to create a unit of flipped classroom content. He desires for this endeavor to help him become more flexible in his teaching style and create an accessible, unique, engaging, and novel learning experience for students. The project also affords him the opportunity to learn how to effectively integrate flipped-classroom learning, game-based learning principles, and mastery-based assessment into the classroom for future implementations.

Mr. Pulliam's project focuses on becoming proficient in the use of Vernier data collection/analysis software and hardware (probeware) in order to integrate the tools effectively in his classroom and throughout the science department. This hardware and software facilitates and enhances a student's ability to collect quality data and analyze information. Additionally, the probeware has applications beyond traditional lab experiments, extending into the classroom to engage students in interactive lecture demonstrations which are designed to move students from being passive observers to active learners.

WORLD CHAMPIONS

DC Team Receives International Robotics Awards

Three members of DC's Robotics Team were the recipients of two major awards at the recent VEX Worlds Robotics Competition in Louisville, KY. DC's Team 1267C comprised of freshmen Rebecca Harris, Hannah Master, and sophomore Kate Carrington qualified for this premier international competition based on their performances at VEX sponsored regional and state competitions. In total, approximately 16,000 middle and high school teams participated in these events over the course of the last year. From this group, 1000 teams from 31 countries qualified for the world competition. Harris, Master, and Carrington were one of six high school teams from the state of Pennsylvania to travel to Louisville, KY for the three day long competition.

Team 1267C spent many hours over the course of the last year designing, building, and programming their robot. Prior to their trip to Louisville, the trio submitted a recap of their work in order to be considered for various tournament awards. Based on this application and a series of competition interviews, the team was awarded the tournament-wide Innovate Award.

The Innovate Award is presented to the team demonstrating a strong combination of ingenuity and innovation in designing their VEX robot. This award will typically recognize a specific, unique piece of engineering that exemplifies thinking outside of the box and innovative engineering design. This robot feature should also be a part of the engineering design solution that solves the complex problems presented by the VRC game.

In addition to receiving this prestigious award, Team 1267C also received the Create Award within their competitive division. The Create Award is earned by a team whose robot design incorporates a creative engineering solution to the design challenges of this year's game. Judges looked for teams that are able to demonstrate a highly creative engineering process that incorporates solid mechanical ability, unique design solutions, and innovative approaches to the game play. Additionally, the trio was also one of nine teams selected to be filmed and interviewed for a special broadcast of the VEX World Championship slated for July 20 on ESPN2.

High school math teacher Mr. Joel Kamm has served as the lead faculty sponsor of DC's high school robotics program for the last several years. He notes, "The girls' recognition at Worlds is remarkable given the size of the event and the number of experienced teams competing. Involvement at this level is a potentially life changing event, and we are thrilled with the team's success!" No doubt, the success of Team 1267C this year will spur on other DC students who are already or considering participating in the program. A very robust middle school program is already in place and the addition of a dedicated STEM program in the elementary grades will continue to build momentum and experience as students move into their high school years. Mr. Kamm reports, "The DC robotics program continues to flourish as more students become aware of the opportunity and excitement generated by robotics. We hope that participation in robotics and the exposure to engineering principles and computer science will change the way our students think about these fields." Certainly the milestones reached by Rebecca, Hannah, and Kate this year will influence peers to view STEM careers as real and attainable possibilities.



Pictured Left to Right: Kate Carrington, Rebecca Harris, Hannah Master



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dccs.org/5k

Alumnus of the Year

CHRIS TABAKIN '98

Serving Others Locally and Globally with Vision and Passion



A look back through his thirteen years as a DC student and his subsequent life experiences confirms that the Lord uses a variety of avenues to prepare individuals to fulfill their life's calling. For Chris Tabakin '98, this journey has led to a position of both local and global impact.

Following his senior year, Chris enrolled at The University of Pittsburgh with the clear intent of selecting a secular college where he believed his faith would be stretched.

Up until this time, he had lived out his faith in a secure surrounding of his family, church, and school. A transfer to West Chester University enabled Chris to pursue a major in special education, one of West Chester's strongest programs of study, and also brought him closer to his fiancée, Melanie, who was attending Eastern University. Returning to the area also rekindled Chris's association with Melmark, the Berwyn based non-profit human services provider for children and adults with autism, intellectual disabilities, brain injuries, and other neurological and genetic diagnoses. Chris worked

Our 2016 Alumnus of the Year embodies a full range of notable and defining characteristics: entrepreneur, visionary, public servant, husband, coach, protector, and keeper of the faith.

at Melmark part-time during high school and then throughout most of college in a variety of programs. This association paved the way for full time employment immediately following completion of his degree from West Chester.

