

Commencement Ceremony 2014



Young Americans Christian School Board

Ed Durham, *Chairman*
Kirk Mahan
Perry Acuff
Marlene McKay

Dr. David Taylor
Brenda Durham
Jan Taylor

Young Americans Christian School Administrators

Dr. David Taylor, *Administrator*

Jan Taylor, *Director*

Terry Shelnett, *Principal*

Angie Haynes, *Elementary Principal*

Debbie Heller, *Academic Advisor*

Commencement Ceremony 2014

Prelude	Bill Nicol
Processional	“Pomp and Circumstance” by Elgar
Welcome/ Invocation.....	..Dr. David Taylor, <i>Administrator</i>
The Star Spangled BannerBrecken Watts
Valedictorian AddressRachel Williams
Salutatorian AddressShelby Anne Watts
Senior Class ProfileDebbie Heller, <i>Academic Advisor</i>
Loyalty ScholarshipEd Durham, <i>School Board Chairman</i>
Presentation of the Light Award, Eagle Award, and the Wiley O’Neill Award	Jan Taylor, <i>Director</i>
Presentation of Senior GiftLuke Macchione
Congratulatory RemarksBilly Buchanan
Video Presentation of Graduates	
Awarding of DiplomasJan Taylor, <i>Director</i> Terry Shelnut, <i>Principal</i>
Special Music.....	Emma Brown, Tia Shelnut, Katherine Wilder
Tassel CeremonyJoshua Schindler
Alma Mater.....	(audience, please join us in song – <u>remain seated</u>)
Postlude	

Audience, please refrain from inappropriate behavior during the ceremony. Please show your enthusiasm through applause only. We wish this to be a dignified evening for our graduates and families.

We welcome our guest speaker

Billy Buchanan
Biography

Billy Buchanan is the Student/Contemporary Worship Pastor at First Baptist Conyers. After receiving his Bachelor's Degree in Music from Truett McConnell College in 2007 he joined FBC's staff. He is privileged to be on staff at a church that cares for the community and youth of Rockdale County. Over the years he has seen many students graduate from Young Americans and considers it to be an honor to be a part of the YACS graduation this year.

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

Shelby Anne Watts

Rachel Diane Williams

Magna Cum Laude

Kristy Claire Ammons

Payton Leigh Methvin

Emma Caroline Brown

Rebecca Suzanne Moore

Halen Kathleen Chapman

Allie Nicole Owens

Keeli Ann Coble

Rachel Claire Replogle

Adam Wade Corbett

Brandon Scott Rhineheart

Charles Cameron Crowner

Chelsea Marie Nikole Sammons

Stephanie Isabelle Duffy

Joshua Clay Schindler

Alexander Aaron Gilland

Gabriella Marie Senator

Ariana Chabell Gonsalves-Barreiro

Tia Lanae Shelnut

Rebecca Hunter Hall

Michael Lee Smith

James Louis Heft

Emilee Jean Spence

Matthew Thomas Holzer

Melissa Jennings Sweat

Jana Alexis Jonas

Melissa Ann Thomas

Luke Michael Macchione

Brecken McKenzie Watts

Beta Club Members

Kristy Claire Ammons

Allie Nicole Owens

Emma Caroline Brown

Rachel Claire Replogle

Halen Kathleen Chapman

Brandon Scott Rhineheart

Keeli Ann Coble

Chelsea Marie Nikole Sammons

Adam Wade Corbett

Joshua Clay Schindler

Charles Cameron Crowner

Gabriella Marie Senator

Stephanie Isabelle Duffy

Tia Lanae Shelnut

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Michael Lee Smith

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Emilee Jean Spence

Rebecca Hunter Hall

Melissa Jennings Sweat

James Louis Heft

Melissa Ann Thomas

Jana Alexis Jonas

Brecken McKenzie Watts

Luke Michael Macchione

Shelby Anne Watts

Payton Leigh Methvin

Rachel Diane Williams

Rebecca Suzanne Moore

Zell Miller Scholarship

Emma Caroline Brown

Shelby Anne Watts

Brandon Scott Rhineheart

Rachel Diane Williams

Melissa Jennings Sweat

Cords

Summa Cum Laude - *Red*

Beta - *Black*

Magna Cum Laude - *Gold*

Zell Miller Scholarship - *Silver*

Medals - Valedictorian, Salutatorian, Senior Beta Officers

Student Accolades

Kristy Claire Ammons

Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 11, 12; Beta Club; Drama – 12; Volleyball – 9, 10, 11, 12; State Championship Volleyball – 11; Soccer – 9; Cheerleading – 10; All-American Cheer Award – 10; Basketball – 11; Softball – 11; Homecoming Court – 10; Mission Trip – 12.

