

KAY R. PACE & M. D. ROBERTS SCHOOL OF THE ARTS



JANUARY 2025

POINTS OF PRIDE



WELCOME

Dear families and community,

We are pleased to present our midyear annual report for the 2024-2025 school year. Our ongoing theme remains “Elevating Greatness” as we strive to shape our students’ futures by providing a rigorous and holistic curriculum that integrates the arts to create pathways of success for all. Pace and Roberts scholars’ possess exceptional talent, intelligence, artistic flair, courage, passion, and resilience.

Our scholars have consistently demonstrated exceptional academic achievement and exhibited growth in various subject areas. We remain steadfast in our commitment to providing a world-class education by offering superior instruction, immersive real-world experiences, and seamless integration of the arts into the classroom. The fine arts team successfully produced fall and winter showcases, performed at various community venues, and provided numerous opportunities for scholars to engage with artistic professionals in the field.

It is an honor to lead such an exceptional group of educators and brilliant scholars as we serve our community. I eagerly anticipate sharing some of our remarkable accomplishments and progress with you. I extend my sincere gratitude for your unwavering support.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kay R. Pace", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Proud Principal
Kay R. Pace & M. D. Roberts School of the Arts

MISSION & VISION

The mission of Kay R. Pace School of the Arts is to provide a foundation of knowledge, for a successful lifetime of learning, through the integration of the arts.

The vision of Kay R. Pace School of the Arts is to be a learning community where students achieve high academic standards, develop good citizenship qualities and enhance their artistic expression.

The vision of M.D. Roberts School of the Arts is to be a distinguished school of excellence through the integration of the arts in which all students are college and career ready and prepared to compete in a global society.

ENROLLMENT

1,400 Students

175 Faculty/Staff Members

PACE PERFORMING GROUPS

Pace Performers

Pace Percussives

Musical Theatre Competition Team

Dance Team Company

ROBERTS PERFORMING GROUPS

Voices of Excellence

Voices of Caliber

Voices of Distinction

Voices of Eminence

Men of Valor

Jazz Band

Symphonic Band

Concert Band

Orchestra

Astral Aires Dance Company

ELEVATE GREATNESS



DANCE

Fall Showcase | "Kaleidoscope"