Throughout his years in college, Chris consistently found himself drawn to the policy and regulatory aspects of special education. He notes that this strong interest led him to view his field of study

through a business perspective. "I love how the aspects of what I did were having a positive impact on the classrooms and programs, allowing the teachers and staff to be more effective in instructing and educating. I think of myself as a social entrepreneur. I help people by working to find creative solutions for complex social issues through applying business principals and taking risks! That is my focus in my profession and in my life. How can we tackle difficult situations in new and better ways?"

Chris left his full-time position at Melmark and founded In His Image (iHi) International, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, to better serve the needs of people internationally. As CEO of the organization, he works to ensure that the needs of the VIP's (Vulnerable International People) are evaluated and solutions are developed to provide opportunities for life improvements. As is evident from the name of the organization itself, the great foundational principle is that all human lives are made in the image of our Creator God and therefore deserve support and respect in every possible way.

Today, the work of iHi is active around the world including locations in Eastern Europe, Africa, the Caribbean and Central American, and in the Middle East. Through Chris's leadership, the organization evaluates the needs of vulnerable people internationally and collaborates with local nonprofit and nongovernmental organizations. We identify opportunities, "to elevate the positive image of people by providing direct support, partnerships and collaborations, capacity building of programs, through new and unique ways that are responsive to needs."

As Chris reflects on this valuable work, he says, "It is awesome to see where God has led me. It is almost funny how He works." One of the ways God worked in his life is the role that Melanie, his wife, has played on his career and mission. He says, "I would never have been in the position I am today having founded iHi International if it were not for her influence, both personally and professionally."

While his work with iHi is global in scale, the Lord has also opened other local avenues of influence for



Chris. He and Melanie are members of Calvary Fellowship Church in Downingtown, PA. They actively participate in the life of the church through a small group Bible study, missions and support of capital campaigns. This past year Chris also ran and was elected to a seat on the school board of West Chester Area School District to strive to add wisdom in the decision-making regarding his area's schools. In addition, Chris has maintained a close connection to DC students. For the last eight years, he has served alongside "Doc" McFarland as an assistant coach for the Varsity Track Team.

As the 2016 Alumnus of the Year, Chris Tabakin's life story exemplifies the mission and vision DC strives to instill in each and every student.

We asked Chris to share some significant ways his life was influenced by his education at DC. His thoughtful reflections demonstrate the comprehensive impact teachers, experiences, and friends played in shaping his life and vocation today.

"Two major components of my DC education were the formation of a biblical foundation and challenging me to take risks. Those two things came together in my decision to attend a secular college. Mr. Bauer Evans (former history and Bible teacher) taught a course in comparative religions. It impacted me in a huge way because I could see more and more what Jesus brings that the other religions did not."

This foundation has really helped me in my work with iHi International because I interact with people from so many different cultures and beliefs. The interactions I have with Muslim communities for example have been easier having been given significant background from my previous study and God's leading."

Alumnus of the Year

"I was diagnosed with a learning disability in elementary school. As a young student, I lacked confidence and often was confused and frustrated. I wanted to hang back and fake my way through, but teachers would not let me. Teachers coaxed me out, dragged me out, or did anything else they could to move me forward. I will always be especially indebted to Miss Linda Bonsall (School Psychologist) who helped me learn coping skills to overcome my academic struggles.

I also remember Miss Lori Reed (former drama teacher) telling me I should try out for the musical...the day of auditions! That evening, after learning a song in the afternoon, I had my first audition. She encouraged me to let my guard down and take a risk by stepping out of my comfort zone. As a result, I was in several drama activities and increasingly took risks.

Mrs. Linda Unger (high school art teacher) encouraged me to push the limits, or what I thought were the limits, of my creativity. This creativity that was fostered throughout my time at DC has helped me immeasurably over the years. One of the biggest things I do at iHi International is problem solving. Having that creativity training to tap into is so helpful when seeking solutions to complex issues.

