

# MODUS VIVENDI

SUMMER EDITION 2008



## THE CLASS OF 2008

“To characterize a class this big is nearly impossible, the members have too many talents. They’re musicians, at the piano, the drumset, or the microphone; servants who serve their own communities and those across the world; actors, sound techs, and set-builders; athletes, some from their incredible God-given ability and some from their intense work ethic; leaders of every stripe and color; artists with the camera, the brush, or the power tool; and, more often than not, young people of tremendous faith and depth of insight.

The Class of 2008 leaves Bear Creek a more mature, more comprehensive, and more seasoned institution than ever. They also leave a legacy of achievement across the disciplines that has given Bear Creek a powerful public stature with which we can continue to live out the founding mission here on campus and in the lives of our alumni.”

— Blake DeYoung, Associate Director of College Advising



## MESSAGE TO GRADUATES GIVEN AT COMMENCEMENT 2008

Each graduate you see before you has completed a prescribed curriculum, which has placed him or her as a candidate for graduation. The modern word *curriculum* has its roots in, of course, Latin and means the action of running, a course of action, or a race—usually in a chariot. So, when the Apostle Paul admonishes us in the Book of Hebrews to “lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith,” he is alluding to more than a mere physical contest. His image is a metaphor for life. Each graduate before you today reflects that image. Each has persevered through twelve plus years of academic, athletic, artistic, and social curriculum to arrive on stage this afternoon.

As a former English teacher, I used to end each class with the following question: “So what?” This is often the most difficult question for students and for each of us to answer. It is in this simple question, though, that we find the depths of Truth revealed and we begin to see education as more than a practical exercise.

So, graduates, I ask you, “So what?” You have spent the better part of your waking lives to this point in classrooms, and we are about to hand you a piece of paper which will allow you to matriculate from The Bear Creek School into college and life.

So what? You’ve learned how to solve for “x,” you memorized Sonnet 18, you relived the Battle of Hastings, and you learned never to lick the spoon after a chemistry lab. You’ve made friends, won titles, acted in plays, and spent late nights talking on the phone while cramming for tests.

So what? You completed your senior projects, scored well on your APs, sent transcripts around the country, took your last Upper School final, and received awards and accolades. But what does it all mean?

Last night at An Evening of Honors, Michael Hester mentioned a quote by John F. Kennedy which begins to answer the question. It reads, “As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.” Graduates, as your parents, your teachers, and I can attest, living

by words is harder than learning them. Christ told his disciples to live by a simple phrase which has proven to be the most difficult commandment in human history, “Be holy as I am holy.”

So, I am afraid, in the end, the Christian classical education you have received at The Bear Creek School was never intended to be an end in itself, even as this ceremony is not called a finale, but a commencement. It is a means to a greater end. Aristotle believed the purpose of reason was to produce virtue, Plato thought education produced a “well-ordered soul,” and St. Paul challenged the Roman church to “be transformed by the renewing of the mind.” Similarly, John Milton wrote, “The end then of learning is to repair the ruins of our first parents by regaining to know God aright, and out of that knowledge to love Him, to imitate Him, to be like Him, as we may the nearest by possessing our souls of true virtue, which being united to the heavenly grace of faith makes up the highest perfection.”

So the answer to “So what?” is, after all, what you might have expected. The race you have just completed was intended to change not only **what you know**; it was intended to **transform who you are**. The goal of all this learning was to guide you on your journey to becoming the individual God intends and to prepare you to make a contribution in the world, no matter how great or how small, by inclining your desires to love Truth, to create beauty and to demonstrate goodness to a watching world.

As we say farewell to the Class of 2008, we do not say goodbye, but welcome. Welcome to the beginning of a new race, a new course, a new curriculum through which the Lord will teach you an appreciation of the good life – a life well lived by glorifying God and enjoying Him forever.

My sincerest congratulations to you all! Well done!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patrick B. Carruth". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Patrick B. Carruth  
Head of School

## SENIOR REFLECTIONS

*Each year seven seniors are chosen to speak at the Commencement Exercises. The number seven is significant and commemorates the seven graduates of the first graduating class of The Bear Creek School. Following, are excerpts from those seven speeches. The full text of each of these addresses is published on our school website at [www.tbcs.org](http://www.tbcs.org).*



### MARC MUELLER

Although I have been given a fabulous Christian liberal arts education, I feel as though the greatest legacies from high school are the unforgettable memories. From icebreakers to dances, these moments of bonding with my classmates

are poignant reminders of high school which I will remember to the fullest.

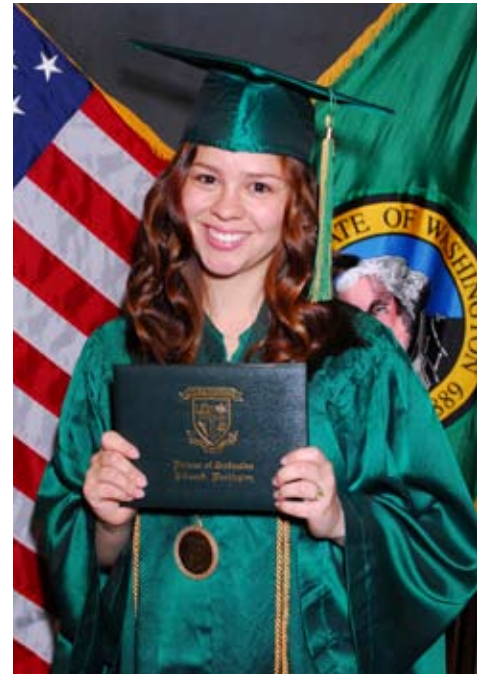
There are even memories from the classroom which I thought were priceless. For example, I will never forget the exuberant personality of Mr. Sorensen as he engaged in his interpretive dances. Because of his deep passion for history, learning was enjoyable. Out of all the memories, I would have to say that the greatest is the remarkable people of the small yet diverse class of 2008. It has been a pleasure knowing each and every one of you, and who you are as wonderfully unique people.