National Alliance of Black School Educators National Conference



Holiday School Assembly Showcase



MAJORS

PACE

ADA A AA AA A AA

ROBERTS

AA AA AA AA A AA AA
AA A AA A A

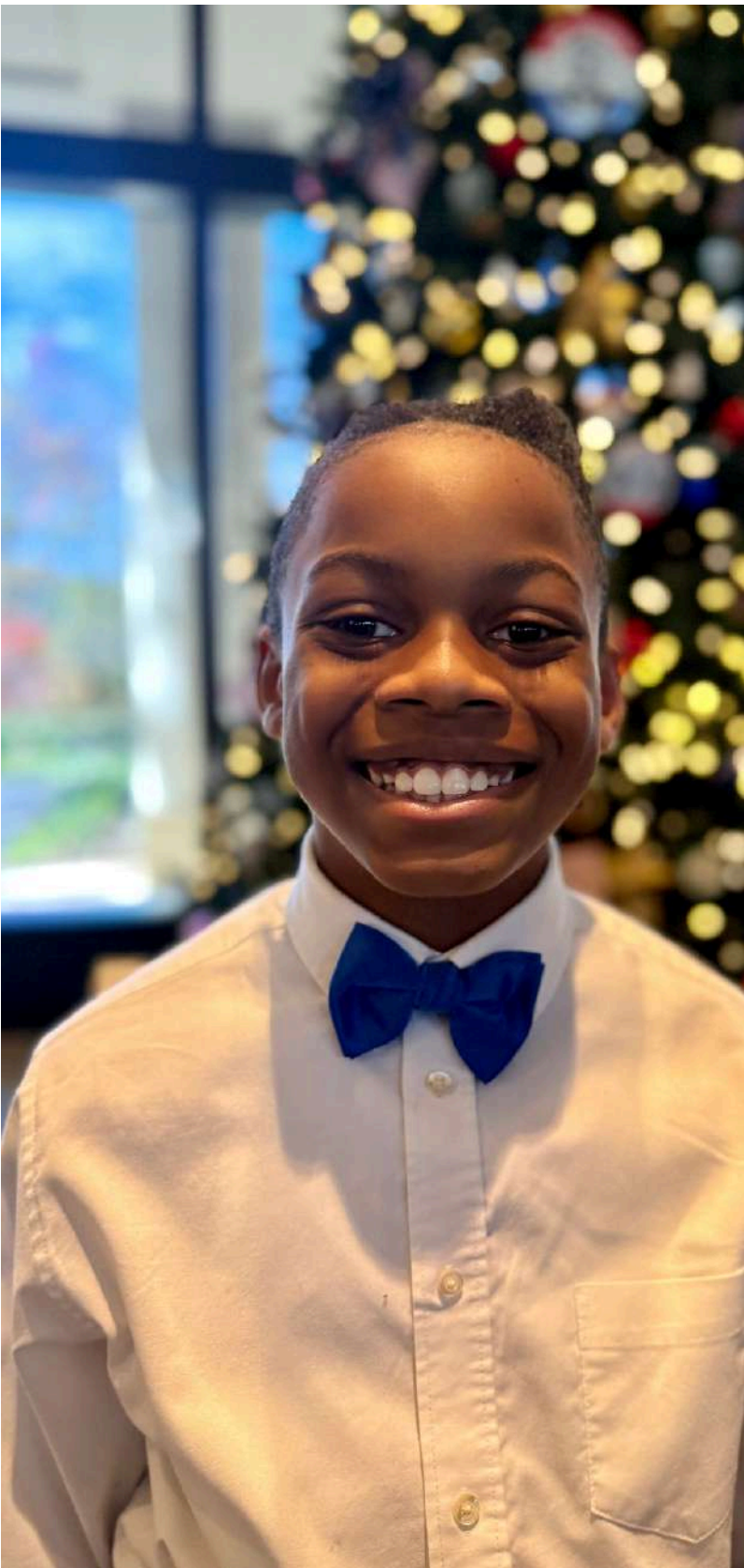
CLUBS & SPORTS PACE

Art
Basketball
Elementary Beta Club
Soccer
Cheer
Chess
Creative Writing
Flag Football
Student Ambassadors
Tap Dance
Urban Arts
WKRP News Team

ROBERTS

Basketball
Cheer
Chess
Flag Football
Football
Jr. Beta
Ladies of Purpose
Math Competition Team
RAMS TV
Regal Dolls Dance Line
Student Ambassadors
Soccer
STEM
Step Team
Swimming
Track
Volleyball

ELEVATE GREATNESS



VISUAL ARTS, VOCAL, & THEATER

Fall Showcase





NWEA MAP ASSESSMENT DATA

During the fall, winter, and spring semesters, students are administered the NWEA MAP assessment. This data from this adaptive test is of paramount importance in guiding teachers' instructional strategies and bridging the achievement gap among students. Educators will utilize the scores to identify areas of learning that their class should prioritize, as well as monitor the progress of individual students.