Dr. George McFarland (Dean of Faculty and History Department Chair) was also a huge influence on my life. He helped to shape me to be a "servant leader." His calm, but commanding, approach helped exemplify to me what leadership looks like in the context of true servanthood.

Mr. Scott Bateman, in my fifth grade year, taught me to have fun. Taking life too seriously is not healthy and so it is important to find the joy in life.

DC also provided me with lasting friendships. I am still very close with two incredible friends from DC. Tim Volikas '98 has been a close friend since first grade, and Dave Ott '98 since middle school. Dave is also on my advisory board for iHi International along with DC grad Rachel Brooks Atkins '00."

In accordance with DC's mission, it is the hope and prayer that each graduate of our school is impacted in such a way that they will live each day for Jesus Christ in whatever field of human endeavor they chose. The embodiment of this mission is captured in these final words from Chris. *"I strive to live out my faith. I think it [faith] can be a natural thing and I have learned more and more to be authentic as much as possible. I mess up. Yet the one thing I really have tried to focus on is to make certain that in my founding and developing of iHi International, I am constantly consulting with God. The goal is to be 'abiding in Christ'. Whether in large things or small ones I want to be listening and praying. The more I do this with iHi International, the better I find things go."*



Learn more about iHi International, at www.iHInternational.org.



Chris Tabakin and Linda Bonsall

Chris Tabakin '98

For the past eight years, Chris Tabakin has served as an assistant coach (sprints and relays) for the boys and girls varsity track teams. Below are head coach George McFarland's reflections on Chris' influence on the track program and in the lives of the students he coaches.

"In my assessment, Chris brings two invaluables to the track athletes. First, Chris loves the athletes. He really desires their best, for their relationship with Christ, and for their growing maturity in loving one another and growing as a team. Chris shows that kind of love to the athletes in a variety of manners, sometimes encouraging them, teaching them about the sport itself, but also by speaking honestly into their lives. On more than one occasion, I have heard him speak very bluntly, but lovingly, to a track member. The athletes respect his forthrightness and integrity as a coach because they realize he cares for him. Second, Chris knows and understands DC and the track 'system.' Chris was a four year letterman in track at DC, won numerous medals, ribbons and honors, and was a record setter in two events. As well, he was an outstanding student, a member of the arts in different capacities, and a student leader. In essence, he experienced to a high level what it means to be an engaged student at DC. For this reason, he knows where the athlete is coming from, including some of the struggles and tensions of having to balance DC life and the Christian faith. Athletes know this and will seek him out. They trust Chris and act on his wisdom, identifying with him. On one level, Chris can get the athletes to laugh, but on the next level, he has them doing exactly what he is teaching them."

Similar to his Savior, Chris is perceived as 'one with them.' Over the years, Chris has adopted the practice of allowing athletes to call him 'Tabby' instead of Mr. Tabakin if they set a school record. Athletes have worked hard to be able to do that. More than that, they know he cares for all aspects of their lives."

Junior runner Maggie Linton is just one of the many students who has been positively influenced by the role Chris has played in her life and on teammates as a whole. "Coach Tabakin has been a huge influence not only in my life, but the whole entire track squad. He always takes me aside before my races and gives me smart advantages on how to run each race I compete in and helps me to be calm and just relax."

Outside of track, 'Tabby' has also influenced my walk with God. He always reminds me that when I run I am not running for my glory and fame, but for God and His glory. He reminds me that God has blessed me with the gift of running and I need to give it back to Him each time I run."

Chris' role as coach is another strong and consistent demonstration of his servant heart for others and his desire to point others to Christ.



Coach Tabakin with members of the 2016 Varsity Track Team

Alumni News and Notes

1966

Janice Engstrom Cornforth '66 spent nine years teaching English as a second language in Kinshasa, Zaire (now Democratic Republic of Congo) during the 1980's. After returning to the U.S. she taught in North Carolina, California, and Seattle, WA until retiring two years ago. She currently works as a part-time tutor.

1977

Linda Lownes Hytha '77 accepted the position of Student Success Advisor with Eastern University Center for Student Success in November, 2015. Linda joined the staff at Eastern in an administrative capacity in 2007. Additionally, Linda performs with her family's band, partners with her husband Greg in a real estate business in Phoenixville, PA., manages a hospitality ministry in their home, and is working toward her Master of Theological Studies at Palmer Seminary.

