

PATRIOT REVIEW

Alumni Newsletter of Amelia Academy

January 2015

Take another look at...

Amelia Academy—a school that offers quality education in a family atmosphere. Take another look at a school where learning takes place in a family atmosphere. It is a place where students look forward to learning with their friends.

Take another look at Amelia Academy—a school where teachers are working to create interesting and challenging lessons. From a Christian context, students are taught values and responsibility for personal choices. Small numbers mean that everyone has to work together. Students are encouraged to get involved, and they are very much aware of how much they make a difference.

Take another look at Amelia Academy—a school whose recent graduates are excelling at universities such as the University of Virginia, Virginia Tech, University of Mary Washington, Virginia Commonwealth University, and Longwood University, to name a few.



I love my school because we do a lot of fun things.

**Madilynn Williams
pre-kindergarten**

The Annual Fund Makes a Difference

Many alumni and parents of alumni have generously donated to the Annual Fund this year. **The campaign continues until June 30, 2015.** These funds are already being put to work in closing the gap between what tuition dollars provide and the real cost of educating a student at the Academy.

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I love my school because of the teachers and friendliness. Everybody supports each other.

Corey Turner, junior

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Take another look at your hometown school — Amelia Academy

Annual Fund, continued from page 1

Over the past decades Annual Funds have become essential for private schools to maintain fiscal health and stability. Amelia Academy has a strong tradition of maintaining tuition rates at a level that is affordable for the greatest number of families in the region. The Annual Fund will allow for this ongoing commitment to stabilizing tuition rates.

A gift of any amount will make a difference. "We are encouraging all alumni and parents to consider supporting the Annual Fund at whatever level they can afford. Some may not realize that a gift of any amount can make a difference, but it can, especially when everyone comes together with their support," said Kelly Anderson, president of the Board of Directors. "We need everyone's help so that we can maintain an affordable, excellent school environment."



I have enjoyed the personal relationships that students can form with their teachers and the close-knit environment.

Benjamin Bentz, senior



I love my school because I get to see my friends.

**Caleb Smith
first grade**

Scholastic Bowl Takes First Place

The Scholastic Bowl team placed first at the Association of Virginia Academies (AVA) competition on Oct. 8, which was held at Isle of Wight Academy. At the AVA competition on Dec. 3, the team placed third.

The faculty sponsors are Palmer Bowen ('09) and Jennifer Hayghe ('98), both of whom were on the Academy's Scholastic Bowl team when they were students. Team members this year are: Benjamin Bentz, Hannah Critchfield, Ben Dixon, Noah Reynolds, and Seth Zaki.

VFW Essay Winners

On Dec. 19, Allan Law, commander of the VFW Post 8759, presented the winning essays in the Voice of Democracy essay contest. Caleb Graber was awarded third place, and Rachel Bentz received second place. Hannah Critchfield was awarded first place. Her essay also placed in the VFW district competition.

Beth Lawrence and Joan Poore, representing the VFW Post 8759 Auxiliary, presented three students with awards for their winning essays in the annual Patriot's Pen essay contest. In third place was Shelby McMillian. Second place went to Madison Barnard, and first place was presented to Tyler Glanzman.

Take another look at your great school — Amelia Academy

Call for Nominations— Distinguished Alumni Awards

The Distinguished Alumni award is given to an alumnus or alumna who, through demonstrating the highest standard of achievement, leadership, and service, has distinguished himself or herself at Amelia Academy and his/her community at large. The recipient, through the quality of his/her life, exemplifies the ideals of the Academy's mission of inspiring principled behavior with emphasis on honor, integrity and personal responsibility.

Candidates must be graduates of Amelia Academy, plus be a minimum of 40 years of age.

The Selection Committee for the Distinguished Alumni award will be made up of a Board member, the Head of School, the Development Director, and a senior faculty member.

Members of the Amelia Academy community are invited to submit nominations for the Distinguished Alumni award. The winner will be recognized during the Reunion event on May 2, 2015.

Nomination Submission Form

To nominate an alumnus, alumna for the Distinguished Alumni Award, please submit the following information by email or regular mail to the attention of: Mr. Rodney Taylor (rtaylor@ameliaacademy.com), Head of School, by no later than March 15:

Your contact information: Name, Email Address, and Phone Number

Distinguished Alumni Award Nominee: Nominee's Name, Graduation Year, Reason for Nomination

Open House Set for April

The annual Open House is scheduled for April this year. The Academy will offer several incentives for members of the AA community whose friends and neighbors attend the Open House. More information will be provided on the Academy's website, beginning in early March.