### CAROLYN HEINE

Bear Creek has become my home. I began forming unforgettable friendships and memories. I fell in love with my classes, and the teachers who were able to make me appreciate each and every subject, even Calculus. Last year, my peers in drama became my family—always there when I needed a listening ear, or a shoulder to cry on.

It is difficult to put into words how happy I have been, and how much I have grown in these past four years of high school. My fellow classmates—you have helped me break the shy and quiet person that held me back for so long. I am no longer afraid to speak my mind, or start up a conversation. To my teachers—thank you for inspiring me to learn for the sake of learning, and not just for the hopeful “A” in the class. Thank you for helping me to become the person I am today, standing on the threshold of a new world. I am honored to be graduating today with all of you by my

side. I know that I will always remember high school with happiness, and although I am sad to say goodbye, I know that God is in control. He guides us down His path, and when we stumble and fall, He is always there to help us back up. As we leave today, I ask you to remember this, many times it is not with a billboard sign or a lightning flash that God speaks to us. Sometimes, we just have to sit in tranquility and listen for His still small voice to reveal His good and perfect will, whatever that may be.







## TODD LIEN

Coming to Bear Creek as a nonbeliever made me very nervous about what this private Christian school would do to me. All I hoped was that they would not dump me into the river forcibly—as I had heard that about Christianity, although I did not really know much about it. Surprisingly, I was given the choice to decide what I wanted to do, and I felt really respected by the school. I was invited to church, and was accepted by an amazingly nice and caring community. My classmates helped me, faculty advised me, and everyone cared about me. I have never received any kind act—such as a simple hug—in the culture where I came from, so I was very uncomfortable with giving hugs or being hugged when I first

came to the U.S. With all the help and invitation, I started my search for Truth and salvation. Eventually, I found my salvation last spring with help from friends and the people around me, especially from Evan Dunn. My life was dramatically changed right after I submitted myself to Christ, and God has been testing and building my faith since then.

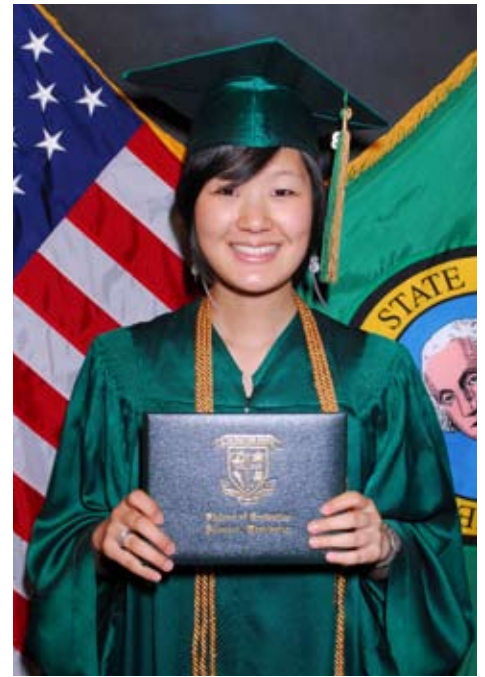
## CINDY KIM

The Bear Creek School, for me as an international student, not only opened my eyes up to the stimulating, new lifestyle in the U.S., but also to the mysterious world of so many opportunities that God has created. What I have observed, learned, and gained through such memories is inexplicable and ineffably priceless.

Through my supportive friends and teachers, I was able to truly understand what it meant to become a genuine servant of God. Praying every Monday in Mr. MacKenney's classroom, praising God every Tuesday through Chapel, reading the Bible in Spiritual Formations class, and sharing my faith in Advisory with my peers all helped me to transform.

Now that I reflect on these four high school years, I see God's plans that were so inconspicuous back then. His love for me has been mirrored by all my teachers whom I would never forget, and by all my friends from whom I have learned something new every day.

'Bittersweet' is the word that comes to my mind as I graduate. Although it is very sad to leave the school where I share endless memories and experiences, I am very much exhilarated to think about the new plans that God has for all the students in our graduating class and for me in the future.



## KYLE DUNN

My eight years at Bear Creek have taught me a great lesson—that a man should not be measured by his mistakes or victories, but by the character he brings to meet them. There comes a time when every philosopher is silenced, every warrior struck, and every teenage guy caught being a teenage guy. What makes the difference is how we respond.

I remember the shouts from coaches when I wasn't working hard enough. I remember the faces of friends when I had wronged them. I even remember the lecture I got in fifth grade when I failed my first Spanish test. So how did I respond?

Face down on the ground, I found my faith. Jesus carried the cross I did not need to bear. He paid for every mistake a young man could muster up, and he does it to this day. God saw that I was drowning. He grabbed me from the water, and is teaching me how to swim.

When all is said and done, I have shared many laughs, met many smiles, and seen many successes at Bear Creek. But I believe the most important thing I have learned is this; in the words of William Cowper, “Redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die.”



### **SAM POMEROY**

The school has brought me through a magnificent journey, with memories that will never leave me. I will not forget the people, the teachers, or administration. I will not forget the events and activities. And I, surely, as long as I live, will not forget the brothers and sisters who have taken the steps of this journey with me.