1995

Carrie Sonstroem Geiger '95 along with husband Chris and two of her four children (Gabriella, 15 and Hudson, 10) completed five years of section hiking on the Appalachian Trail on August 10, 2015. In total, Carrie and family hiked over 2,000 miles and Hudson became the youngest section hiker on record to complete the entire Appalachian Trail. The Geiger's are grateful for the amazing opportunity to experience God's creation firsthand! More information on their experience is documented at www.trailjournals.com/geigers.

1999

Rebecca Witmer Smith '99 married Michael A. Smith in Hershey, PA in September, 2015. Her sister Sara Witmer Schuster '96 was the maid of honor, and Robin Pennington Smalley '99, and Krista Volikas Perry '99 served as bridesmaids. Rebecca's brother, Nathan Witmer '02, and brother-in-law, Joel Schuster '96, were also in the wedding party. Rebecca's father, Dr. Timothy Z. Witmer, was the officiate. Rebecca, Mike and their children, Ben (6), Lily (7), and Abby (13) reside in Lititz, PA. Rebecca commutes to Comcast Center in Philadelphia where she is a Program Manager for the Comcast Business Class Data Portfolio.

2005

Lauren Nason Pernack '05 and her husband Clint now live in Portage Lakes, OH. Lauren is using both her bachelor's degree in elementary education and her masters in multi-categorical special education to teach an at-risk first grade class. Clint is an engineer and designs natural gas processing facilities and pipelines in Ohio. Both are very thankful for a supportive church family who made their transition to Ohio from Pennsylvania easier than expected!



Rebecca Witmer Smith Wedding

2007

Caitlin Lowery '07 graduated from John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in May, 2016 with a Master of Science in Public Health. Caitlin's interest in public health began during her Peace Corps service in the Republic of Georgia from 2011-2013. She completed her public health practicum focusing on nutrition intervention for children under the age of five in Retalhuleu, Guatemala. Caitlyn was the recipient of the Johns Hopkins Center for Global Health's Scholarship in 2014 and was inducted into the Delta Omega Public Health Honors Society in May, 2016.

2008

Emily Tice '08 married Mark-Daniel Mitchell on Saturday November 14, 2015 in Nashville, TN. They reside in Clarksville, TN where Mark-Daniel is a 1st Lieutenant within the Artillery Unit at Fort Campbell and Emily continues her work as a registered nurse in the Neurology and Neurosurgery Intensive Care Unit at Vanderbilt University Medical Center.



Emily Tice Wedding

2009

Sharon Limpert '09 received her M.F.A. in Costume Technology from Carnegie Mellon University in May and was also recently awarded the Barbara Matera Award in Costume Making by The United States Institute for Theatre Technology at their recent convention. This highly competitive award recognizes outstanding graduating students in all aspects of technical theatre through their Young Designer and Technician awards. Sharon was nominated for this award by the faculty at CMU and was selected as the award recipient by a USITT committee. She received a free trip to the convention, a cash award, and an impressive credential for her professional resume. Sharon is working this summer at the American Players Theatre in Spring Green, WI and will be moving to New York City to pursue a career with one of the costume production studios headquartered there in September. Her work can be seen at sharonlimpert.com.

2010

Carissa Bernard '10 married Tim Durham on August 1, 2015 in Doylestown, PA.

Eric Schlenker '10 graduated with a B.S. in Geosciences from Penn State in 2014 and is now working as a contract employee in the telecommunications industry. He is employed by Aerotek, an international engineering firm in North Kansas City. Eric notes "DC really helped form the problem solving skills I used in college, and now on the job. Most importantly, it provided me with a biblical, Christ-centered education."

2012

Robert Lowery '12 was recognized at the annual All-College Honors Convocation held on May 1, 2016 at Lafayette College. As a student-athlete senior and competitive swimmer at Lafayette, he took home a pair of honors, winning the Finley W. Ethelwynne H. Smith Electronic Engineering Prize and the George H. Catlin Prize. The first is awarded annually to the electrical and computer engineering senior who has earned, at the end of their junior year, the highest cumulative average attained by any senior who is working for department honors with a project in the electronics or communications field. The second is awarded to the seniors with the highest averages in the study of the Classics. Rob graduated with a B.S. in Electrical Computer Engineering and an A.B. in Classical Civilization and has accepted a position with NBC Universal Sports. At Lafayette, Rob was a member of the Varsity Swim Team and a leader in DiscipleMaker's Christian Fellowship.

