

# *Commencement Ceremony 2010*



## **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*

## Commencement Ceremony 2010

Welcome.....	David Taylor, <i>Administrator</i>
Invocation.....	Allyson Horne
The Star Spangled Banner.....	Cheryl Portwood
Processional.....	Pomp and Circumstance” by Elgar
Salutatorian Address .....	Mack Parnell
Valedictorian Address .....	Alyssa Lowery
Special Music .....	Mary Zehner
Presentation of Scholarships: The Christina Carol Vernon Memorial Scholarship and The Loyalty Scholarship .....	Ed Durham, <i>School Board Chairman</i>
Senior Class Profile.....	Debbie Heller, <i>Academic Advisor</i>
Presentation of the Light and Eagle Award .....	Jan Taylor, <i>Director</i>
Presentation of Senior Gift.....	Alison Gilland
Congratulatory Remarks .....	Terry Shelnut, <i>Principal</i>
Slide Presentation of Graduates	
Awarding of Diplomas .....	Jan Taylor, <i>Director and Terry Shelnut, Principal</i>
Special Music .....	Seniors
Tassel Ceremony .....	Alison Gilland
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.).  
Please show your enthusiasm through applause only. 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.*





## **Honor Graduates**

### **Summa Cum Laude**

Alyssa Rose Lowery      Mack Wayne Parnell

### **Magna Cum Laude**

Jordan Rydell-Alvin Allen	Allyson Renee Horne
Emily Michelle Ammons	Amy Marie Kyser
Adam James Dunton	Myranda Cheyenne Lyons
Macy Renee Eatherly	Ryan Charles McDowell
Ana Cristina Flores	Cody Mitchell Phillips
Kyle Ralston George	Gabrielle Johanna-Marie Scott
Alison Reyna Gilland	Timothy Paul Swaney
Daniel Michael Harrison	Arianna Grace Warren
Nathaniel Harris Holzer	Zachary Aaron Zook

### **Beta Club Members**

Emily Michelle Ammon	Alyssa Rose Lowery
Adam James Dunton	Ryan Charles McDowell
Alison Reyna Gilland	Mack Wayne Parnell
Allyson Renee Horne	Zachary Aaron Zook
Amy Marie Kyser	

### **Cords**

Summa Cum Laude - *Red*

Magna Cum Laude - *Gold*

Beta - *Black*

**Medals** - Valedictorian, Salutatorian, Senior Beta Officers



## Student Accolades

### Jordan Rydell-Alvin Allen

Beta Club – 10; Academic Excellence Award – 12; Basketball – 11, 12

### Emily Michelle Ammons

Beta Club – 9, 10, 11, 12; Academic Excellence Award – 12; Softball 9, 10; Softball Captain – 10; All-Region Softball – 10; Volleyball – 9, 10, 11, 12; Volleyball Captain – 11, 12; All-Region Volleyball – 11, 12; Soccer – 10, 11, 12; Soccer Captain – 10, 11, 12; All-Region Soccer – 10; Basketball Captain – 12; Most Talented Senior Superlative; Most Athletic Senior Superlative.

### Cole Stratton Anderson

Drama – 9, 10, 11;

### Jessica Brianne Ayers

Academic Excellence Award – 9; National Society of High School Scholars – 12; Drama – 9, 10, 11; Cheerleading – 11, 12; Softball – 9, 11.

### Christopher Thomas Beckham

Basketball – 9, 10; Soccer – 10.

### Mattison Tate Brannon

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

### Glendon Alexander Brown

Drama – 10; Basketball – 9, 10, 11, 12; Basketball Captain – 12; All-Region Basketball – 11; Football – 11.

### Adam James Dunton

Beta Club – 9, 10, 11, 12; Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 11, 12; Band – 9; Chapel Crew – 12; Football – 9, 10, 11, 12; Mission Trip – 11, 12.

### Macy Renee Eatherly

Beta Club – 9, 10, 11; Academic Excellence Award – 10, 11, 12; Mission Trip – 11.

### Lisa Ann Evans

Academic Excellence Award – 11; Volleyball – 9, 10, 11, 12; All-Region Volleyball – 9; Cheerleading – 11, 12; Softball – 9; FFA – 10.

### Ana Cristina Flores

Academic Excellence Award – 9; Drama – 9, 10; Chorus – 11; Cheerleading – 9, 10, 12; Mission Trip – 11.

### Kyle Ralston George

Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 11; Football – 9, 10, 11, 12; Football Captain – 10, 11, 12; Football Eagle Pride award – 12; Football Leadership Award – 11; Football Defensive MVP – 10; Chapel Crew – 12; Leader of Freshmen Beach Retreat – 12; Mission Trip – 11, 12.