Yet, this school has not defined me. The culmination of all academia, activities, experiences, and teachers’ influence has not defined me. I have found myself in Christ Jesus, and this school has positioned me to do so. This place has



enabled me and—not only me—my fellow classmates, to pursue the Lord with all our hearts, minds, souls, and strength on an adventure that has been filled with precious memories, laughter, sweat, and tears. This journey has merely been a step in the race—a step of *faith*.

As I part ways and press toward what is ahead, I take joy in our accomplishments. It amazes me still to see what Christ has done through us, and more importantly, what He has done in us. The best is yet to come. Now friends, it is time to take another step of faith out onto the waters of the unknown and of uncertainty, a step of faith by the single word of Christ our Lord, “Come.”

### **KATIE BALL**

This speech, this day, marks the end of my high school career, which in turn, marks the end of my journey with you, my classmates.

I realized that somewhere in this speech I have to say goodbye to you...We have been through so much together. From academic achievements to athletic victories, from choral festivals to Broadway-esque drama productions, we have done it all.

Our teachers have played a significant role in our high school years. It is evident that no teacher is here to just teach and make us smarter, but is here because he or she really loves us and wants to help us grow.

The test scores we have received or the colleges we were admitted to do not define our high school career. What really defines us are our relationships with each other... those moments were priceless. I love you all and am confident we are fully prepared and equipped to begin the next chapter of our lives.



# GRADUATION HONORS

## WASHINGTON STATE HONORS AWARD

Each year, the state of Washington recognizes the top 10% of graduating seniors statewide with the Washington State Honors Award. Thirty-one Bear Creek seniors (60% of the class) received this recognition. Bear Creek's high representation in this honor is a testament to the hard work of our students, the incredible quality of our teachers, and the dedication and support of families to the learning endeavor.

## COMCAST LEADERS AND ACHIEVERS AWARD

The Comcast Leaders and Achievers Award is an honor and financial scholarship given to students who exemplify academic success and engagement in their communities. The highly competitive award is open to all students who choose to pursue it, and Bear Creek is happy to support the application of any student who does so. We had one student approach us this year about supporting his application for this scholarship—not surprisingly to us, he was one of the winners selected by Comcast.

To those students who visit the library or the front desk, it should come as no surprise that Comcast saw **Jesse Wetter** as “involved in his community.”

## NCAA DIVISION I SCHOLARSHIPS

The athletic program at Bear Creek gives students the opportunity to develop character, allows us to share our mission with other schools and the local community, and gives our institution unrivaled media exposure. The entire athletic program has enjoyed a two-year run of state appearances and championships, as well as dozens of league and district level accomplishments, while being stocked full of athletes from the Class of 2008.

Two students are going on to compete at the “major conference” level of NCAA Division I as full scholarship athletes. **Cara Linnenkohl** and **Kimi Pohlman**, both of whom lent their remarkable talents to the Bear Creek athletic program, are moving on to test themselves at a new level of competition. Cara will spend the next four years rowing for the University of Virginia. Kimi will jump across the lake to play softball for the University of Washington.

## NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

Perhaps no single large award program is more recognizable and prestigious than the National Merit Scholarship competition. Certainly, no other award program causes as much stress and consternation among Bear Creek's competitive population. Based on PSAT scores from a test taken in the fall of the junior year, the National Merit Scholarship competition takes the top 3% of test takers and begins a competitive process that ends with a very small number – fewer than 1% nationally – of participants being named as Finalists.

The Class of 2008 continued a tradition at the Bear Creek School – to take well over our “share” of National Merit Awards.

## NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP – COMMENDED

**Jackson Brammer**  
**Timothy Isaac Miller**  
**Joshua Smith**

## NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP – FINALIST

Bear Creek graduated one student this year with the distinction of being named a National Merit Finalist. **James Harrang** has made his mark at Bear Creek for his intellect, his wry humor, and his sandals. He will continue his education, and his swimming career, next year at Washington University in St. Louis.





## THE GRADUATING CLASS OF 2008 AND THE COLLEGES THEY WILL ATTEND

Amela, Alexander	Western Washington University
Aronson, Karlee	Whitworth University
Bader, Morgan	Pepperdine University
Ball, Katherine***	University of San Diego
Bartlett, James***	University of Washington
Bassi, Melissa*	Seattle Pacific University
Beman, Katelynn	Western Washington University
Benson, Garrett	Western Washington University
Brammer, Jackson***	University of Washington
Calcagno, Julian	Seattle Pacific University
Castle, Nathaniel	Gonzaga University
Chase, Kelly	Stephens College
Crowe, Benjamin*	University of Washington
Dunn, Kyle**	University of Washington
Frantz, Chelsea**	Seattle Pacific University
Frenger, Katrin	University of Duesseldorf
Harrang, James***	Washington University of St. Louis
Heine, Carolyn**	Westmont College
Heiser, Kara*	Western Washington University
Hester, Michael*	University of Washington
Hooker, Jennifer*	University of Washington
Jeoung, Jae-Ick (Jake)	Purdue University
Joyner, Jessica	Gap Year
Jung, Kyunghwa (Christy)	University of Illinois
Kautz, Gregory	Arizona State University
Kelley, Kristin**	University of Washington