Ailon Haileyesus '12 recently graduated with a Bachelor of Biomedical Engineering and a Spanish Minor from the Honors College at the University of Arkansas. She was recognized for receiving one of the top two senior awards based on academic merit, proven leadership, and campus involvement. "I am so grateful for my Christ-centered education and friendships at DC that have made a lasting impact on my life to bring me where I am today."



Ailon Haileyesus

2016 REUNIONS

THE CLASS OF 1966 is organizing their 50th reunion. Contact Warren Smyth at wsmyth4000@aol.com for more information.

THE CLASS OF 1976 is planning their 40th reunion. Contact Dave Terjanian at terjdoc@aol.com for more information.

THE CLASS OF 1981 will hold their 35th reunion later this year. Contact Tim Sanville at sanvillet@mlbgsd.k12.pa.us and Dave Parry davidparry@yahoo.com for more information.

THE CLASS OF 1986 is working on details for their 30th reunion. Contact Kim Rowe at kjr925@gmail.com for details.

THE CLASS OF 1996 will hold their 20th reunion at DC this summer. Contact Joel Schuster at jmschusta@gmail.com for more information.

THE CLASS OF 2006 is planning to celebrate their 10th reunion this year. Contact Amy Fleming at amy.fleming@my.wheaton.edu for more details.

THE CLASS OF 2011 is planning to celebrate their 5th reunion on June 25, 2016. Contact Jordan Sbraccia at jordan.sbraccia@gmail.com for more details

2017 REUNIONS

THE CLASS OF 1967 will hold their 50th class reunion on Saturday, June 24, 2017. Location: TBA. Contact JK Williams at jk@egministriesinc.org for more information.

Alumni Spotlight



CHRISTY WARE '97

Christy answered the Lord's calling to use her teaching experience and is now serving with TeachBeyond, an organization that connects teachers, administrators, and support staff with the express purpose of training and equipping teachers as global Christian educators in over 30 schools located around the world. After completing a year of language school in France, Christy spent the last year in Rwanda as an international educator at Wellspring Academy. She also visited Congo several times to lead teacher trainings.

Christy reports "I am thankful to share that the Lord has opened the door for me to join the mobilization team with TeachBeyond as my next assignment. I return home from Rwanda in late June and transition into my new role officially in August. I see this as a huge provision from the Lord, because I will be able to continue traveling to Congo and encouraging our teachers there, as well as advising TeachBeyond on other Africa related ministry, all the while being based around Philadelphia. I will also be able to speak into the lives of potential candidates from a position of experience of how wild missions can be and how our God is faithful in the midst of it all."

Please keep Christy in your prayers as she transitions to this new role.

CALEB OLSHEFSKY '11

Caleb is now serving full time in the media department at DiscipleMakers, a campus ministry headquartered in State College, PA. Caleb's primary responsibility is to design materials and resources that multiply the efforts of the campus staff and in turn train others to become disciples of Christ. In the near future, Caleb will assume responsibility for both the organization's and the various campus locations websites. He writes, "I'm really excited to be taking on this challenge, but it is also quite daunting. The web is a fast moving, constantly changing, and often a rather complicated place. In addition to our work on campuses, we have about five large conferences every year. These are attended by both staff and students, and are a great opportunity to preach and teach God's word in a more extended way than a Bible study or weekly fellowship meeting. But, in order for that teaching to even be heard, we need lots of sound amplification.

Using my 9+ years of sound engineering experience, I'm going to be heading up all live sound efforts for our ministry. This includes preparing for, setting up, and running events. In addition, I will be talking with rental houses, purchasing and fixing equipment, as well as providing key resources and training to both staff and student leaders. This definitely feels like the biggest and most challenging responsibility I will have."



The position Caleb is most excited about is heading up most of DiscipleMakers' major design projects. He will be working on a variety of projects - everything from staff prayer cards and campus advertising materials to conference graphics and brochures. Caleb shared, "I was a graphic design major in college and I'm very thankful that I can use my training to benefit the mission and ministry of DiscipleMakers. Thank you for all of your prayers for my transition into life in State College! I have been adjusting well, and was quickly able to get involved at a church. I started playing on the worship team a few weeks ago and am actively involved in a small group."



