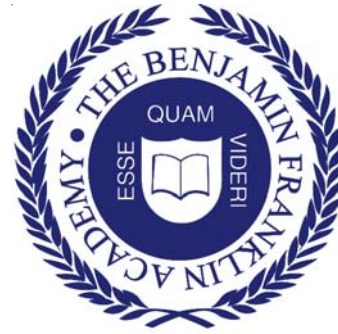


The Ben Franklin Academy
 1585 Clifton Road NE
 Atlanta, GA 30329
 Tel (404) 633-7404
 Fax (404) 321-0610
bfa@benfranklinacademy.org
www.benfranklinacademy.org



CELEBRATING OUR 20TH ANNIVERSARY

Headmaster's Column

This is a momentous year for our school. On November 11, 1987, we established Ben Franklin Academy. Before long we were soon underway offering our Franklinitan approach to secondary education for Atlanta teens – first rate individualized instruction in a caring, supportive environment for youngsters 15-18 years old.

As we begin this twentieth anniversary year, we take time to reflect upon our past, to celebrate our present, and to plan for the future. In 1987, we envisioned a high school that would build upon our work at Harvard and Emory that could offer Atlanta youth a self-paced, individualized, college preparatory program. Our work in one-to-one teaching, development, research, and college support has informed our instructional program and college placement work.

We have graduated well over twelve hundred students now and have expanded our program and facility to meet the growing need of our students. As we enter the next decade, we want to sharpen our work with the students who seem to profit most from our community and its program. We currently seek students 15-18 who want a college prep program but want to accelerate and finish high school early or who need strong individualized instruction to catch up on course work because of illness, family circumstances, frequent absences, or other difficulties with their schoolwork. We are not a therapeutic school, so we do not admit students who need substantial counseling services.

We help students who are involved in individual sports or are in the performing arts – drama, dance, or music, who need the time we provide for practice and performing. We have a long history of working with equestrians, for example. Our program has also been quite helpful to students with attention difficulties and/or mild learning disabilities. These students have been very successful at BFA.

We have a wonderful group of students this year as well as two new faculty members – Ginny Grisby, who is the new afternoon counselor; and James Watson, who interned with us last year as a Bobby Jones Scholar at Emory. James, who comes from Bristol, England, teaches mathematics, economics, and jazz piano.

We have many activities planned to celebrate this anniversary year – a birthday celebration for students and teachers, a parent and grandparent celebration, and events with Trustees, Overseers, and special friends. We look forward to seeing many of you at one of these.

Best Wishes,
 Wood Smethurst,
 Headmaster

CONTENTS

- 1-
Headmaster's
column
- 2-
Gift Report
- 3-
Special Gifts &
Developments
- 4-
BFA Players

We appreciate gifts and pledges from donors listed below which were made from June 1, 2006, to May 31, 2007 (fiscal year 2006-2007). Unrestricted gifts are designated for curriculum and facilities enhancements and for scholarship assistance.

Headmaster's Club

AEC Trust
Anonymous
Mr. & Mrs. Dameron Black III
Betty and David Botts
Emory L. Cocke Fund
Mr. & Mrs. James G. Dalton
The Robert and Polly Dunn Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. Mark L. Feidler
The Goizueta Foundation
Joy & Alan Greenberg
J. Charles Hendon, Jr.
George H. Johnson
The Thomas M. & Irene B. Kirbo Charitable Trust
Mary Ryan & Henry G. Kuhrt Foundation
Sartain Lanier Family Foundation
The Ma-Ran Foundation
Katherine John Murphy Foundation
The Wadleigh C. Winship Charitable Fund
The Zeist Foundation

Trustees' Circle

Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Birdsey
Maureen & Frank Fernandez
Lynn & Chuck Mann
Somerset Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. John Y. Williams

Houston Mill Society

Anonymous
Mr. & Mrs. James F. Black
The Very Reverend & Mrs. Samuel G. Candler
Betty Jo & Andy Currie
Mr. & Mrs. Kurt Diefenbach
Barbara & Henry Edelhauser
Deborah & Mike Fallon
Elizabeth W. & Robert G. Griffin
Dr. & Mrs. William J. Grist
Mr. & Mrs. G. Lemuel Hewes
Dr. & Mrs. Linton Hopkins
Missy & Doug LaBelle
Mr. & Mrs. H. Lamar Mixson
Mr. & Mrs. Sherrill Oliver
Marilynn & Randall Rhea
Mr. & Mrs. R. Charles Shufeldt
Dr. Wood Smethurst
Mr. & Mrs. J. Thomas Wiley, Jr.
Mrs. Susan S. Williams

Ambassadors

Rob Brinson
Professor Jerome Bruner
Edward D. Buckley & Patricia H. Buckley
The John Coggins III Foundation
Beverly B. Coker
Cathy & Ed Farley
Nancy & Robert Finer
Loretta W. Franklin

Ambassadors (continued)

Dee & Peter Glass
Suzy & Greg Greenfield
Beulah Heinitch
Mr. & Mrs. William H. Izlar, Jr.
Dr. & Mrs. Paul Kirschbaum
Mr. & Mrs. John H. Kramer
Ruth & Stephen McGehee
Michael T. Page
Jonathan Prude & Rosemary Eberiel
Lawrence & Avril Rowley
Mr. & Mrs. Charles D. Tuller