Kim, Hyo Keun (Gunny)*	University of Washington
Kim, Hyunjin (Cindy)***	New York University
Kim, Min Gi (Mark)*	University of Washington
Kowal, Trevor	Gonzaga University
Lien, Tin-Yu (Todd)***	University of Washington
Linnenkohl, Cara	University of Virginia
Matson, Nathaniel*	University of Washington
Miller, Timothy Isaac***	Wheaton College
Mueller, Marc**	University of Washington
Nozari, Maryam*	University of Washington
Patterson, Alex	Seattle University
Pedersen, Stephanie	University of Montana
Perara, Megan*	University of Washington
Pohlman, Kimberly	University of Washington
Pomeroy, Samuel*	Baylor University
Pryor, Taite	Suffolk University
Ptaszynski, Robert	Gonzaga University
Rehfeld, James	Westmont College
Simova, Asya*	University of Washington
Smith, Joshua***	University of Washington
Strandin, Christopher	University of Washington
Webber, Brett**	University of Washington
Wetter, Jesse**	University of Washington - Bothell
Wierleski, Morgan*	Seattle Pacific University
Worman, Kaile	Azusa Pacific University

\*\*\*Summa Cum Laude (3.9-4.0)

\*\*Magna Cum Laude (3.75-3.89)

\*Cum Laude (3.5-3.749)



# AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE

## WHY GIVE AWARDS?

by James Woollard

Why give awards? Isn't it elitist and undemocratic? Don't we run the risk of simply inflating the egos of the recipients while at the same time making those who don't receive awards feel inferior? Well, the purpose of giving awards is not to create some form of two tier society within school—the haves and the have nots. We give awards for three good reasons: Firstly, the recognition of good work is endorsed in the Scriptures, from the writings of Solomon (Proverbs 14:23), to those of Paul (Ephesians 4:28, I Timothy 5:18 for example), both of whom make the connection between hard work and reward. In other words, there's a Biblical model for why we do what we do.

Secondly, we hope to encourage and motivate good work among all students by demonstrating that such work is not overlooked or taken for granted. At Bear Creek, we hold the bar high and we recognize those who have achieved at the highest level as a way of inspiring all the

students to be the best they can be.

Thirdly, and perhaps most importantly, we hope to draw attention to the high quality of our students' work and character, to the glory of God and to the honor of their parents. In this sense, the award also recognizes the devoted mother and father who have invested time, energy, love and, yes, finances, into the upbringing of their child. When we give awards, we are acknowledging the important role of the parents (and other mentor figures, including teachers, of course) in shaping the lives of the students.

Above all, though, we are honoring God, our Creator. Scripture reminds us that whatever we do, we should do for the glory of God (1 Corinthians 10:31). He has made us and endowed us with talent and I believe He is most pleased and glorified when we take that talent and use it to the fullest. Eric Liddell (Olympic athlete and missionary whose story was told in the movie *Chariots of Fire*) is quoted as saying, "I believe God made me for a purpose - for China. But He also made me fast! And when I run, I feel His pleasure. To give that up would be to hold Him in contempt; to win is to honor Him."

*Mr. Woollard is head of the Middle School at The Bear Creek School.*



Mrs. Whitlock



Mr. Woollard, Jonathan Burge



Lower School Honors Assembly



Elizabeth Fernandez, Luke Cody, Grant Daugherty, Mr. Woollard



# UPPER SCHOOL HONORS

## SHINE AWARD

Awarded to Courtney Kesinger for community service.

The Upper School SHINE Award recognizes a junior who displays the love of Christ through exceptional service to The Bear Creek School and throughout local and global communities. The criteria for the award are the following:

- Sacrificial ways of serving others
- Love of service
- Initiation of service (sought out a need)
- Variety of ways of service

## SPIRIT OF EXCELLENCE AWARD

The Spirit of Excellence Award recognizes two students in each grade who, in the opinion of their teachers, have pursued excellence in their studies. The honor does not automatically go to the student with the highest grades, but it does recognize all-round excellence in the classroom. Specifically, it is awarded to students who have consistently demonstrated faith integration, respect for other students and teachers, responsibility, diligence, and a love for learning.

9th Grade  
Abby Gomulkiewicz  
Amy Hammond

10th Grade  
Jeanine Gorzalski  
Michael Davisson

11th Grade  
Brianna Firminger  
Justin Maurer

12th Grade  
Cindy Kim  
Jackson Brammer

## STUDENT COUNCIL STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARD

Awarded to Katie Ball by the ASB Faculty Advisors

The Upper School Student Council Servant Leadership Award is presented to a student in recognition of consistent and invaluable service to the Bear Creek student body while embodying the qualities of a servant first and for making the conscious decision to lead in order to better serve others.

## TIMOTHY AWARD

Awarded to Todd Lien by the Christian Studies Department

The Timothy Award is presented to a graduating senior who has grown closer to Christ while attending The Bear Creek School, and who has been led by the Spirit to seek out a life of ministry. As the Apostle Paul encouraged Timothy to evangelize with zeal and courage, likewise we encourage our brother in Christ.

## AUGUSTINE AWARD

Awarded to Tajel Mehta by the English Department

The Augustine Award recognizes a sophomore who displays outstanding rhetorical skills for Christ and His Kingdom.

Fearful of the popularity of rhetoric amongst Greeks and Romans, several Church fathers during the fourth century labeled rhetoric a pagan art. In contrast, Augustine adamantly argued against this in *Book IV of On Christian Doctrine* stating, "For since through the art of rhetoric both truth and falsehood are pleaded, who would be so bold as to say that against falsehood, truth as regards to its own defenders ought to stand unarmed." Augustine's beliefs are confirmed throughout the Scriptures and specifically in 1 Peter 3:15a, "But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone

who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have."