For nearly three years, Lieutenant Robert Hontz '96 has been stationed in South America as a medical officer in the U.S. Navy where he lives with his wife of 12 years, Carmelle, and their three daughters: Madeleine, Karen, and Laura. Assigned to the U.S. Naval Medical Research Unit No. 6 (NAMRU-6) in Lima, Peru, Bob is a Ph.D. microbiologist in charge of NAMRU-6's vector-borne and zoonotic disease research program. Managing surveillance and research protocols focused primarily on emerging and endemic pathogens of interest to the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD), Bob has spent the majority of his tenure at NAMRU-6 researching dengue fever, a mosquito-borne virus that can cause hemorrhagic manifestations and death, and Chikungunya fever, another mosquito-borne disease capable of causing crippling joint pain. The 2015 introduction of Zika virus (ZIKV) to northeastern Brazil and its subsequent spread to over 25 countries in the western hemisphere via the same mosquito that transmits dengue and Chikungunya forced NAMRU-6 to assume a critical role in DOD's response to this exploding epidemic. Bob was tasked to coordinate NAMRU-6's response to Zika.

To position NAMRU-6's state-of-the-art laboratories and outstanding scientists and technicians ahead of the outbreak, Bob led the effort to establish molecular methods for detecting RNA in patient samples suspected as ZIKV-positive based on epidemiological and/or clinical evidence. Along with live virus isolation and genomic sequencing, this capability has made NAMRU-6 an important player in the fight against Zika in the U.S. Southern Command area of operations. Bob has also raised \$320,000 from DOD funders since February to expand laboratory and surveillance capabilities in six Latin American countries impacted by Zika.

"I never considered science as a career until halfway through high school, when I discovered I had an aptitude for it," Bob says, "and then to use my scientific training in the U.S. military living abroad? That had never crossed my mind." Prior to finishing graduate school at UVA, Bob spent two years in the pharmaceutical industry, and then two years at Fox Chase Cancer Center as a post-doctoral fellow. "It was a bit of a circuitous path to where I am now, but I could see God's hand in all of it. Although military life can at times be stressful for me and my family, we are thankful that my decision to pursue this type of work has allowed all of us to spend time being a part of and experiencing a different culture, especially one where the less fortunate are desperately in need of basic necessities the rest of us take for granted. It's a valuable life lesson for the girls."

In July of this year, Bob and his family will return to the United States where he will accept orders to the Navy's Biological Defense Research Directorate at Fort Detrick, Maryland. Involved in top-secret activities and missions, often alongside Special Forces, Bob will be officer-in-charge of a rapid deployable medical team able to respond to biological threats worldwide, like the recent Ebola outbreak in Liberia.

Alumni Spotlight

BOB HONTZ '96



(Left) Hontz family:

"My entire family visiting Hacienda La Florida in the city of Tarma, Peru. Tarma sits 10,000 feet above sea level in the Andes mountain range northeast of Lima. Left to right: Carmelle, Madeleine (10), Laura (6), Karen (7), and me."

Athletics Spotlight

Athletic highlights and accomplishments from the winter and spring seasons demonstrate DC's athletic program continues to provide student athletes with strong opportunities for competition, character growth, and Christian character development.

WINTER SEASON HIGHLIGHTS



Boys Varsity Basketball:

The team rallied after a challenging season to advance to the District 1-A final. Like the Lady Knights, the team's second place district finish granted them entry to the state tournament. The boys advanced through round one easily beating Greenwood High School, but lost in the

second round to Shenandoah Valley. A highlight of the season came when senior Wyatt Harkins scored the 1,000 point of his high school career. Harkins now joins with thirteen other DC predecessors who reached this milestone playing for DC. This year's team will be remembered for their exceptional teamwork.

Varsity Girls Basketball:

The team's season included yet another appearance in the District 1 championship game. A second place district finish advanced the team to the state tournament but the team was defeated by Mahanoy Area High School in the first round of competition. Senior Siani McNeil became the seventh female in school history to net 1,000 plus points in her

high school career. Siani has signed to play for Division 2 West Chester University. This season also marked the end of a highly successful coaching career for Mark Weaver. Mark coached at the varsity level for seven years and finishes with a career record of 139-54 that included three consecutive district championships from 2011-2013.