Contributors

Mr. & Mrs. Frederick A. Alders
Gertrude Darden Allen
Amy & Lee Barnes
Robert J. Beckham
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas C. Benedict
Dameron Black IV & Nancy Cotham Black
Mrs. Minnie E. Black
John & Gerry Bullard
Martha & Wayne Burdette
Mr. & Mrs. A. D. Cannon, Jr.
Enid & Richard Carlin
Dr. & Mrs. Danko Cerenko
Anne & Tony Cochran
Mr. & Mrs. Pendleton B. Crump
Rosemary & Tom Cunningham
Lee Davis
Elizabeth & John Donnelly
Mr. & Mrs. Philip J. Duffy, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. David Erickson
Kitty & Clayton Farnham
Mr. & Mrs. Rawson Foreman
Susan & Robert Foster
Wilson F. Gordon III
Ms. Dana R. Grantham
Bruce & Adele Greenfield Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. H. Edward Hales, Jr.
Sandy & Scott Harris
Penny & George Hart
Debbie & Gary Heaton
Eve Hoffman
Sharyn & Denny Holmes
Clark Howell
Mr. & Mrs. Neal Irby
Deborah Keenan
Dr. & Mrs. Barry Kennedy
Dr. Douglas Klaucke & Ms. Natalie Moses
Sandra & Steve Lackland
Mr. & Mrs. James B. Lansing
Steve Lansing
Claire H. Law
Mary R. Lee
Robert A. Lerman
Debra Livingston
Mr. & Mrs. W. P. Mallard, Sr.
Stan Matarazzo - Trustee - Carmine J. Matarazzo Charitable Foundation
Martha & Sam Mathis
Annette & Peter Mayfield
Mr. & Mrs. F. Raymond McIntyre III
Dr. Linda McKibben & Mr. Ray Strikas

Contributors (continued)

Virginia K. Moore
Diana Padron
Mr. & Mrs. Claud Pounds
Ronald L. Raitz
Brenda Rambeau
Dr. Gerald Rehert
Ned Rifkin
Robert Roche & Patricia M. Burn
Mr. & Mrs. J. L. Sapp
Mr. & Mrs. Michael R. Sellars
Janice & John Shackleton
Gerald Shaffer
Claudia R. Shorr
Susan Silver
Henry Duncan Singletary
Dr. Ginny Soules
Lisa & Robert Stovall
Diane C. Tanger
Target Stores
Terry & Wes Vawter
Mr. & Mrs. C. M. Waldrop
Vivian, Jake & Graham Waldrop
Mr. & Mrs. Abraham L. Walker
Peter C. Ward
Harriet & Paul Weinberg
Lynda & Bob Wilson
Judith & Eugene Winograd
Katherine P. Wolfes

Gifts-In-Kind

Martha & Wayne Burdette
Carolyn Milner
Mr. Spencer Rosenfeld
Dr. & Mrs. Paul Walker

Matching Gift Companies & Foundations

Bank of America
Milliken & Company
SunTrust Bank Atlanta Foundation

Dameron Black, Jr. Memorial Fund

Katherine John Murphy Foundation

Emory C. Black Memorial Fund

Martha & Wayne Burdette
Mr. & Mrs. Kurt Diefenbach
Wilson F. Gordon
Dr. Wood Smethurst

Austin Sanders Botts Art Fund

Betty & David Botts

Professor Carol Feldman Fund

Professor Jerome Bruner
Martha & Wayne Burdette
Dr. Wood Smethurst

Dalton M. King Memorial Fund

Mr. & Mrs. James G. Dalton, Sr.

The following parents and grandparents of the 2006-2007 seniors have made gifts to Ben Franklin Academy in honor of their graduates and/or BFA faculty:

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick A. Alders

In honor of granddaughter Britt Alders

Ms. Gertrude Darden Allen

In honor of grandson Graham Eden Waldrop

Patrica H. Buckley and Edward D. Buckley

In honor of daughter Hope Buckley

Terence Chorba and Linda Grabbe

In honor of Gene Chorba and Olga Inozemtseva

Deborah and Mike Fallon

In honor of daughter Kathy Fallon, Dr. Martha Burdette and Peter Birdsey

Maureen and Frank Fernandez

In honor of daughter Keenan Fernandez

Nancy and Robert Finer

In honor of son Jon and his teacher Olga Inozemtseva

Elizabeth W. and Robert G. Griffin

In honor of granddaughter Kelly Sanders

Debbie and Gary Heaton

In honor of Martha Burdette and Rand Wise

Mr. and Mrs. Claud Pounds

In honor of granddaughter Alexis Pounds

Claudia Shorr

In honor of daughter Julie Shorr and BFA faculty and staff

Jake, Vivian, and Graham Waldrop

In honor of the Senior House Teachers, Dr. Pamela Turner, and Dr. Wood Smethurst

Memorial Gifts:

John Beckham

By Mr. Robert J. Beckham

By Mr. Ronald L. Raitz

Austin Botts

By Mr. & Mrs. Dameron Black III

John Coggins III

By The John Coggins III Foundation

David L. Coker

By Ms. Beverly B. Coker

Lewis Fish

By Ms. Diana S. Padron

Joe P. Grantham, Jr.

