

# *Commencement Ceremony 2011*



## **Young Americans Christian School Board**

Ed Durham, *Chairman*  
Kirk Mahan  
Perry Acuff  
David Taylor

Cathy Tapley  
Brenda Durham  
Jan Taylor

## **Young Americans Christian School Administrators**

Jan Taylor, *Director*

David Taylor, *Administrator*

Terry Shelnett, *Principal*

Angie Haynes, *Elementary Principal*

Debbie Heller, *Academic Advisor*

# Commencement Ceremony 2011

Welcome .....	Terry Shelnut, <i>Principal</i>	
Invocation/Salutatorian .....	Angel Lindsey	
The Star Spangled Banner .....	Cheryl Portwood	
Processional .....	“Pomp and Circumstance” by Elgar	
Valedictorian Address .....	Jacob Hudlow	
Valedictorian Address .....	Erin Wiese	
Special Music.....	Clay Nicol, Zach Schindler, Melanie Hutcheson	
Presentation of Scholarships: The Christina Carol Vernon Memorial Scholarship and The Loyalty Scholarship .....	Ed Durham, <i>School Board Chairman</i>	
Senior Class Profile .....	David Taylor, <i>Administrator</i>	
Presentation of the Light and Eagle Award.....		
.....	Jan Taylor, <i>Director</i>	
Presentation of Senior Gift .....	Angel Lindsey	
	Congratulatory Remarks .....	Dan Garrett
Slide Presentation of Graduates		
Awarding of Diplomas .....	Jan Taylor, <i>Director</i>	
		Terry Shelnut, <i>Principal</i> David Taylor, <i>Administrator</i>
Special Music.....	Seniors	
Tassel Ceremony .....	Angel Lindsey	
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.\*\*\***

*We welcome our guest speaker*

***Dan Garrett***  
***Biography***

*Dan Garrett is proud to be the husband of Carol, and father of Campbell and Danielle. He serves as pastor of First Christian Church of Roswell, Georgia.*

*Dan began his work in Atlanta at the mega-church Mount Carmel Christian in Decatur. While there, he was one of the founders and main speakers of Arrive Alive, America, holding school assemblies and educating students regarding drinking and driving and positive choices. He also created the popular parent and teen seminar, Home Team.*

*For eight years, Dan led in the growth of the Spring Road Church in Lanett, Alabama and made national news when he founded Christian Church Buckhead in the renovated Gold Club on Piedmont Avenue, Atlanta.*

*Dan Garrett's other involvements have included volunteering with Camp Sunshine for Children with Cancer, serving as a trustee for his alma mater, Cincinnati Christian University and on the boards of two non-profits raising funds for third-world countries.*

*As a speaker, Dan Garrett has addressed over two million people in 35 states and internationally.*

*For more information, please visit Dan's website at [www.dan Garrett.org](http://www.dan Garrett.org) or call 404-543-3266.*

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***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.*

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## Honor Graduates

### **Summa Cum Laude**

Jacob Michael Hudlow  
Melanie Lynn Hutcheson  
Angel Elise Lindsey

Laura Marie Swafford  
Erin Nicole Wiese

### **Magna Cum Laude**

Amie Marcelle Anderson  
Reagan Scot Gadiant-Kaiser  
Kimberly Nicole Holloway  
Rhema Dawn Mahan  
Trevor Joseph McCoy  
Daniel Stephen McKinnon  
Clayton Berkley Nicol

Caitlyn Nicole Nix  
Meredith Nicole Poole  
Zachary Glenn Schindler  
Taylor Nicole Shelnett  
Morgan Ashley Thomas  
Shanna Christine Vineyard

### **Beta Club Members**

Amie Marcelle Anderson  
Reagan Scot Gadiant-Kaiser  
Kimberly Nicole Holloway  
Jacob Michael Hudlow  
Melanie Lynn Hutcheson  
Angel Elise Lindsey  
Rhema Dawn Mahan  
Trevor Joseph McCoy