Wrestling: This small but mighty team competes in what is arguably the toughest region in the state. The Southeast region is fertile land for top wrestling prospects that go on to wrestle at the collegiate level. This season junior wrestlers Jacob Favino, Jake Gutowski, and Caleb Madison advanced to regionals to compete against the best talent in the state. The wrestling team continues to strive for greatness and is known for never compromising their character and consistently representing their school and God with great humility.

Swimming: Sophomore Alex McKeaney is currently DC's only varsity level swimmer. Working with coach Jubilee Hsieh, Alex qualified for states in both the 50 and 100 meters freestyle events. She finished 15th at states in the 50 free with an impressive time of 24.70 seconds, only 1.58 seconds behind the first place winner of the event.



Athletics Spotlight

SPRING SEASON RECAP

Boys Baseball: A come from behind win against Calvary Christian created momentum for the boys baseball team that carried them through to District 1 post season play despite some late season injuries that impacted the starting line-up. A win over Faith Christian advanced the boys one step closer to states, but their season ended in round two of districts against Jenkintown High School.



Boys Lacrosse: This year's combined DC/Devon Prep boys lacrosse team won a total of nine games, which was their highest number of wins since the combined team was formed in 2013. Notable victories came against schools with very strong lacrosse programs including Oxford, New Hope – Solebury, Bonner, and Father Judge.

Varsity Girls Lacrosse: The program continues to make strides in the right direction. Under new head coach Katie Levis, the girls developed a style of play that was fast and confident. Their season started strong with a 5-1 record. The team is to be commended for fighting through a disappointing second half of the season as they battled through multiple injuries and losses to several highly ranked teams.



Girls Softball: This year's softball team was comprised of all underclassmen. Despite only winning several games, the girls displayed great teamwork, tenacity, and a consistent desire to improve their fundamentals. The team is looking forward to building on the foundation of this season in 2017.



Boys and Girls Track Teams: had another record breaking season finishing 2nd and 5th in the Bicentennial League Championships and 3rd and 5th respectively in District 1-AA. DC ended districts with a total of fourteen placements and several district champions. A total of seven students, a new DC record, advanced to the PIAA State Tournament held at Shippensburg University on May 27th and 28th. Congratulations to Maggie Linton who finished second in the 800 Meter event at States.



PA FOOTBALL NEWS RANKS FOOTBALL TEAM TOPS IN DISTRICT 1 ACADEMICS

Each year the PA Football News website recognizes high school football players across the state with gold, silver, and bronze Academic All-Star Awards. Gold awards are given to students who have excelled with a 3.80 or higher GPA and have also demonstrated excellence on the field. The 2015 DC Knights (10-2) had the most gold winners of any PIAA school in District 1 and tied for 4th in the state behind State College (13), North Schuylkill (8) and Keystone (7). DC's six gold award winners were: seniors Jack Grim (Washington and Lee), Giho Park (Johns Hopkins), Kyle Winters (full academic scholarship to Widener) and juniors Jacob Favino, Jake Gutowski, and Kouadio Toukou. Senior Amir Dorsey (Pitt) received a silver award, Senior Ford Harvey (Richmond) received a bronze award along with underclassmen Jake Allen and Chris Chung.

SENIOR BEN CHUNG RECIPIENT OF COURAGE AWARD

DC Lifer Ben Chung has loved to run as long as he can remember. Ben ran cross country his freshman year and was in the middle of a successful indoor track season when a freak accident in January, 2013 left him with shattered tibia and broken fibula in his right leg. After a first reconstructive surgery, Ben was told it was almost certain he would not be able to run again competitively. Although the bones healed, his leg was crooked. A second operation followed. The surgeon grafted bone from Ben's hip to his tibia. While this procedure was successful in straightening his leg, his prognosis for competitive running remained the same. Following eight long months with his leg immobilized, Ben finally began physical therapy determined to prove his doctors wrong. In January, 2014 just one year after his initial injury, he ran his first post-injury race.

Ben graduates this year as one of the top track athletes in DC's history. He was a member of the cross country team for three seasons, missing his sophomore year because the season fell in the midst of his recuperation. Although Ben was strongest in shorter distance events, he used the cross country platform to prepare for his indoor and outdoor seasons. Defying the odds, Ben battled back and graduates as a school record holder in an impressive seven events: 100 Meters, 400 Meters, 4 x 11 Relay, 4 x 200 Relay, 4 x 400 Relay, and two indoor events – 55 and 60 Meters. Long time cross country and track coach George McFarland notes that no other track athlete in his memory has held so many records at a time.