It is in this spirit that the Bear Creek faculty recognizes a student who seeks to be armed with a ready defense for the Gospel and the interpretation of the Scriptures. The recipient should demonstrate the ability to integrate a Christian perspective across disciplines and to advocate his or her Christian thinking in a persuasive and appropriate manner. The recipient of the Augustine Award should be both a firm and fiery orator who is a soldier for Christ, and also possess a gentle, calm, discerning spirit of peace.

## ATHLETIC AWARDS

Garrett Benson – Male Athlete of the Year  
Kimi Pohlman – Female Athlete of the Year

Jimmy Rehfeld – Cornerstone Award  
Chelsea Frantz – Cornerstone Award

## HEAD'S LIST

3.5–4.0 GPA

Grade 10	Abtahi, Payum
Grade 10	Baker, Carson
Grade 12	Ball, Katherine
Grade 12	Bartlett, James
Grade 9	Benson, Joanna
Grade 10	Blankenbeckler, Kyle
Grade 9	Booth, Emily
Grade 12	Brammer, Jackson
Grade 10	Brudnicki, Benjamin
Grade 10	Camp, Dillon
Grade 11	Castle, Michael
Grade 10	Cheever, Megan
Grade 9	Chittenden, Thomas
Grade 11	Cho, Hyun Sun
Grade 11	Connell, Paige
Grade 11	Conway, Sydney
Grade 9	Crews, Nichole
Grade 12	Crowe, Benjamin
Grade 10	Davisson, Michael
Grade 11	DuBois, Danielle

*Continued on page 10*

# UPPER SCHOOL HONORS

## HEAD'S LIST *Continued*

Grade 9 DuBois, Dominique  
Grade 12 Dunn, Kyle  
Grade 9 Easley, Madelyn  
Grade 11 Ersek, David  
Grade 10 Felker, Sydney  
Grade 10 Finkelson, Alexander  
Grade 11 Firminger, Brianna  
Grade 9 Firminger, Joshua  
Grade 9 Forrester, Isaac  
Grade 12 Frantz, Chelsea  
Grade 10 Frantz, Henry  
Grade 11 Freatman, John  
Grade 11 Geiger, John  
Grade 9 Geiger, Kira  
Grade 9 Gomulkiewicz, Abigail  
Grade 10 Gorzalski, Jeanine  
Grade 11 Graham, Elizabeth  
Grade 9 Hagan, Andre  
Grade 9 Hammond, Amanda  
Grade 12 Harrang, James  
Grade 12 Heine, Carolyn  
Grade 12 Heiser, Kara  
Grade 12 Hooker, Jennifer  
Grade 11 Hughes, Timothy  
Grade 10 Ihn, Hye Jine  
Grade 11 Ihn, Sung  
Grade 10 Jacobson, Joy  
Grade 9 Jensen, Hayley  
Grade 10 Jung, Yu Na  
Grade 10 Kadeg, Emily  
Grade 12 Kelley, Kristin  
Grade 10 Kelley, Robert  
Grade 9 Kesinger, Cameron  
Grade 11 Kesinger, Courtney  
Grade 10 Kim, Hui Yong  
Grade 12 Kim, Hyo Keun  
Grade 12 Kim, Hyunjin  
Grade 9 Leuenberger, Erica  
Grade 12 Lien, Tin-Yu  
Grade 10 Lin, Cheng-Hsuan  
Grade 9 Lobet, Hanna  
Grade 10 Martucci, Angela

Grade 12 Matson, Nathaniel  
Grade 10 Mehta, Tajel  
Grade 10 Meyer, James  
Grade 11 Miller, Alexis  
Grade 11 Miller, Molly  
Grade 12 Miller, Timothy  
Grade 12 Mueller, Marc  
Grade 12 Nozari, Maryam  
Grade 11 Oh, Seung Min  
Grade 11 Pattillo, Christopher  
Grade 12 Perara, Megan  
Grade 10 Pereira, Sandra  
Grade 9 Peterson, Haley  
Grade 9 Peterson, Lucas  
Grade 9 Pittman, Ashley  
Grade 9 Pomeroy, Catherine  
Grade 9 Postings, Thomas  
Grade 9 Price, Jennifer  
Grade 9 Ricard, Timothy  
Grade 11 Richardson, Erik  
Grade 10 Sackman, Collette  
Grade 11 Sanger, Elisha  
Grade 9 Saw, Nigel  
Grade 9 Schutt, Emily  
Grade 9 Seiler, Julia  
Grade 10 Shands, Clara  
Grade 12 Simova, Asya  
Grade 9 Simpson, Evan  
Grade 10 Smith, Joel  
Grade 12 Smith, Joshua  
Grade 11 Song, Hye Yoon  
Grade 9 Stansell, William  
Grade 9 Strandin, Ryan  
Grade 11 Stump, Madison  
Grade 9 Tillinghast, Adelaide  
Grade 11 van der Stroom, Anton-Pieter  
Grade 11 Vander Weide, Brittanie  
Grade 12 Webber, Brett  
Grade 12 Wetter, Jesse  
Grade 12 Wierleski, Morgan  
Grade 10 Worman, Annie

## DEAN'S LIST

3.0–3.49 GPA

Grade 12 Amela, Alex  
Grade 12 Aronson, Karlee  
Grade 12 Bader, Morgan  
Grade 10 Baker, Chelsea