### Alison Reyna Gilland

Beta Club – 9, 10, 11, 12; Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 11, 12; National Language Arts Award – 9; Sophomores of Excellence Conference – 10; National Society of High School Scholars – 10, 11, 12; Drama – 9, 10, 12; Basketball – 9, 10, 11, 12; Basketball Captain – 11, 12; Volleyball – 12; Soccer – 10, 11, 12; Soccer Captain – 10, 11; All-Region Soccer – 10; Most All Around Senior Superlative; Class President – 11, 12; Leader of Freshmen Beach Retreat – 11; Mission Trip – 11, 12.

**Daniel Michael Harrison**

Academic Excellence Award – 12; National Science League Award – 10; Drama – 9, 10; Varsity Baseball – 9, 10, 11, 12; Varsity Football – 11, 12; Basketball – 10, 11; Mission Trip – 11, 12.

**Kelly Renee Hayes**

Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 11; Drama – 9, 11; Choir - 11.

**Jason Brian Hicks**

FCA – 10, 11; Band – 9; Wrestling – 9, 10; Soccer - 9, 10, 11, 12; Football – 12.

**Nathaniel Harris Holzer**

Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 11, 12; National Science League Award – 10; Band – 9, 10, 11, 12; Outstanding Band Member – 9, 11; Instrumentalist Magazine Merit Award – 10; Superior rating at the Solo and Ensemble Festival – 10, 11; Leader of Freshmen Beach Retreat – 12; Boys Quartet in Literary – 12.

**Allyson Renee Horne**

Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 11, 12; National Society of High School Scholars – 10, 11, 12; Georgia Certificate of Merit – 11; Beta Club – 10, 11, 12; Beta Club Vice-President – 12; Student Government Representative – 9; Student Government Chaplain – 12; Debate Team – 10; Drama – 11, 12; Basketball – 9, 10, 11, 12; Basketball Captain – 11; Homecoming Court – 11; Senior Leader of 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Beach Retreat – 12.

**Caleb Richard Johnson**

Drama – 11, 12; Basketball – 11, 12; Soccer – 11.

**Amy Marie Kyser**

Beta Club – 11, 12; Academic Excellence Award – 10, 11; Hugh O'Brien Youth Ambassador - 10; Student Government Representative – 9, 10, 11, 12; Sophomores of Excellence Conference – 10; Facilitator for Sophomores of Excellence Conference – 11, 12; Debate Team – 10; Drama – 9, 10; Cheerleading – 11, 12; All American Cheerleader – 12; Soccer – 10; Chapel Crew – 12; Most Unforgettable Senior Superlative; Most Encouraging Senior Superlative; Homecoming Court – 9, 12; Homecoming Queen – 12; Mission Trip – 11.

**Kaylee Nicole Lokey**

Academic Excellence Award – 10, 11; Volleyball – 9, 10, 11, 12; Basketball – 9, 10, 11, 12.

**Alyssa Rose Lowery**

Valedictorian; STAR Student; Beta Club – 9, 10, 11, 12; Beta Club Vice-President – 11; Beta Club President – 12; Georgia Certificate of Merit – 11; Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 11, 12; National Language Arts Award – 9, 12; National Science League Award – 10; Student Government Representative – 9, 10, 11; Student Government Vice-President – 12; Drama – 9, 10, 11, 12; Soccer – 10; Homecoming Court – 10, 11, 12; Most Likely to Succeed Senior Superlative; Mission Trip – 11.

**Dominicc Nito Lugo**

Drama – 11; Chapel Crew – 12; Football – 9, 11; Baseball – 9, 11; Offensive MVP Baseball – 10, 11; Basketball – 9, 10, 12; Offensive MVP Basketball – 10; Defensive MVP Basketball – 12; Most Athletic Senior Superlative.

**Myranda Cheyenne Lyons**

Beta Club – 9, 10, 11; Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10; Mission trip – 11.

**Daniel Brice Mason**

FFA – 9; Football – 9, 10, 11, 12; Football Captain – 10, 11, 12.

**Ryan Charles McDowell**

Beta Club – 12; Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 11; Student Government Class Representative – 11; Student Government Chaplain – 12; Drama – 10, 11, 12; Football – 9, 10, 11, 12; Football Captain – 10; Soccer – 10, 11, 12;

**John Trung Nguyen**

Academic Excellence Award – 11, 12; Drama – 11, 12; Soccer – 10, 11, 12; Soccer Captain – 10; Football – 11, 12; Chapel Crew – 12; Most Encouraging Senior Superlative; Most All Around Senior Superlative; Mission Trip – 11, 12.

**James Gordon Nichols**

Academic Excellence Award – 10; National Science League Award – 10; Drama – 11; Football – 9, 10, 11, 12; Soccer – 11; Mission Trip – 11.

