

Young Americans Christian School
Conyers, Georgia

Class
of
2009



Commencement Exercises

First Baptist Church of Conyers

Friday, May 15, 2009

7:30 pm



Young Americans Christian School Board

Ed Durham, *Chairman*
Tim Smith
Perry Acuff
David Taylor

Kim Dalton
Brenda Durham
Jan Taylor

Young Americans Christian School Administrators

Jan Taylor, *Director*

David Taylor, *Administrator*

Terry Shelnut, *Principal*

Angie Haynes, *Elementary Principal*

Debbie Heller, *Academic Advisor*

Honor Graduates

Summa Cum Laude

Ashley Allred

Magna Cum Laude

Deborah Joy Hodgins	Kevin Michael Adams
Cara Elizabeth Tupps	Matthew Douglas Wilmer
Victoria Marie Partee	Jonathan Robert Umphrey
Julia Anna Lindsey	Christine Loren Hall
Peter Alexander Gabriel	Nathanael Pearson Laughlin
Alexander Davis Merritt	Mitchell Keith Williams
Ashlen Faith-Nicole Strutko	Aubri Noelle Saglimbene
Autumn Brooke Pulliam	Sarah Christine Pittman
Keri Joy Brown	Steven Parker Williams

Beta Club Members

Ashley Dee Allred	Autumn Brooke Pulliam
Cara Elizabeth Tupps	Keri Joy Brown
Julia Anna Lindsey	Kevin Michael Adams
Peter Alexander Gabriel	Matthew Douglas Wilmer
Alexander Davis Merritt	Nathanael Pearson Laughlin

Cords

Summa Cum Laude - *Gold*

Magna Cum Laude - *Red*

Beta - *Black*

Medals - Valedictorian, Salutatorian, Senior Beta Officers

Commencement Ceremony

Processional.....	“Pomp and Circumstance” by Elgar
Welcome.....	David Taylor, <i>Administrator</i>
Invocation	Julia Lindsey
Salutatorian Address	Victoria Partee
Valedictorian Address.....	Ashley Allred
Special Music.....	Jessica Newton
Presentation of Scholarships.....	Brenda Durham, <i>School Board</i>
The Christina Carol Vernon Memorial Scholarship and The Loyalty Scholarship	
Senior Class Profile.....	Debbie Heller, <i>Academic Advisor</i>
Presentation of the Light and Eagle Award	Terry Shelnutt, <i>Principal</i>
Presentation of Senior Gift	Amanda Patterson
Congratulatory Remarks	Jan Taylor, <i>Director</i>
Slide Presentation of Graduates	
Awarding of Diplomas.....	Jan Taylor, <i>Director</i> Terry Shelnutt, <i>Principal</i>
Special Music.....	Seniors
Tassel Ceremony.....	Amanda Patterson
Alma Mater(audience, please join us in song – <u>remain seated</u>)	
Postlude	

All are invited to join our seniors for the hall of memories
and the reception.

*****Audience, please refrain from inappropriate behavior (such as whistling, calling-out, etc.). We wish this to be a sophisticated evening for our graduates and families. *****

Young Americans Christian School
Alma Mater

O, Young Americans Christian School,

Our Alma Mater hail.

Our loyalty to thee we pledge

As we go on from here.

United in our love for Christ

And dedication too,

Forever are we bound by love

With dearest thoughts of you.

O, may we stand for all you've taught

And live a life that's true.

Now ever will we think of you,

Our Young Americans School.

Student Accolades

Kevin Michael Adams

Student Government Chaplin – 9; Student Government Secretary / Treasurer – 10; Student Government Vice President – 11, 12; Beta Club – 10, 11, 12; Sophomores of Excellence Conference – 10; Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 11, 12; National Society of High School Scholars – 11, 12; Drama – 10, 12; Baseball – 9, 10; Football – 9, 10, 12; Soccer – 11, 12; Soccer Captain – 11, 12; Mission trip – 11, 12; Chapel Crew – 11, 12; Most Encouraging Senior Superlative; Most Talented Senior Superlative.

Ashley Dee Allred

Beta Club – 9, 10, 11, 12; Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 11, 12; National Language Arts Award – 11; Georgia Certificate of Merit – 11; Valedictorian – 12; Drama – 10; Most Likely to Succeed Senior Superlative.

Jonathan Thomas Atkins

Academic Excellence Award – 12; National Science League Award – 12; Basketball – 9, 10; Most Unforgettable Senior Superlative.