By Ms. Dana R. Grantham

Brice & Dalton King

By Mr. George H. Johnson

Josephine Raggs

By Mr. & Mrs. James F. Black

Gifts were given in honor of:

Jane Black

By Ned Rifkin

Martha Burdette

By Avril & Lawrence Rowley

By Betty Jo & Andy Currie

By Terry & Wes Vawter

Clayton Donnelly

By Elizabeth & John Donnelly

Katherine Koplowitz Easterly

By Virginia K. Moore

McLean Harris

By Sandy & Scott Harris

Chloe Head

By Gerry & John Bullard

Chase Lackland

By Sandra & Steve Lackland

Steve Lansing

By Mr. & Mrs. James B. Lansing

William Paul Mallard, Jr.

By Mr. & Mrs. W. P. Mallard, Sr.

Erik Matarazzo

By Stan Matarazzo - Carmine J.

Matarazzo Charitable Foundation

Ryan Thomas Rhea

By Marilynn & Randall Rhea

Emily A. Shaffer

By Gerald Shaffer

Robert Silver

By Susan Silver

Wood Smethurst

By Betty Jo & Andy Currie

By Penny & George Hart

Jonathan B. Walker

By Mr. & Mrs. Abraham L. Walker

New developments

This summer we completed several construction projects to enhance the drama and art programs, to renovate Emory C. Black Hall kitchen, and to finish Phase II of the handicap access between Junior House and Emory C. Black Hall. A special gift from the AEC Trust enabled us to update and relocate the Dark Room closer to the Art Room, and convert the existing Dark Room into a Drama Dressing Room behind the stage area (See pictures below.).

Phase II of the handicap access plan involved completing a walkway from Phase I (the concrete walkway and allée across the gravel parking lot) through the Emory C. Black Gardens to the kitchen entrance of Emory C. Black Hall. Students, faculty, and guests are lyrical about the beauty of the new gardens and the functionality of the walk. The wooden bridge/ramp looks as though it has always been there! We greatly appreciate Ed Daugherty's genius in helping us develop the project. Students are enjoying the new floor and appliances in Emory C. Black Hall kitchen as well.



FRANKLIN PLAYERS OPEN SEASON WITH CHILDREN'S SHOW

The Franklin Players, Ben Franklin's award-winning theatre ensemble, open their three-show 2007-2008 Season with *Bunnacula*, adapted by playwright Jon Klein from the book by James Howe. Music composition is by Chris Jeffries. This wonderful play for children is about a family hilariously disrupted by a visit from a vampire rabbit and is told from the perspective of Chester and Howard, the rambunctious resident cat and dog. The show features humorous songs such as the opener *Pets in the House* with lyrics like "Roaches and worms are not very verbal, but on the whole they're better than gerbils". There are also songs about growing up and other important relationship issues, like the poignant *Getting Along* that states "'If he's so smart, then where's his heart, I don't need him as a friend.'" Performances of the show will be at 7:30 pm, on Tuesday, October 23 and Wednesday, October 24, in the Carriage House at Ben Franklin. During the week of October 29, the show will tour to a few local elementary schools and then go on to the Georgia High School One-Act Play Competition regional on Saturday, November 3. Last year, The Franklin Players took first place in the sub-regional competition and fourth place in the regional contest.

Ensemble members, including **Hilary Riall, Nathan Howell, Drew Hayner, Ben Wardi, Robert Landau, Marguerite Van Mansfeld, and Amanuel Neguede** are excited about performing for audiences of different ages. In selecting this year's season, the 2006-2007 play committee members were unanimous in their belief that *Bunnacula* has both sophistication and charm and will appeal to adults as well as children. As usual, The Franklin Players will prepare all aspects of the show including building a large rabbit rod puppet and learning Bunraku puppetry techniques. The set, which will be a full three-sided "box set" house interior including a painted floor, must be built so that it can travel to off-site locations after the run at Ben Franklin. As if all this activity weren't enough, the ensemble will also attend the Georgia Theatre Conference in Valdosta during October and take part in their first field trip of the year (part of the academic component of the theatre program), this one to the Alliance Theatre. In February, The Franklin Players will continue their show season with a presentation of *Inherit the Wind* and in April, they will finish the year with a multi-media production of *The Book of Murder*. The director of the Theatre and Film Program is Dr. Pamela Turner, with BFA Associate Dean Jeff Guthrie serving as Technical Director and faculty member Wright Howell acting as Line Coach. A new member of the faculty, James Watson, will assist with music.



The Ben Franklin Academy admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school.

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
DECATUR, GA
PERMIT NO. 208

The Ben Franklin Academy
1585 Clifton Road NE Atlanta, GA 30329
Tel (404) 633-7404 Fax (404) 321-0610
bfa@benfranklinacademy.org
www.benfranklinacademy.org