Emma Caroline Brown

Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 11, 12; Beta Club; Student Government – 9, 10, 11, 12; Student Government Chaplain – 11, 12; Junior Class Representative; Drama – 9, 10, 11, 12; Volleyball – 10; Chapel Crew – 11, 12; Prom Committee – 11; Mission Trip – 11, 12.

Dillon Joseph Bryant

Academic Excellence Award – 9, 12; Golf – 10, 11;

Halen Kathleen Chapman

Academic Excellence Award – 11; Beta Club; Basketball – 9; Soccer – 9; Volleyball – 9,10,11,12; Volleyball Final Four – 9, 12; Volleyball State Runner-up – 10; Volleyball Best Offensive Player – 10; Volleyball All-State Player – 10; Volleyball Region Champs 9, 10, 11; Volleyball State Champs – 11; Volleyball MVP – 11; Volleyball All-State Player 11; Volleyball MVP of State Championship – 11; Volleyball All-Star Team 12.

Blake Robert Francis Chatmon

Academic Excellence Award – 9; Basketball – 10, 11, 12; Basketball Captain – 11, 12; Basketball MVP Offensive Player – 9; Basketball MVP Defensive Player – 11, 12; Homecoming Representative – 12.

Keeli Ann Coble

Academic Excellence Award – 9, 11, 12; Beta Club; Beta Club Secretary – 11; Beta Club President – 12; Student Government – 9, 10, 11; Homecoming Court – 10, 11; Drama – 9,10.

Adam Wade Corbett

Academic Excellence Award – 12; Beta Club; Baseball – 9, 10, 11, 12; Baseball Captain – 11, 12; Football – 9, 10, 11, 12; Football Captain – 11, 12; Football Anchor Award – 12; Basketball – 11.

Charles Cameron Crowner

Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 11, 12; Beta Club; Art – 9; Band – 10, 11, 12; Band - John Philip Sousa Award – 11; Golf – 10, 11; Creative Writing Club – 12; Most Likely to Succeed Senior Superlative.

Sara Grace Dalton

Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10; Soccer – 9, 10, 11, 12; Soccer All-State MVP – 10; Soccer State Champion – 10, 11; Soccer Captain – 12; Basketball – 9, 10, 11; Basketball Best Defensive Player – 10; Mission Trip – 12.

Stephanie Isabelle Duffy

Academic Excellence Award – 10, 12; Beta Club.

Katelyn Rebecca Durmire

Academic Excellence Award – 12; Basketball – 9, 10, 11, 12; Basketball All-State Player – 9, 10; Volleyball – 9, 10, 11, 12; GISA All-Star Player – 12; Volleyball All-Region Player – 12; Volleyball All-State – 11, 12; Most All-Around Senior Superlative; Mission Trip – 12.

Alexander Aaron Gilland

Academic Excellence Award – 9, 11; Beta Club; Soccer – 11, 12; Football – 9; Jet Ski Accident Survivor -9; Mission Trip – 11, 12.

Ariana Chabell Gonsalves-Barreiro

Academic Excellence Award – 11, 12; Beta Club; Drama – 9, 10, 11, 12; Cheerleading – 11, 12; Basketball Cheer Captain - 12; Cheer All-American Award – 12; Softball – 9; Softball Athletic Award – 11, 12; Softball Captain's Award – 12.

Rebecca Hunter Hall

Academic Excellence Award – 10, 11, 12; Beta Club; Football Manager/Trainer – 11, 12; Mission Trip – 11.

James Louis Heft

Academic Excellence Award – 9, 12; Beta Club; Football – 9, 10, 11, 12; Football Captain – 12; Football MVP – 11, 12; Football Offensive Player of the Year – 10, 11, 12; Football Spartan Defender Award – 9; Football Eagle Pride Award 10; Baseball – 9, 10, 11, 12; Baseball Captain – 12; Most Athletic Senior Superlative.

Tierra Denise Holliday

Academic Excellence Award – 9, 11; Dance – 9; Cheerleading – 9, 12; Basketball – 11.

Matthew Thomas Holzer

Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 11, 12; National Language Arts Award – 9, 12; National Science League Award – 10, 11, 12; Science Fair Award – 9; Art – 9; Band – 9,10, 11, 12.