Caitlyn Nicole Nix  
Meredith Nicole Poole  
Zachary Glenn Schindler  
Taylor Nicole Shelnett  
Laura Marie Swafford  
Morgan Ashley Thomas  
Shanna Christine Vineyard  
Erin Nicole Wiese

### **Cords**

Summa Cum Laude - *Red*  
Magna Cum Laude - *Gold*  
Beta - *Black*

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

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## Student Accolades

### Amie Marcelle Anderson

Beta Club – 9, 10, 11, 12; Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10; Student Government Representative – 12; Class Secretary -11; Drama – 9, 11; Chapel Crew – 12; Leader of Freshman Retreat – 12; Cheerleading – 9, 11, 12; Cheerleading Captain – 12; Homecoming Court – 12; Mission Trip – 11.

**Michael Joseph Clapper**

Chapel Crew - 12; Leader of Sophomore Retreat – 12; Most Unforgettable Senior Superlative; Mission Trip – 11, 12.

**Brandon Michael Cross**

Drama – 9, 10.

**Hannah Gabrielle Ford**

Academic Excellence Award – 12; Student Government Representative – 12; Cheerleading – 9, 10, 11, 12; Most Unforgettable Senior Superlative; Mission Trip – 12.

**Reagan Scot Gadiant-Kaiser**

Beta Club – 9, 10, 11, 12; Academic Excellence Award – 12; Student Government Representative – 12; Class Secretary -12; Drama – 11; Chapel Crew – 12; Homecoming Court – 12; Homecoming Queen – 12; Basketball – 10, 11, 12; Basketball Captain – 12; All Tournament Basketball Player – 12; Eagle Heart Award Basketball – 12; Volleyball – 12; Most Talented Senior Superlative; Mission Trip – 11, 12.

**Kimberly Nicole Holloway**

Beta Club – 9, 10, 11, 12; Drama – 9; Basketball Manager – 12; Cheerleading – 9, 10, 11.

**Jacob Michael Hudlow**

Beta Club – 9, 10, 11, 12; Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 11, 12; Georgia Certificate of Merit – 11; National Merit Scholarship Commendation - 11; National Science League Award – 9, 10, 11; National Language Arts Award – 9, 10, 11, 12; Instrumentalist Magazine Merit Award – 9; Band – 9, 10, 11, 12; Most Likely to Succeed Senior Superlative.

**Melanie Lynn Hutcheson**

Beta Club – 9, 10, 11, 12; Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 11, 12; Drama – 9, 10, 11, 12; Chapel Crew – 11, 12; Chorus – 9, 10; Cheerleading – 9; First Place Trio in GISA Regional Literary Competition; Homecoming Court - 11, 12; Most Encouraging Senior Superlative.

**David William Lea**

Literary – 9; Band – 9; Soccer – 9, 11; Basketball -10, 11.

**Angel Elise Lindsey**

Beta Club - 9, 10, 11, 12; Beta Club Secretary – 11; Beta Club President – 12; Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 11, 12; ; National Language Arts Award – 10, 12; Student Government Vice-President – 12; Senior Class President; FCA Spiritual Leadership Award – 11; Drama – 10,11,12; Drama Choreography – 11,12; Band – 9, 10; Most Outstanding Band Member – 9, 10; National Association of Women Band Director’s Award; Chapel Crew – 11, 12; Cheerleading – 9, 10, 11, 12; Cheer Captain – 10, 11, 12; All-American Cheerleader – 10, 11; Homecoming Court Representative – 9, 10, 11; Most All-Around Senior Superlative; Mission Trip – 11, 12.

**Rhema Dawn Mahan**

Beta Club - 9, 10, 11, 12; Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 12; Drama – 10, 11; Volleyball – 9, 10, 11, 12; Volleyball Captain – 12; All-Region Volleyball – 11, 12; All-State Volleyball – 12; Soccer – 10; Basketball – 12; Mission Trip – 11.

**Kyle George Mayo**

Academic Excellence Award – 11.

**Trevor Joseph McCoy**

Beta Club – 9, 10, 11, 12; Beta Club Vice-President – 12; Academic Excellence Award – 11, 12; Drama – 9, 11, 12; Math Team – 9; Literary – 11, 12; Soccer – 11; Leader of Freshman Retreat – 12; Cross Country – 12; Cross Country MVP – 12.