Grade 9 Bangs, Natalie  
Grade 12 Bassi, Melissa  
Grade 9 Binford, Catherine  
Grade 9 Blanchard, Jennifer  
Grade 12 Castle, Nathaniel  
Grade 9 Cheever, Mark  
Grade 9 Dixon, Dakota  
Grade 10 Erickson, Joshua  
Grade 9 Forbes, Jeffery  
Grade 11 Forbes, Lauren  
Grade 9 Gaherity, Jacqueline  
Grade 10 Hamilton, Jacob  
Grade 11 Hamilton, Rebekah  
Grade 12 Hester, Michael  
Grade 9 Hill, Michael  
Grade 9 Holtzman, Anna  
Grade 12 Jeoung, Jae-ick  
Grade 12 Joyner, Jessica  
Grade 12 Kautz, Gregory  
Grade 12 Kim, Min Gi  
Grade 10 Linnenkohl, Bethany  
Grade 12 Linnenkohl, Cara  
Grade 10 Matson, Brian  
Grade 11 Maurer, Justin  
Grade 11 McCahill, William  
Grade 11 McLaughlin, Matthew  
Grade 10 Meissner, Ashley  
Grade 9 Morantes, Jessica  
Grade 9 Morgan, Conner  
Grade 9 Mueller, Christianna  
Grade 12 Patterson, Alex  
Grade 12 Pedersen, Stephanie  
Grade 9 Pereira, Deborah  
Grade 12 Pohlman, Kimberly  
Grade 12 Pomeroy, Samuel  
Grade 12 Pryor, Taite  
Grade 11 Ramsay, Lois  
Grade 12 Rehfeld, James  
Grade 9 Roberts, Samuel  
Grade 10 Ross, Robert  
Grade 12 Strandin, Christopher  
Grade 10 Wadhvani-Napp, Georgina  
Grade 11 Wallis, Courtney  
Grade 11 Watson, Ryley  
Grade 9 Webber, Lauren  
Grade 10 Wetter, Anna  
Grade 10 Witt, Zachary  
Grade 11 Wolfram, Kathryn



**Mr. Miller, Courtney Kesinger**



**Abby Gomulkiewicz, Amy Hammond**



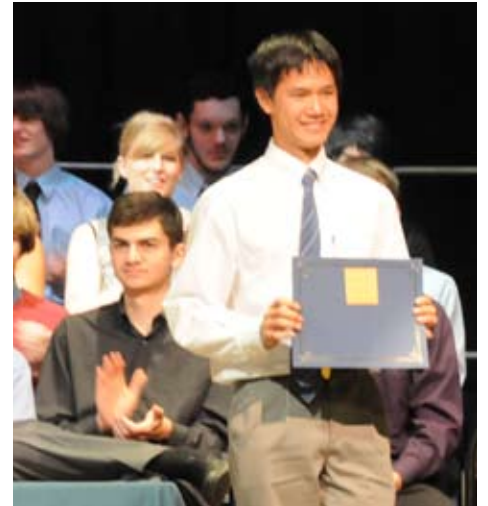
**Jeanine Gorzalski, Michael Davisson**



**Brianna Firminger, Justin Maurer**



**Jackson Brammer, Cindy Kim**



**Todd Lien**



**Ms. Acheson, Tajel Mehta**



**Garrett Benson, Kimi Pohlman, Mr. Pohlman**



# MIDDLE SCHOOL HONORS

## SPIRIT OF EXCELLENCE AWARD

The Middle School Spirit of Excellence Award recognizes those students who, in the opinion of their teachers, have pursued excellence in their studies. The honor does not automatically go to the student with the highest grades, but it does recognize all-round excellence in the classroom. Specifically, it is awarded to students who have consistently demonstrated faith integration, respect for other students and teachers, responsibility, diligence, and a love for learning.

7th grade girls: Karin Diamond, Katie Gomulkiewicz, and Sarah Witt

7th grade boys: Riley Loudenback, Andrew Benson, and Jake Casale

8th grade girls: Christina Smith, Monique Meissner, and Joy Twentyman

8th grade boys: Garrett Benson, Jacob Imam, and Jonathan Burge

## CHRIST-LIKENESS AWARD

The Christ-likeness Award is given to a boy and a girl in each grade, recognized by their peers as being students who consistently display Christ-like character qualities.

This honor is not the “perfect student” award. The Bible is quite clear that nobody is perfect, that we have all fallen short of the glory of God and it is only through Jesus that we can become righteous in God’s eyes. We are, nevertheless, called to be “imitators of God” (Eph. 5:1), to “follow in Christ’s footsteps” (1 Pet. 2:21) and “to live lives that are pleasing to Him in every way” (Colossians 1:10). The students who

receive this award have been recognized by their peers as doing just that.

But, in one sense, the most Christ-like quality of these honorees is simply their humble recognition of their need for God and their desire to let Him have His way in their lives. These students have chosen to truly live out this verse: “Let your light [the Light of God in you] shine, so that others may see your good deeds and praise your Father in Heaven.” We all know that actions speak louder than words and, by their actions, these students point to God and draw others to Him. They are doing what St. Francis of Assisi encouraged us all to do: “Preach the Gospel; occasionally use words.” This award is given in hopes that it will inspire all Middle School students to “let our light shine.”

7th grade girl: Katie Gomulkiewicz

7th grade boy: Riley Loudenback

8th grade girl: Christina Smith

8th grade boy: Aaron DiGenova



Riley Loudenback, Katie Gomulkiewicz, Aaron DiGenova, Christina Smith

## MATH TEAM AWARDS

Middle School students participated in math competitions both inside and outside of the classroom. Certificates were awarded to the following 7<sup>th</sup> grade students for participating on a team that competed in math contests in our region: Andrew

Benson, Kaley French, Joshua Cheung, Yoon Lee, Sarah Witt, and Katie Cho. A math team medal was awarded to the top ranked individual in 7<sup>th</sup> and in 8<sup>th</sup> grade based on his individual results on math tests. The eighth grade recipient was Aaron DiGenova, and the seventh grade recipients were Andrew Benson and Yoon Lee.