Ansley Elizabeth Hullett

Volleyball – 9, 10, 11, 12; Volleyball Final Four – 9, 12; Volleyball Region Champs – 9, 10, 11; Volleyball State Runner-up – 10; Volleyball State Champs – 11; Volleyball Heart of the Team Award – 11; Soccer – 9, 10, 11; Soccer State Champs – 10, 11; Soccer Best Defensive Player – 9, 10.

Jana Alexis Jonas

Academic Excellence Award – 10, 11; Beta Club; Drama – 10, 12; Softball – 11; Cheerleading – 9, 10, 11, 12; Competition Cheer Captain – 12; ICSGA State Cheerleading MVP -11; Homecoming Court – 12; Mission Trip – 11.

Luke Michael Macchione

Academic Excellence Award – 10, 11, 12; Beta Club; Beta Club President – 11, 12; Furman Scholar Award – 11; Student Government – 10, 11, 12; Student Government President – 12; Senior Class Vice-President; Drama – 10, 11; Cross Country – 10, 11, 12; Cross Country Captain – 12; Soccer – 9, 10, 11, 12; Mission Trip – 11, 12.

Harrison Foy Mainor

Academic Excellence Award – 12; Soccer – 9, 10, 11, 12; Soccer Captain – 12; Cross Country – 10, 11; Mission Trip – 12.

Payton Leigh Methvin

Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 11, 12; Beta Club; Yearbook Editor – 11, 12.

Rebecca Suzanne Moore

Academic Excellence Award – 10, 11, 12; Beta Club; Drama – 11, 12; Prom Committee – 11.

Allie Nicole Owens

Academic Excellence Award – 9, 11, 12; Beta Club; National Language Arts Award – 9; Drama – 9, 10, 11, 12; Literary Team – 11, 12; One Act Play Team – 9, 12;

Rachel Claire Replogle

Academic Excellence Award – 10, 11, 12; Beta Club; Chapel Crew – 12; Homecoming Court – 11; Cheerleading – 9, 10, 11; Freshman Cheer Captain – 9; Cheer Best Attitude Award – 10; ICSGA All-State Cheer Award – 10, 11; Most Encouraging Senior Superlative.

Brandon Scott Rhineheart

Beta Club; National Science League Award – 12; Drama – 10, 11; Baseball – 9, 10, 11, 12; Baseball Captain – 12; Football – 12; Football Eagle Award – 12.

Katelyn Alanna Ricks

Pep Band – 9, 10; Band – 10; Dance Team – 10; Football Trainer/Manager – 10, 11, 12; Mission Trip - 11.

Chelsea Marie Nikole Sammons

Music Club – 9; Reach-1-Teach-1 Mentoring Program – 9, 10; A/B Honor Roll – 9, 10, 11; Math Tutoring – 9, 10, 11, 12.

Joshua Clay Schindler

Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 11, 12; Beta Club; Student Government – 10, 11, 12; Senior Class President; Drama – 10, 11, 12; Chapel Crew – 12; Basketball – 9, 10, 11, 12; Basketball Captain – 10, 11, 12; Baseball – 9, 10, 11, 12; Baseball Captain – 12; Cross Country – 10, 11, 12; Cross Country Captain – 11, 12; Most Talented Senior Superlative; Most Encouraging Senior Superlative; Most All-Around Senior Superlative; Homecoming King – 12; Mission Trip – 11, 12.

Gabriella Marie Senator

Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 11, 12; Beta Club; National Language Arts Award – 9; Student Government – 9, 10, 11; Student Government Vice-President – 12; Senior Class Secretary; Drama – 10, 11, 12; Soccer – 12; Cheerleading – 9, 10, 11, 12; Competition Cheerleading – 9, 10, 11, 12; Cheer Captain – 12.

Tia Lanae Shelnutt

Academic Excellence Award – 10, 11, 12; Beta Club; Junior Class President; Chapel Crew – 12; Drama – 9, 10, 11, 12; Beach Retreat Leader – 12; Cheerleading – 9, 10, 11, 12; Competition Cheerleading – 9, 10, 11, 12; Cheer Captain – 12; Homecoming Court – 12; Mission Trip – 11, 12.

Michael Lee Smith

Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 12; Beta Club; National Science League Award – 9; Student Government Treasurer – 12; Drama – 10, 11; Chapel Crew – 11, 12; Official Home Game Baseball Announcer – 12; Most Unforgettable Senior Superlative.

Emilee Jean Spence

Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 11, 12; Art Club – 9, 10; Swimming – 9, 10; Cheerleading – 9, 10, 11; Chapel Crew Band – 11; Chapel Crew – 11, 12; Drama – 12; Beach Retreat Leader – 12.