Pace Overall Winter 2024

Reading	75%
Math	68%
Language Usage	72%
Science	66%

Top 3

Winter 2024 Reading

5th:	88%
K:	83%
3rd:	70%

Top 3

Winter 2024 Math

K:	92%
1st:	79%
2nd:	72%

Comparing Growth

Reading

Winter 2024	75%	+11
Winter 2023	64%	

Science

Winter 2024	66%	+9
Winter 2023	57%	

Language Usage

Winter 2024	72%	+7
Winter 2023	65%	

Math

Winter 2024	68%	+9
Winter 2023	59%	

Roberts Overall Winter 2024

Reading	64%
Math	50%
Language Usage	67%
Science	66%

Comparing Growth

Reading

Winter 2024	64%	+9
Winter 2023	55%	

Science

Winter 2024	66%	+10
Winter 2023	56%	

Language Usage

Winter 2024	67%	+7
Winter 2023	60%	

Math

Winter 2024	50%	+8
Winter 2023	42%	

KAY PACE WINTER 2023 VS. WINTER 2024 MIDYEAR MAP

Math

- Kindergarten math achievement improved from the 61st to the 88th percentile. In addition, math growth percentile improved from the 41st to the 87th percentile.
- First grade math achievement improved from 59th to 66th percentile.
- Second Grade math achievement improved from the 56th to the 59th percentile.
- Third Grade math achievement improved from the 41st to the 49th percentile.
- Fifth Grade math achievement percentile improved from the 29th to the 54th percentile. In addition, math growth improved from the 26th to the 48th percentile.

Reading

- Second Grade reading achievement improved from the 52nd to the 60th percentile.
- Third Grade reading achievement improved from the 53rd to the 66th percentile. In addition, reading growth improved from the 37th to the 53rd percentile.
- Fifth Grade reading achievement improved from 47th to the 67th percentile.

Language Usage

- Second Grade language usage growth improved from 58th to the 68th percentile.
- Third Grade language usage growth improved from 25th to the 45th percentile.
- Fifth Grade language usage achievement improved from 46th to the 62nd percentile. In addition, language usage growth improved from 22nd to the 43rd percentile.

Science

- Third Grade science achievement improved from 49th to the 56th percentile.
- Fourth Grade science growth improved from 34th to the 46th percentile.
- Fifth Grade science achievement improved from 41st to the 62nd percentile. In addition, science growth improved from 24th to the 47th percentile.

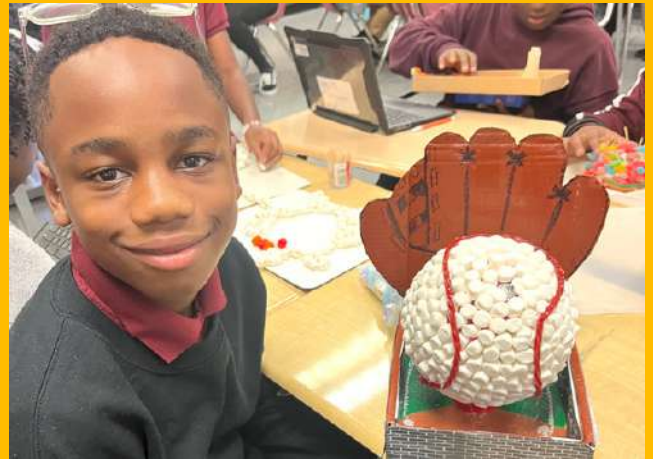
Georgia State Superintendent Richard Woods recognized M. D. Roberts School of the Arts for its exceptional growth and proficiency in mathematics, designating it as a 2023-2024 Math Leader.



ACADEMICS

MATH HIGHLIGHT | MS. DAVETTA LASTER

Ms. Laster coordinated for all sixth-grade scholars to carefully craft their dream buildings and structures using candy. These brilliant students went all out, meticulously calculating the exact ratios and proportions needed to bring their designs to life. They even filled out detailed laboratory reports, sharing all the intricate details of their creations. Well done, scholars!



STUDENT AMBASSADORS

COMMUNITY SERVICE

The student ambassadors of Kay R. Pace & M. D. Roberts are dedicated to working collaboratively to give back to their local community. Ambassadors believe in the transformative power of uplifting families, being kind, and compassionate. Working together, the 125 ambassadors in grades 1st-8th grade, made 650+ sandwiches and donated the food to local shelters such as Solomon's Temple Foundation Calvary Refuge Center. We are immensely grateful for the support provided by our ambassador families to make this project a reality. Together, we are building strong kids who are empowered to lead and become global compassionate scholars!



CITY OF JONESBORO HOLIDAY FOOD GIVEAWAY



ACADEMICS

Amira Minutes

Congratulations to our top 3 grade levels

Third Grade | 12,151

Kindergarten | 10,281

Fourth Grade | 9,783

READ-A-THON | MS. ALISA MOORE

Scholars from the Kay R. Pace School of the Arts participated in the annual Read-A-Thon, an initiative aimed at cultivating a passion for reading and fostering intellectual growth. We are pleased to announce that the cumulative reading time and logging recorded is **87,271 minutes**. We are delighted to announce that Ms. Hayes (2nd grade) is our top class. They have demonstrated remarkable academic achievement and accumulated an impressive 9,946 minutes of reading. Congratulations scholars!