Keri Joy Brown

Academic Excellence Award – 9, 12; Beta Club – 9, 10, 11, 12; Beta Club Secretary – 12; Mission trip – 11, 12; Drama – 12; Volleyball – 12; Basketball – 9, 10, 11, 12; Most Athletic Senior Superlative.

Lee Edward Dire

Basketball – 9; Mission Trip – 11.

Peter Alexander Gabriel

Beta Club – 9, 10, 11, 12; Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 11, 12; Student Government Representative – 9, 10, 12; Hugh O'Brien Youth Ambassador - 10; Baseball – 9, 10, 11, 12; Basketball – 9, 10, 12; Basketball Captain – 9, 10, 12; Football – 9, 10, 11, 12; Football Captain – 11, 12; Drama – 10; Mission Trip – 11, 12;

Jordan Taylor Gresham

Softball – 9, 10, 12; Cheerleading – 9; Founded "Finding Faith Foundation".

Christine Loren Hall

Softball – 9, 10, 12; All Region AAA Softball – 12; Cheerleading – 9, 11; Basketball – 10; Homecoming Court – 12th.

Taylor Chase Haney

Academic Excellence Award – 11; Basketball – 10, 11, 12; Basketball Captain – 12; Baseball – 10, 11, 12; Football – 10, 11; Football Captain – 11.

Deborah Joy Hodgkin

Beta Club – 9,10; Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 11, 12; Student Government Class Representative – 10; Drama – 12; Basketball – 9, 10, 11, 12; Basketball Captain – 9, 10; Volleyball – 9, 10, 11, 12; Volleyball Captain – 9, 10; All Region Volleyball – 12.

Dusty James Largo

Academic Excellence Award – 10, 11, 12; Football – 9, 10; Soccer – 11, 12; Mission Trip – 12.

Nathanael Pearson Laughlin

Beta Club – 10, 11, 12; Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 11; Drama – 10; Softball Scorekeeper – 9, 10, 11, 12.

Julia Anna Lindsey

Beta Club – 9, 10, 11, 12; Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 11,12; Drama – 10; Cheerleading – 9, 10, 11; All State Cheer – 9, 10; Chapel Crew – 11, 12; Most Talented Senior Superlative; Homecoming Court – 9, 12; Mission Trip – 12.

Mary Kathryn McDonald

Drama – 9, 10, 11, 12; Volleyball – 9, 10.

David Le McEwen

Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10; Student Government Representative – 10; Drama -10, 12; Baseball – 9; Soccer – 10, 11,12; Soccer Captain – 11; Basketball – 11, 12; Basketball Co-Captain – 12; Chapel Crew – 11, 12; Mission trip – 11, 12.

Robert Peyton McKinnon

Soccer – 10, 11, 12; Football – 12.

Alexander Davis Merritt

Beta Club – 10, 11, 12; Beta Club Secretary – 11; Student Government Secretary – 9; Student Government Chaplin – 10; Student Government President – 11, 12; Class President – 12; Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 12; Hugh O'Brien Youth Ambassador - 10; Hugh O'Brien Youth World Leadership Conference Ambassador - 11; Drama – 10, 12; Soccer – 10, 11, 12; Football – 9, 10, 12; Football Captain – 12; Chapel Crew – 11, 12; Mission trip – 11, 12; Most Likely to Succeed Senior Superlative; Most All Around Senior Superlative .

Austin Andrew Miller

Regional Arts Award – 10; Soccer – 10, 11, 12.

Samantha Hailey Moore

Academic Excellence Award – 12; Drama – 12; Chapel Crew – 12; Mission trip – 11, 12; Prom Queen – 12; Most Unforgettable Senior Superlative; Most Dedicated YACS Fan.

Victoria Marie Partee

Beta Club – 9, 10; Academic Excellence Award – 9; Drama – 12; Cheerleading - 11, 12; Cheer Captain – 12; All Star Cheerleader – 11, 12; Mission trip – 11, 12.

Amanda Rae Patterson

Sophomores of Excellence Conference – 10; Student Government Representative – 9, 10, 11, 12; Class Vice-President – 11; Class President – 12; Drama – 10, 12; Softball – 9, 10, 12; Softball Captain 10, 12; Softball All State – 10; All Region AAA – 12; Volleyball – 9; Chapel Crew – 12; Mission trip – 11, 12; Homecoming Court – 11, 12; Most All Around Senior Superlative.