## JOURNALISM AWARD

Awarded to Olivia Ochoa

## EXCELLENCE IN ART

Awarded to Marie-Louise DippenaarPE

## STUDENTS OF THE YEAR

This honor is awarded by the MS PE Department to students who have demonstrated exemplary cardiovascular endurance, flexibility, and strength; a positive attitude through all units; a desire to assist others; patience and encouragement toward others; as well as being on-time, prepared, and consistent in their effort from day to day.

7th grade girl: Lauren Adkins

7th grade boy: Travis Ulvestad

8th grade girl: Morgan Rial

8th grade boy: Lucas Fernandez



Coach Moe, Lucas Fernandez

## BAND DIRECTOR'S AWARD

Awarded to Joy Twentyman and Aaron DiGenova

The Director's Award was established to recognize two 8th grade students each year who best exemplify the following traits: commitment to having music learned in a timely fashion, accepting accountability and holding others accountable to the ensemble, good behavior during rehearsals, and leadership.



Aaron DiGenova, Mr. Higbee

## CHOIR STUDENTS OF THE YEAR

Awarded to Bethan Meyer and Alex Boettcher

The Choir Student of the Year is awarded to two students who exemplify the qualities of dedication, passion, leadership, creativity, teamwork, and the ability to understand how to grow in the talents that God has given.



Bethan Meyer, Mrs. Loudenback

## HEAD'S LIST

3.5–4.0 GPA

Grade 8 Abbott, Shannon  
Grade 8 Abtahi, Nima  
Grade 8 Alleva, Joseph  
Grade 8 Bachesta, Malia  
Grade 8 Baker, Dillon  
Grade 7 Benson, Andrew  
Grade 8 Benson, Garrett  
Grade 8 Broaddus, Anna  
Grade 7 Burge, Jeffrey  
Grade 8 Burge, Jonathan  
Grade 7 Button, Joseph  
Grade 7 Cadigan, Morgan  
Grade 7 Casale, Jacob  
Grade 7 Cho, HyunYoung  
Grade 8 Cody, Luke  
Grade 7 Conley, Kyle  
Grade 8 Daugherty, Grant  
Grade 7 Diamond, Karin  
Grade 8 DiGenova, Aaron  
Grade 8 Dixon, Blake  
Grade 8 Domas, Erik  
Grade 8 Engelstone, Kendall  
Grade 8 Fernandez, Elizabeth  
Grade 8 Fernandez, Lucas  
Grade 7 Finkelson, Christopher  
Grade 7 French, Kaley  
Grade 7 Gomulkiewicz, Katherine  
Grade 7 Gorzalski, Jimmy  
Grade 7 Hasenpflug, Kyla  
Grade 7 Higashiyama, Miya  
Grade 8 Imam, Jacob  
Grade 8 Isbell, Danielle  
Grade 8 Jones, Gweneth  
Grade 8 Jones, Laurel  
Grade 7 Kern, Dylan  
Grade 7 Kwon, Hae  
Grade 8 Kwon, Kooha  
Grade 8 Larson, Abigail  
Grade 7 Lee, Yoon  
Grade 7 Lobet, Madison  
Grade 7 Loudenback, Riley  
Grade 8 Magee, Madelyn  
Grade 7 Malaska, Colin  
Grade 8 Matson, Brandon  
Grade 7 Matthews, Katherine  
Grade 8 Meissner, Monique  
Grade 8 Meyer, Bethan

Grade 8 Ochoa, Olivia  
Grade 8 Peterson, Nicole  
Grade 8 Petesch, Morgan  
Grade 7 Postings, Hannah  
Grade 8 Rial, Morgan  
Grade 8 Richardson, Luke  
Grade 7 Richardson, Sarah  
Grade 8 Smith, Christina  
Grade 7 Sprick, Kiersten  
Grade 8 Springfield, Jake  
Grade 7 Standish, Kristin  
Grade 8 Stump, Reeves  
Grade 8 Twentyman, Joy  
Grade 8 Uhrich, Lauren  
Grade 7 Witt, Sarah  
Grade 8 Wyman, Jake

## DEAN'S LIST

3.0–3.49 GPA

Grade 7 Adkins, Lauren  
Grade 7 Brown, Michele  
Grade 8 Coleman, Halle  
Grade 8 Dippenaar, Marie-Louise  
Grade 8 Eisenmann, Matthew  
Grade 8 Elliott, Alexis  
Grade 8 Emery, Blake  
Grade 8 Ersek, Elisabeth  
Grade 8 Evans, Shannon  
Grade 7 Forrester, Hannah  
Grade 7 Hill, Evan  
Grade 7 Hill, Sarah  
Grade 7 Joslin, Reed  
Grade 7 Kepple, Jeffrey  
Grade 8 Knott, Taylor  
Grade 7 Nelson, Chandler  
Grade 7 Niikkonen, Andrei  
Grade 7 Pearson, William  
Grade 7 Ptaszynski, Caroline  
Grade 7 Reams, Mollie  
Grade 7 Rongve, Gabriel  
Grade 7 Stansell, Samuel  
Grade 7 Stenerson, Ian  
Grade 7 Taft, Ashley  
Grade 7 Tenzler, Joshua  
Grade 7 Ulvestad, Travis  
Grade 8 Van Baak, Nicholas  
Grade 7 White, Kimberley  
Grade 8 Whiteman, Katherine  
Grade 7 Wilson, Joseph

# LOWER SCHOOL HONORS

## ACCELERATED READER

At the close of each academic year, The Bear Creek School Libraries acknowledge Lower School students for their participation in the Accelerated Reader (AR) program during the school year. AR points are awarded to students after they have taken a test that validates their understanding of the content of the book they have read. Students in Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grades receive a certificate for earning at least 10 AR points. Students in 3rd and 4th grades receive a certificate for earning at least 25 points, and students in 5th and 6th grades receive a certificate for earning at least 50 AR points. Each year, we mention an amazing AR statistic...the total number of words read by our Lower School K-6 students. This year's total is 243,654,619!