We are delighted to celebrate the achievements of our two top students, Raymond McFarquh and Gabriel Amayo. Raymond will be our Principal of the Day, and Gabriel will be our Assistant Principal of the Day. Your continued dedication and hard work are truly commendable. We extend our best wishes for your continued success in your academic endeavors. Keep up the amazing work, scholars!



RAYMOND MCFARQUH
4TH GRADE



GABRIELA MAYO
2ND GRADE

JUNIOR BETA CLUB

The M. D. Roberts School of the Arts Junior Beta Club participated in the 86th Annual Junior Beta Convention in Savannah, Georgia, where they competed in both individual and team competitions against other clubs across Georgia. National Beta, the largest educational youth organization in America, upholds four core pillars: Academic Achievement; Character; Leadership; and Service. Through these opportunities and experiences, National Beta aims to impact its members, their schools, and communities globally. Special kudos to Ms. Toya Spraggins and Dr. Yolanda Brown for leading the group.

The M. D. Roberts Beta team secured the following accolades:

Performing Arts Junior Small Group Winner

-Janice Bryant, D'Aja Bulger, Aaliyah Rumley, Journey Johnson, Tori Neloms

Premier Performers Winners

-De'Asyia O'Hara (solo) and Janice Bryant (dance)

Musicology | 2nd Place

-Megan Henley, Sydney Alston, Matthew Hall, Braden Gailey

Songfest Junior Winner | 5th Place

-Skylah Stokes, Brianna Howard, Kyndra Howard, Ja'Nya Long, Liyah Hall, Aliyah Ahmad, Megan Henley, Sydney Alston, Autumn Miller, Matthew Hall, Aliyah Miller, Kimora Dumas, Mark Knowles, Kennedy Hills, JoyceLynn Fowler, Charlise Robinson, Nyla Barnes, Asha Hinton, Taylor Clanton, De'Asyia O'Hara, Jayli Taylor

Speech Junior Winner

-De'Asyia O'Hara



ACADEMICS

SCIENCE FAIR WINNERS

Congratulations to the following sixth and seventh-grade scholars who have been selected to advance to the county-level Science Fair, where they will represent M. D. Roberts School of the Arts.

6th Grade

1. Reginald Scott
2. Zyion Miles
3. Justin Woods
4. Jewels Reid, Demario Smith & Anjou Smith-Kimbell
5. Skylar Bell & Brielle Kimbrough
6. Monique Mays
7. Lawrence Benton & Curtis Whisby
8. Ayden Whitaker
9. Carson Kemp & Tahj Anderson-Gordon
10. Amya Daniel
11. Austin Hall & Harmony Brady
12. Karlie Evans & Desaree Gay
13. Emani McEnchin
14. Jakayla Woods, Peyton Topper & Chloe Allen
15. Tori Neloms, Azaria Matthews, & Kyndall Gibson
16. Torryn Holmes

7th Grade

1. Gabriel Davis & Maliyah Jefferson
2. Kyndra Howard, Brandon Pittman Jr. & Liyah Hall
3. Kierra Teran
4. Jasmine Fuller



SPECIAL OLYMPICS EVENT

Congratulations to Mr. Wade's class on securing second place in the Special Olympics Cornhole event. Your exceptional efforts and dedication have been instrumental in this achievement. We extend our sincere gratitude to Mr. Wade, paraprofessionals Ms. Bakrin and Ms. Leverett, for their unwavering support and invaluable contributions to the event's preparation.