Basketball Season Presses on

Middle and Upper School students have taken the court for winning basketball seasons. Five teams are competing in the Virginia Colonial Conference and across the Commonwealth.

A highlight of the season occurred recently when both varsity girls and boys won the Steward Invitational Tournament, Jan. 16-17.

	Wins*	Losses*
Boys Middle School	2	1
Girls Middle School	2	2
Boys Junior Varsity	6	4
Girls Varsity	16	6
Boys Varsity	16	8

*as of Feb. 4, 2015

I like to be near all of my friends while I am learning. We have so many opportunities here. We can talk openly and make our own decisions. Because we have fewer students, all the



teachers know their students personally and can help them learn.

**Skylar Wingo,
seventh grade**

Class Notes

Share the events in your life with your fellow alumni by emailing your news to: jfaeth@ameliaacademy.com

1972

Carolyn Thornton Hoover is the proud grandmother of Connor (age 3) and James (6 months).

2003

Jesus Urbina has a son, born August 8, 2014

2009

Juan Carolos Urbina ('09) and Angela Morse were married on June 28, 2014. They reside in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Get involved...

Amelia Academy is hosting the Virginia Colonial Conference (VCC) Basketball Tournament – Richard Bland College—February 20 and 21. Volunteers are needed on both days.

The Academy will be the location for the Association of Virginia Academies' Middle School Forensics Meet on March 20. Volunteers are needed to serve in a variety of roles.

The Book Fair, which benefits the Library, will take place on April 16-22.

The Patriot Games school-wide competition is set for May 1. Come help with the games or just to cheer on your color—odd class years are blue, and even years are maroon.

The alumni reunion event will be held on May 2.

Anyone available to share your career expertise with the high school's Life Skills class, please contact Mrs. Butler at cbutler@ameliaacademy.com.

Contact the office by email or phone to volunteer or obtain more information on any of these opportunities.

Questions or comments? Contact us at:

Amelia Academy
1241 N. Five Forks Road
Amelia, VA 23002

(804) 561-2270

contactus
[@ameliaacademy.com](https://www.instagram.com/ameliaacademy.com)

Visit us on the web at
www.ameliaacademy.com

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News Briefs

The annual Fall Festival was held on Nov. 1 in the gymnasium. Members of the faculty, Stephanie White and Caitlyn Martin, spearheaded the event, which helped support the local food bank. Games, a silent auction, and a bake sale were features of this year's festival.

Veterans were the guests of honor on Nov. 15. The annual Veterans Program featured a variety of performances that paid tribute to the sacrifices of the men and women who have served in the armed forces. One special element of this year's program was the musical contribution of the Fort Lee Army Band.

In post-season competition last fall, fall sports teams won top honors as the volleyball and cross country teams wrapped up their seasons. The JV volleyball team won first place in the Virginia Commonwealth Conference (VCC) tournament with a championship win against Kenston Forest School on Nov. 1.

In a winning run, sophomore Grady Owens came in first in the VCC Cross Country tournament.

The team placed third in the tournament, which was held on Oct. 30 at Kenston Forest School.

The fourth and fifth grade classes held a toy drive during Oct. and Nov. for the orphans of Fraternite Notre Dame in Haiti. Lt. Col. John Amiss, the head of a U.N. mission to Haiti and father of fourth-grader Grant Amiss, delivered the toys and clothing to the orphans in early December.

The Academy's Student Government Organization (SGO) sponsored a Thanksgiving canned food drive and toy drive for the Amelia Christmas Mother.

The LPT has provided new desks for classrooms throughout the school. In January, wrapping up a two-year project, the final upper school classrooms received their new desks.

The girls varsity basketball team sponsored a "Layup 4 Lauren" activity in January. Participants donated \$1 to shoot a layup. Also on sale were "The cure starts now" bracelets, provided by the parents of Morgan Pritchett, a girl who died from a DIPG brain tumor. Morgan's parents are the founders of the Virginia chapter of The Cure Starts Now (virginia.thecurestartsnow.org).