**Mack Wayne Parnell**

Beta Club – 9, 10, 11, 12; Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 11,12; National Science League Award – 10; Sophomores of Excellence Conference – 10; Facilitator for Sophomores of Excellence Conference – 11; Student Government Representative – 9; Student Government Secretary/Treasurer – 10, 11; Senior Class Vice-President; Chapel Crew – 12; Drama – 9, 10, 11, 12; One Act Play Competition: Regional and State – 12; Basketball – 9, 10, 11, 12; Basketball Captain – 10; Football – 9, 10, 11, 12; Football Captain – 11, 12; Most Likely to Succeed Senior Superlative; Most Unforgettable Senior Superlative; Mission Trip – 11, 12.

**Levi Donovan Penley**

Academic Excellence Award – 12; Drama – 12; One Act Play Competition: Regional and State – 12; Literary Competition: Regional and State – 12; Football – 9, 10, 11, 12; Mission Trip – 12.

**Cody Mitchell Phillips**

Academic Excellence Award – 10, 11, 12; Drama – 11, 12; Football – 11, 12; Soccer – 10, 11, 12; Basketball – 10, 11, 12; Wendy's Restaurant High School Heisman Award; Mission Trip – 11, 12.

**Kimberly Dance Powell**

Senior Prom Queen.

**Jordan Lee Rape**

Academic Excellence Award – 11, 12; Drama – 11; Basketball – 9, 10, 11, 12; Basketball Captain – 12; Volleyball – 10, 11, 12; Soccer – 10, 11, 12; Softball – 9; Most Athletic Senior Superlative; Homecoming Court – 12; Most Athletic Senior Superlative.

**Gabrielle Johanna-Marie Scott**

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

**Timothy Paul Swaney**

Academic Excellence Award – 11; Basketball – 9, 10, 11, 12; Football – 11; Drama – 11.

**Jarred Robert Todd**

Academic Excellence Award – 10, 11, 12; National Language Arts Award – 11; Drama – 10, 11, 12; GISA One-Act Play Competition Best Performance Award – 12; Football – 9, 10; Cheerleading – 11, 12; Mission trip – 11.

**Arianna Grace Warren**

Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10; National Science League Award – 10; Band – 9, 10, 11.

**Hudson Ross White**

Academic Excellence Award – 10; Drama – 10, 11.

**Travis Wayne Wood**

Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 11,12; National Language Arts Award – 10; Class Treasurer – 11, 12; Debate Team – 10; Football – 9, 11, 12; Soccer – 9, 10, 11, 12; Mission trip – 11.

**Curtis Paul Zehner**

Academic Excellence Award – 10, 11,12; Student Government President – 12; Sophomores of Excellence Conference – 10; Facilitator for Sophomores of Excellence Conference – 11; Drama – 11; Chapel Crew – 11, 12; Chapel Band – 9, 10, 11, 12; Basketball (Varsity) – 8, 9, 10, 11, 12; Basketball Captain – 10, 12; Senior Leader 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Beach Retreat; Mission trip – 11, 12.

## Zachary Aaron Zook

Beta Club – 9, 10, 11, 12; Academic Excellence Award – 10, 11, 12; Band – 9; Football – 10; Chapel Crew – 11, 12; Junior Class Chaplin; Most Talented Senior Superlative; Senior Prom King; Mission Trip – 11.

---

## **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 12<sup>th</sup> 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:

- Be a graduating senior at Young Americans Christian School.
- Plan to pursue a college degree in the teaching field
- Have a letter of recommendation from one of the following:  
Minister/Youth Minister or Sunday School Teacher, Teacher, or  
Relative
- 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



*Colleges Attended*  
*by*  
*Young Americans Christian School Graduates*

Young Americans Christian School has provided educational excellence for over 20 years. Graduates of the school have attended and graduated from numerous and various colleges and universities, both public and private.

These schools include:

Atlanta Christian College	Kennesaw State University
Auburn University	Kentucky Christian College
Berry College	Lee University
Brewton Parker College	Liberty University
Clayton State University	Luther Rice College
Columbus State University	Mercer University
Covenant College	Mercer School of Nursing
Dekalb Technical College	Middle Georgia College
Emmanuel College	Milligan College
Emory University	Mississippi College
Faulkner University	Mississippi State University
Gainesville State College	North Georgia College
Georgia College & State Univ.	Oxford College of Emory
Georgia Tech	Shorter College
Georgia Southern University	So. Polytechnic State Univ.
Georgia State University	Stamford University
Gordon College	Toccoa Falls College
Harding University	Union University
High Point University	University of Georgia
Johnson Bible College	Valdosta State University
Johnson & Wales Univ., NC	Young Harris College