REGAL DOLLS

We are pleased to announce that our Regal Dolls proudly participated in the National Middle School Dance Competition, hosted by Columbia Middle School. The competition featured four distinct categories: parade, field show, creative, and stands. The Forest Park Middle School Pantherettes won 1st place in the stands category, while the Regal Dolls achieved remarkable success, securing first place in the parade, field show, creative, and coming in second in the stands category. In addition, Regal Dolls were crowned Grand Champions for the second year in a row. Thank you Ms. Shaquila Boyd & Mrs. Lakevia Fobb!



PARENT ENGAGEMENT

We are pleased to present a selection of parent engagement activities that transpired during the first semester, attracting over 1,000 families. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our families for their presence at these significant events. Some of the highlights below are from:

Monthly Principal Chat & Chew; Grandparents Breakfast; King and Queen Tea Party; Dads of Elevation; Financial Literacy Workshop; Fall Festival. Your support is invaluable as we collectively strive to Build a Better Tomorrow, Today!



ATHLETICS



2024-2025 Volleyball District Champions



SPELLING BEE



CASH HAYNES (CHAMPION) & MATEO PLEITEZ (RUNNER UP)



LILIANA CORTEZ (CHAMPION) & MEGAN HENLEY (RUNNER UP)

SPELLING BUZZ WINNERS



**REIGN GOODSON
2ND GRADE**



**TRIUMPH OTUGARE
1ST GRADE**



**ANTOINE SMITH
KINDERGARTEN**

ALUMNI HOMECOMING '24

Our alumni returned to campus to celebrate with us during the holiday season. The 2024 Alumni Homecoming festivities commenced with the concluding games of the 2024 season, during which our cheerleaders and Regal Dolls performed during halftime. This exceptional performance reunited alumni from the past twelve years.

We were delighted to celebrate Jill Toler, who has proudly served as an educator at M. D. Roberts for the past 25 years. We also honored Gloria Adams, who served as principal when M. D. Roberts opened in 1999. The evening culminated in a resounding triumph for the boys' team against Elite Scholars Academy.

The following day, alumni gathered with us for the annual holiday program, which concluded with a spirited finale featuring the rendition of "The Twelve Days of Christmas" by 900 students, parents, and community members. Alumni scholars subsequently engaged in an enjoyable art activity in the visual arts studio, toured the building, and participated in a spirited game of basketball against staff members. The day culminated in a family feast held in the newly renovated black box theater, where alumni were joined by 8th grade ambassadors.

We asked alumni to share their favorite memory:

- *Building friendships and long lasting memories.*
- *My fondest moment was making friendships and building relationships with different people while having fun!*
- *Dancing at the basketball games*
- *My fondest moment was being in the symphonic band*
- *My fondest moment at M.D was my 8th grade dance recitals and one of the basketball games*
- *The entire 2020 basketball season*
- *I loved M. D. Roberts pep rallies*
- *I loved chorus*
- *I loved attending the National Beta Convention*
- *My fondest moment of M.D Roberts was acting in plays and dancing at dance shows.*

We extend our sincere gratitude for the return of our alumni, as we reminisce about past events and forge new memories that will endure for a lifetime.



ACADEMICS



SOCIAL STUDIES HIGHLIGHT | MS. SHAQUILA BOYD

Our seventh-grade students embarked on an in-depth exploration of the historical context of Apartheid in South Africa. Through extensive research, they investigated the efficacy of Nelson Mandela and F.W. De Klerk in their efforts to dismantle Apartheid and comprehended the subsequent consequences of this transformative movement.

Subsequently, students engaged in a simulated trial, wherein they assumed the roles of Nelson Mandela and F.W. De Klerk and presented arguments regarding their respective roles and responsibilities in the culmination of Apartheid's demise. The trial served as a comprehensive evaluation of their actions, decisions, and contributions to this pivotal historical juncture.

PACE PERFORMERS HOLIDAY TOUR

The award-winning Pace Performers ensemble, under the direction of Erin Oxford & assisted by Molly Knowles, has garnered national acclaim for its transformative performances that ignite a passion for singing. The ensemble's holiday tour included appearances at the following locations: CCPS Board Meeting; Pace Festival of the Arts; Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport Tree Lighting Ceremony; Jimmy Carter Presidential Library; Atlanta Hawks Game; Chick-fil-A Headquarters; Governor's Mansion.