**Lewis Anthony McGee**

Academic Excellence Award – 10, 11,12; Basketball – 9, 10, 12; Basketball Captain - 12; Baseball – 9; Mission Trip – 11, 12.

**Daniel Stephen McKinnon**

Academic Excellence Award – 9, 11; Baseball – 9; Soccer – 11.

**Clayton Berkley Nicol**

Academic Excellence Award – 10, 11,12; National Merit Scholarship Commendation - 11; National Language Arts Award – 12, Literary Music Competition: Regional and State – 12; Basketball – 10, 12; Basketball Defensive MVP – 10, 12.

**Caitlyn Nicole Nix**

Beta Club – 9, 10, 11, 12; National Language Arts Award – 12, Literary Competition -12; Literary Magazine – 12; Drama – 9; Softball – 10; Mission Trip - 11.

**Meredith Nicole Poole**

Beta Club – 9, 10, 11, 12; Academic Excellence Award – 9; Drama – 9, 10; Choir – 9; Basketball – 9, 12; Cross Country – 12.

**Chris Dennis Rhinehart**

Football – 9, 10, 11, 12; Football MVP – 11,12; Soccer – 9, 11, 12; Most Athletic Senior Superlative; Mission Trip – 11.

**Trevor David Schaeffer**

Academic Excellence Award – 11; National Science League Award – 10; Literary Music Competition: Regional and State – 12; Drama – 11, 12; Soccer – 9.

**Zachary Glenn Schindler**

Beta Club – 9, 10, 11, 12; Academic Excellence Award – 9, 11,12; Sophomores of Excellence Conference – 10; Band – 9, 10; Drama – 11, 12; Baseball – 9; Basketball – 9, 10, 11, 12; Basketball MVP – 12; Basketball Captain – 12; Soccer – 10, 11, 12; Soccer MVP – 10; Soccer Captain - 11, 12; ; Literary Music Competition: Regional and State – 11, 12; Class President – 11; Class Chaplin 12; Student Government President – 12; Most Encouraging Senior Superlative; Most Talented Senior Superlative; Most All Around Senior Superlative; Mission Trip – 11, 12.

**Taylor Nicole Shelnett**

Beta Club – 9, 10, 11, 12; Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 11, 12; Drama – 10,11,12; Leader of Freshman Retreat – 12; Student Government Representative – 9, 10, 11; Student Government Chaplain – 12; Mission Trip – 11.

**Laura Marie Swafford**

Beta Club – 9, 10, 11, 12; Academic Excellence Award – 10, 11, 12; Student Government – 12; Class Chaplin – 11; Drama – 9, 11; Chapel Crew – 12; Leader of Freshman Retreat – 12; Cheerleading – 11, 12; Cheer Captain – 12; All-American Cheerleader – 11; Cheer Coach's Award – 11; Cheer Captain's Award – 12; Homecoming Court – 10; Mission Trip – 11.

**Morgan Ashley Thomas**

Beta Club – 9, 10, 11, 12; Soccer – 10; Mission Trip – 11.

### **Shanna Christine Vineyard**

Beta Club – 9, 10, 11, 12; Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 11, 12; Leader of Sophomore Retreat – 12; Drama – 10, 11; Volleyball – 9, 10, 11, 12; Volleyball Captain – 11, 12; All-Region Volleyball – 9, 10, 11, 12; All-State Volleyball – 12; All-Star Team Volleyball – 12; Homecoming Court – 12; Most Athletic Senior Superlative.

### **Erin Nicole Wiese**

Beta Club – 9, 10, 11, 12; Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 11, 12; Georgia Certificate of Merit – 11; National Language Arts Award – 11, 12; National Science Award – 9, 10, 11; Creative Writing Regional Award – 12; Student Government Representative – 9, 10; Student Government Secretary/Treasurer – 11; Drama – 9, 11, 12; Most Likely to Succeed Senior Superlative.



## **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:

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