All students who reach 300 points or more, receive the honor of belonging to the 300, 400, or 500+ Point Club. Each student in these clubs receives a book donated in their name to The Bear Creek School Libraries. All students who reach the 500+ Point Club level, also have their name engraved on our AR 500+ Club Perpetual Plaque. This plaque is on alternate display in the Valley Campus Library and the Ida Lairson Library throughout the school year.

Each year, one graduating 6th grade student is awarded a special "Lamp of Knowledge" award. It is given to the 6th grader who earned the greatest number of cumulative AR points during his or her years at Bear Creek. This year's award went to Megan McRae, who earned 1,873.2 points in her years at Bear Creek.

## SUPER SLEUTH

Super Sleuth is a game played in the library which utilizes research skills. It enables students to grow in their ability to find information, analyze it, and discover the answer to each week's clues. The game is played for 34 weeks and requires the commitment to play before and after school and during recess.



Super Sleuth champion, Redmond Campus: Benjamin Lee

## HONOR ROLLS

### 5th Grade All A Honor Roll

McKenna Boit  
Ryan Caraway  
Rebecca Carlson  
Audrey Colanero  
Grace DeGraaf  
Colin Diamond  
Jesse Domingo



Super Sleuth champion, Valley Campus: Kyle Grambihler



500+ Point Club, Redmond Campus: Whitney Hom, Kathryn Anderson, Mike Lau, George Chirapurath, Ethan Kusters, Daniel Paramo, Christopher Lee



Michael Doneskey  
 Blake Hill  
 Annika Hoiem  
 Whitney Hom  
 Emily Huston  
 Triston Hyon  
 Benjamin Lee  
 Belle Nelson  
 Jessica Sanford  
 Julia Scambray  
 Hunter Watkins  
 Megan Wurden  
 Drew Yutrzenka

**6th Grade All A Honor Roll**

Erin Alleva  
 Jacob Benson  
 Nisha Behrman  
 Hannah Beighle  
 Colin Boit  
 Mary Brady  
 Caroline Bridgwater  
 David Broaddus  
 Benjamin Button  
 Alexa Calcagno  
 Katie Colanero  
 Brittany DiGenova

Jaco Dippenaar  
 Alex Eppenauer  
 Carsen Harkins  
 Jacqueline Hom  
 Ben Kelleran  
 Naomi Lee  
 Hayden McCraw  
 Megan McRae  
 Sajan Nauriyal  
 Angie Peng  
 Cody Sheffels  
 Elizabeth Smith  
 Anthony Tzen  
 Tim Van Baak  
 Maddy Wilson

**5th Grade A/B Honor Roll**

Sam Beaver  
 Josh Behm  
 Alex Cody  
 Kenny Dyer  
 Ashley Emery  
 Wendy Hsia  
 Whitney Isbell  
 Jessie Kirker  
 Gracie Matthews  
 Darrlyn McDonough

Christine Nye  
 Andrew Padilla  
 Andrew Rial  
 Anna Schutt  
 Ian Tompkins  
 Jayna Wang  
 Sarah Whiteman  
 Chandler Woodruff

**6th Grade A/B Honor Roll**

Caleb Alleva  
 Bridget Daugherty  
 Alex Davisson  
 Abigail DeGraaf  
 Blake Denniston  
 Marquesa Dixon  
 Catherine Fernandez  
 Michael Galbato  
 Justina Goldbeck  
 Marc Kaizi-Lutu  
 Hailey Kuykendall  
 Robert Colin Feight  
 Stan Leszynski  
 Zoe Ludwig  
 Gavyn MacLean  
 Madelaine Stearn  
 Grant Vachon



500+ Point Club, Valley Campus: Kyle Grambihler, Amali Fernando, Adesuwa Agbonile, Angie Peng



Lower School Librarian, Mrs. Mueller, congratulates Megan McRae for earning the Lamp of Knowledge.

## LOOKING AHEAD

### AUGUST

- 27 Middle School and Upper School  
New Family Dinner and Welcome
- 28 Valley Campus Lower School Ice Cream Social
- 28 Redmond Campus Lower School Ice Cream Social
- 30 International Student Orientation

### SEPTEMBER

- 2 First Day of School – Parent Assembly
- 13 All School Sports Kick-off
- 16 Middle School Curriculum Night
- 18 Redmond Lower School Curriculum Night
- 23 Upper School Curriculum Night
- 25 Valley Lower School Curriculum Night

### OCTOBER

- 21 State of the School

Graduation photos by Michael Lynch Photography. Thank you to Cindy McCahill, Sini Fernandez, and Lori Lee for other photos used in this issue.

*The mission of The Bear Creek School is to provide a high-quality, Christian liberal arts education in a nurturing environment that will enable each student to become the individual God intends.*

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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*Modus Vivendi* is a publication for The Bear Creek School community, past and present. Article suggestions should be sent to [modusvivendi@tbcs.org](mailto:modusvivendi@tbcs.org).