VISUAL ARTS

We are thrilled to announce the talented students who will represent us in the National Magnet Schools of America Poster Contest! Their artwork showcases one or more of the Magnet Schools of America pillars: Diversity, Innovative Curriculum & Professional Development, Academic Excellence, Leadership, and Family & Community Partnerships. Please join us in congratulating and wishing them luck in the next round!



Isabella Ortiz
CCPS Elementary Winner



Nathaniel Bedford
CCPS Middle School Winner

The visual arts program initiated the county's inaugural National Junior Arts Honor Society at the middle school level. Students have engaged in two service projects: one to collect can tabs for the Ronald McDonald House and the other to create items for sale at the art show to support foster care. Additionally, students have developed pieces to enhance their portfolios.



Our department's Parent Night was a resounding success, fostering collaboration between parents and their children as they engaged in the creative process of clay pottery crafting. Each participant meticulously crafted their piece, which was subsequently fired and glazed, resulting in a tangible testament to their shared experience.

To commence the year, students in visual arts embarked on an unconventional project, utilizing yarn paintings inspired by the Huichol region of Mexico. The materials for this endeavor were procured through a Donor's Choose award.



The visual arts program hosted its inaugural art exhibition, showcasing students as entrepreneurs. Participants exhibited and demonstrated their artwork, providing insights into their creative processes.



DANCE & INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Fall Showcase



THEATER

The M.D. Roberts Theater Arts Department presented “The Enchanted Bookshop,” a captivating performance that explored the power of reading. The play centered around Ms. Margie, the proprietor of a struggling bookshop, whose passion for literature drove her to seek ways to inspire others through the written word. The M.D. Roberts Theater scholars delivered a riveting performance that has left a lasting impression on the community and the school.

Beyond its comedic elements, “The Enchanted Bookshop” emphasized the profound significance of reading in shaping our lives. It illuminated the boundless possibilities that literature offers, exposing us to diverse cultures and catapulting us on extraordinary journeys of discovery. The play underscored the indispensable role of writers as the architects of stories, ideas, and knowledge, reaching audiences across the globe. The seamless integration of costumes, music, set pieces, and props elevated the performance, creating an immersive and enchanting experience for the audience. The play served as a testament to the inseparable bond between reading and writing, emphasizing their collective power to transform lives and enrich our understanding of the world.



Winter Showcase | The Grinch



GUITAR, PIANO, VOCAL, BAND, & ORCHESTRA



2024 HOLIDAY DISPLAY "JOY & PEACE"

Our 2024 Holiday Display was meticulously crafted to evoke the profound emotions of our esteemed scholars, capturing the essence of their creativity, imagination, and the profound joy of family during the festive season.

Our campus, adorned with twelve magnificent trees, showcased the exceptional craftsmanship of our Pace and Roberts visual arts scholars. Their artistic prowess is truly remarkable as they created hand-crafted ornaments for each of the trees.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated Student Ambassadors and Jr. Beta scholars, who generously contributed their time and effort to decorate our campus, transforming it into a vibrant and festive atmosphere. Their hard work is invaluable to the success of this unique holiday display.

Thank you Ms. Long, Ms. Todd, Ms. Purcell & Ms. Durham for your support and leadership. We are deeply appreciative of the unwavering support of our families, who generously donated ornaments, trees, and decorations, enabling us to create a truly memorable and one-of-a-kind holiday celebration. Thank you for your continued support of Pace/Roberts School of the Arts!





Highlight

The Kay R. Pace School of the Arts Musical Theatre Competition Team (MTCT) led by Molly Knowles has been selected to perform at the Junior Theatre Festival's New Works Showcase in January 2025. This prestigious event will feature the premiere of a brand-new Broadway Jr. Musical, which our students will be showcasing on the main stage before an audience of over 6,000 individuals. We eagerly anticipate sharing further details with you at the conclusion of the event.



IN LOVING MEMORY
MS. BARBARA PRICE
SEPTEMBER 25, 1971-DECEMBER 27, 2024