Sarah Christine Pittman

Beta Club – 11; Academic Excellence Award – 10; Class President – 11; Drama – 12; Cheerleading – 9; Cheer Co-Captain – 9; Volleyball – 10; Basketball – 10, 11, 12; Softball – 12; Chapel Crew – 12; Mission trip – 11, 12.

Autumn Brooke Pulliam

Beta Club – 9, 10, 11, 12; Academic Excellence Award – 12; Drama – 10; Volleyball – 9, 10, 11, 12.

Aubri Noelle Saglimbene

Academic Excellence Award – 10, 11, 12; Drama - 12; Softball – 12; Basketball – 9, 10, 11, 12; Basketball Captain – 10; Volleyball – 10, 11; Volleyball Captain – 10; Christian Character Award – 10; FCA – 9, 10; Chapel Crew – 12; Most Encouraging Senior Superlative; Homecoming Court – 10, 12; Homecoming Queen – 12; Mission trip – 12.

Danielle Marie Smith

Academic Excellence Awards – 12; Drama – 10, 12; Chorus – 11, 12; Volleyball – 9, 10, 11, 12.

Ashlen Faith-Nicole Strutko

Beta Club – 9, 10; Academic Excellence Award – 12; ACSI Creative Writing Festival – 9, 10; Drama – 9; Softball – 9, 12;

Cara Elizabeth Tupps

Beta Club – 11, 12; Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 12; National Language Arts Award – 12; Drama – 12; Chorus – 12; Mission trip – 12.

Jonathan Robert Umphrey

Beta Club – 10, 12; Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 11; Student Government Class Representative – 9; Track – 9, 10; Basketball – 9.

Mitchell Keith Williams

Academic Excellence Award – 10, 11, 12; Baseball – 9, 10, 11, 12; Baseball All Region – 11; Basketball – 10; Most Athletic Senior Superlative.

Steven Parker Williams

Beta Club – 12; Academic Excellence Award – 10, 11; Student Government Vice-President – 9; Debate Team – 11; National Science League Award – 10; National Language Arts League Award – 10, 11; Drama Club – 9, 10; Star Student – 12.

Matthew Douglas Wilmer

Beta Club – 10, 11, 12; Beta Club Vice-President – 11; Beta Club President – 12; Student Government – 9, 10, 11; Student Government Chaplin – 12; Tennis – 11; Drama – 12; Chapel Crew – 12; Mission Trip – 11, 12.

Description of Scholarships and Awards

Loyalty Scholarship

The purpose of this scholarship is to reward one or more graduating seniors who have demonstrated, throughout their longevity in attendance, outstanding loyalty and support to Young Americans Christian School. The recipients are selected by the Board of Directors and must have attended Young Americans Christian School from Kindergarten through 12th grade.

Christina Carol Vernon Memorial Scholarship

Our long time teacher, Laura Newton, had a sister who was called to be with the Lord very suddenly several years ago. As she was an elementary school teacher, a scholarship fund in her honor is offered by her family. The requirements are as follows:

1. Be a graduating senior at Young Americans Christian School.
2. Plan to pursue a college degree in the teaching field
3. Have a letter of recommendation from one of the following:
 - Minister/Youth Minister or Sunday School Teacher
 - Teacher
 - Relative
4. Submit an essay of 250-500 words on the topic “Why I Want to Teach”

Light Award

The criteria for the recipients of the Light Award are the students who best exemplify Christ in their daily walks. Students are selected by the high school teachers, who evaluate students' involvement in spiritual activities during their years here at YACS. Teachers look for students who have attended three or more years and exemplify Christ-like behavior in their classrooms, school activities, and outside the school.

Eagle Award

The significance of this award is in the area of service to Young Americans Christian School. The staff looks for one or more students that have greatly impacted Young Americans Christian School and have attended three or more years. These students are chosen for outstanding service to the school. The recipients of the Eagle Award are chosen by the high school staff. These students made a difference at Young Americans Christian School through involvement and leadership roles in activities such as:

Strong Spiritual Stance

Student Government

Drama

Sports

School Sponsored Bible Studies

School Trips

Chapel Involvement

School Assistance

Discipleship Leader

Mission Trip Leader

Christian Walk

A-B Academic Average

A student that has gone above and beyond in service for YACS

MISSION STATEMENT

Young Americans Christian School is a college preparatory school working hand in hand with the family to raise up students who will be academically successful and will grow to be a light in the world for Christ.



Young Americans Christian School

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