Melissa Jennings Sweat

Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 11, 12; Beta Club; National Language Arts Award – 9; Student Government – 9, 12; Volleyball – 10; Drama One Act Play – 9, 10; Drama Backstage Manager – 9, 12; Literary Team – 9, 11, 12; Prom Committee Vice-President – 11; Most Likely to Succeed Senior Superlative.

Melissa Ann Thomas

Academic Excellence Award – 9, 10, 11, 12; Beta Club; National Science League Award – 11; Student Government – 9; Drama – 9, 10, 11, 12; Drama One Act Play – 9, 12; Chapel Crew – 11, 12;

Morgan Elaine VanKanegan

Academic Excellence Award – 10; Softball – 10, 11, 12; Volleyball – 9, 10, 11, 12; Volleyball High Impact Player – 11; Softball Defensive Player of the Year – 11; Volleyball State Champs – 11.

Dalton Garrett Walker

Academic Excellence Award – 12; Art – 9, 10.

Brecken McKenzie Watts

Academic Excellence Award – 11, 12; Beta Club; Student Government Secretary – 12; Drama – 9, 10, 11; Drama One Act Play – 9; Chapel Crew – 11, 12; Literary Team – 9, 11, 12; Most Talented Senior Superlative.

Shelby Anne Watts

Salutatorian; Georgia Certificate of Merit – 11; Academic Excellence Award – 9, 12; Beta Club; Drama – 9, 10, 11, 12; Chapel Crew – 11, 12; Mission Trip – 11, 12.

Andrew Steven Albert Wiese

Academic Excellence Award – 10, 11, 12; National Language Arts Award – 10,12; National Science League Award–10,11,12; Yearbook Photo Editor–12.

Ronnie Bernard Wilcox Jr.

Academic Excellence Award – 9, 12; Beta Club; Basketball – 9, 10, 11, 12; Basketball Captain – 9, 10, 11, 12; Basketball MVP – 11, 12; Baseball – 9, 10, 11, 12; Baseball All-State Player – 11; Push 24 Leader – 10.

Katherine Mallory Wilder

Academic Excellence Award – 11, 12; Beach Retreat Leader – 11; Drama – 10, 11, 12; Cheerleading – 9, 10; Soccer – 9, 10, 11; Mascot – 12; Spanish Club President – 12; Homecoming Queen – 12; Most Unforgettable Senior Superlative; Mission Team – 11, 12.

Kyle Anthony Williams

Football – 9, 10, 11, 12; Mission Trip – 12.

Rachel Diane Williams

Star Student – 12; Valedictorian; Academic Excellence Award –9, 10, 11, 12; Beta Club; Furman Scholar – 11; Georgia Certificate of Merit – 11; National Achievement Scholarship Finalist – 12; National Language Arts Award – 9, 10; National Science League Award – 9, 10, 11; Tennis – 9; Drama – 10; Mission Trip – 11.

Skyler Elizabeth Young

Soccer – 9, 10, 11, 12; Soccer State Champs – 10, 11; Soccer Captain – 12; All-State Soccer – 10, 11; All-State Soccer MVP – 11; Soccer Best Offensive Player – 9, 10,11; Cross Country – 9; Basketball – 11; Homecoming Court – 12; Most Athletic Senior Superlative; Mission Trip – 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.

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 is fully accredited by the
Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI)
and by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS).*

Colleges Attended
by Young Americans Christian School Graduates

Young Americans Christian School has provided educational excellence for 25 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	Kennesaw State University
Athens Technical College	Kentucky Christian College
Auburn University	Lee University
Berry College	Liberty University
Brewton Parker College	Luther Rice College
Clayton State University	Mercer University
Coastal Carolina University	Mercer School of Nursing
Columbus State University	Middle Georgia College
Covenant College	Milligan College
DeKalb Technical College	Mississippi College
DeVry University	Mississippi State University
Emmanuel College	Oxford College of Emory
Emory University	Piedmont College
Faulkner University	Point University
Florida Atlantic University	Shorter College
Gainesville State College	So. Polytechnic State Univ.
Georgia College & State Univ.	Spelman College
Georgia Gwinnett College	Stamford University
Georgia Institute of Technology	Toccoa Falls College
Georgia Perimeter College	Trevecca Nazarene University
Georgia Regents University	Tuskegee University
Georgia Southwestern State University	Union University
Georgia Southern University	University of Florida
Georgia State University	University of Georgia
Gordon College	University of North Georgia
Harding University	University of West Georgia
High Point University	Valdosta State University
Johnson Bible College	Wake Forest Sch. of Medicine
Johnson & Wales Univ., NC	Young Harris College