Ben's story and testimony of God's faithfulness was an inspiration to many. As such, DC's Director of Athletics, Mike Walker, recognized Ben with a special Courage Award at the Spring Sports Award Night on May, 24th.



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TSOKILAURO NAMED TO ALL AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL TENNIS TEAM

Following an undefeated year of competition resulting in a 2015 PIAA Girls Tennis AA State Championship Title, senior Elene Tsokilauri was recently named to the 2016 All American Girls Tennis Team by the National High School All-American Foundation. Elene is the first of any athlete in DC's history to achieve all American status and joins track and field standout Eddie Roberts '07 as the second school athlete to win a state championship. After attending elite Florida based tennis academies for the first three years of high school, Elene decided on a traditional high school experience for her senior year with the express purpose of boosting her academic preparedness before entering Boston College this coming fall with a full athletic scholarship. Now as a graduate, Elene reflects on her short but meaningful DC experience with deep gratitude.





THE Annual FUND

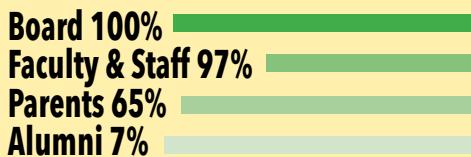
PARTICIPATION IS KEY! UPDATE

Our February Participation Rally challenged both current parents and alumni to support

The Annual Fund as we joined together with our giving to “unlock” a Challenge Gift which awarded additional dollars to our school as participation goals were met.

The response to the Participation Rally was overwhelming and in a matter of two weeks, Challenge Gifts totaling \$120,000 were earned for The Annual Fund.

Participation Levels for The Annual Fund As of May 15



There is still time to make a gift to The Annual Fund before we close the books on our fiscal year.

Donations of ANY amount have a BIG impact on our school.

PARTICIPATION IS KEY!

Make your gift prior to June 30 at dccs.org/give

Thank you

to everyone who supported
The Annual Fund Dinner & Auction in April

This highly successful event raised over \$80,000 supporting all life and learning for our students.

This year's auction included a new twist with the introduction of mobile bidding – a change that allowed guests to follow and bid on silent auction items through an app on their cell phones. Student “tech buddies” were on hand to help bidders through the process.



Left to Right: Freshman, Caleb Gorneau, “tech buddy” explains mobile bidding to Lori Chung, Parent, Robin Zecca, Faculty; and Jane Kim, Parent and Board member



Kristen Paulson, Director of Development and husband Andrew Paulson '87

Thank you to our hard working auction committee and to our guests who made the evening a memorable event and a true celebration of our commitment to Christian education and to the mission of DC.

THE AUCTION



With a full range of auction items, from kayaks, to dinners out, spring break trip to Mexico, and the ever popular “teacher treasure” experiences, our bidders won fun items while supporting The Annual Fund at the same time.

The evening gathered over 200 parents, grandparents, alumni, faculty and staff as we celebrated this year’s theme -

Homegrown: Healthy, Sustainable, Growing.

Together, we celebrated God’s faithfulness through the generosity of our community to sustain and support DC

Chris Tabakin '98 was honored as our Alumnus of the Year. In addition to sharing about his work with In His Image International, Chris reflected on the impact his K-12 DC education continues to play in his role in helping to meet the needs of vulnerable people globally.



Chris Tabakin '98, Alumnus of the year



Katie Kling, HS Faculty; Bonnie Marziani, Parent; Brook Pauley, Guidance

Faculty, Staff, Alumni, Alumni families, and friends gathered to enjoy the festivities, eat a delicious dinner and to bid on some outstanding items!



Sophomore Natalie Kim and Freshman Daphne Neal

Guests also enjoyed listening to the talents of numerous students who shared their gifts instrumentally and vocally.

The centerpieces were included in the bidding this year. These creative and beautiful items included wonderful “Homegrown” items donated by members of our community including naturally made soaps, honey, and DC customized sugar cookies.





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NEWTOWN SQUARE, PA 19073

DEVON CAMPUS
905 S. WATERLOO ROAD
DEVON, PA 19333

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