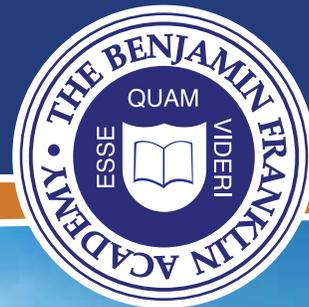
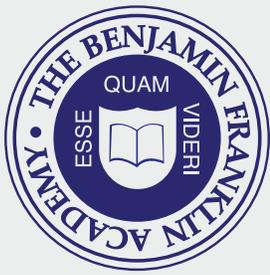


# AN EXPANDED HOME FOR ACHIEVING THE *Possible*

THE \$1.75 MILLION EXPANSION CAMPAIGN FOR BEN FRANKLIN ACADEMY





## INVOLVING STUDENTS IN THE PROCESS OF LEARNING

Students arrive at BFA to pursue a mastery education and individualized instruction. As such, we believe it is critically important to know each one's personal interests, goals and precise learning needs.

*Rather than tell students how their next chapter will unfold, at BFA, we write the story together.*

BFA is small by design, welcoming 125-135 students each year from 13 metro-Atlanta counties and a diverse range of backgrounds and strengths. We offer a rare and effective combination of a rigorous college preparatory curriculum in a flexible and personalized setting.

## THE EXPANSION CAMPAIGN FOR BEN FRANKLIN ACADEMY

As word has grown about BFA's unique and effective approach, more students seek us out as an academic home for all four years of high school. We now have an equal mix of students favoring the longer-day versus the half-day schedule, meaning we have more student cohorts at the school throughout the day. During the mid-day period, when our full-day and half-day students overlap, space is at premium, and teachers and students use every nook available.

Our academic buildings are much more than a collection of classrooms. We value the homelike environment that we have created—complete with a well-stocked kitchen, beautifully landscaped gardens and even a house cat—where students can relax and focus on discovery.

The BFA campus is well utilized, but we simply need more space. Not only does BFA require more social gathering places, but also specialized classrooms and dedicated meeting spaces for one-on-one coaching, conferences, counseling, and testing. The \$1.75 million capital campaign will enhance learning spaces and expand the footprint of the school, while also making the school more accessible for the handicapped through the addition of an elevator.



## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS WILL INCLUDE:

BELOW: Proposed Side Elevation.  
BOTTOM: Proposed Floorplans for the  
Upper Level (left), Main Level (center),  
and Ground Level (right). Renderings  
courtesy of Marvin M. Kilgo, Jr., Architect.



### EXPANSION OF SPECIALIZED LEARNING SPACES

Study after study affirms that science, technology and math skills are necessary for careers of the future. Increasingly, the arts have been added to the STEM equation as a critical element in the drive for innovation. These academic programs require specialized learning spaces for hands-on experimentation. Through the campaign, BFA will expand its infrastructure for science and art with lab and studio art rooms designed to support these subjects.

A new art room will be added to meet the needs of BFA's students, many of whom have a deep interest in the arts. Thanks to the generosity of an early donor, the room will have a kiln for students to create ceramic works, as well as space for painting, drawing and other studio art classes. The new art room will open to an outdoor art courtyard, where students can display their artistic creations for parents, peers and teachers.

BFA's current science lab area is small with limited equipment for experiments, a requirement for AP science classes. This campaign includes the creation of a larger science room on the main floor with a retractable wall to allow for maximum flexibility. In addition, a small area on the front of the building will be used as a greenhouse by members of BFA's Green Club and for Biology labs.



**"TELL ME AND  
I FORGET, TEACH  
ME AND I REMEMBER,  
INVOLVE ME AND  
I LEARN."**

— Benjamin Franklin

### CONFERENCE AND MEETING ROOM ADDITIONS

As part of the expansion, BFA will gain three multi-purpose rooms for meeting with parents and prospective students. Teachers will benefit from an expanded workroom to more effectively prepare course materials. Flexible study spaces will be added for testing and instruction, and three small office spaces will be added for BFA administration and teachers to conduct lesson planning, conferences with students or parents, and other administrative duties.





## OUTDOOR SPACE

Students and teachers cherish BFA's beautiful gardens and grounds. It is not uncommon to see students reading outdoors or for teachers to take their classrooms outside to enjoy the sun and fresh air. As part of the capital improvements, a landscaped entry court will be added along the new driveway of the school, allowing direct access to the newly-installed elevator on the ground floor of the school. A beautiful front patio, lined with bricks given in honor of BFA students and others, will welcome all visitors to the school and serve as a gathering space for students during their free time.

## FURNISHING THE CAMPUS

To foster a relaxed home-like environment at school, comfortable furnishings are imperative. Instead of small, classroom desks, classrooms are outfitted with oak tables and chairs, lending the school an undeniable charm. These pieces are showing the wear and tear of daily use by teenagers. Through this campaign, classrooms and offices in both the Junior and Senior Houses will be refreshed with updated furniture that is both functional and comfortable and technology upgrades, including a new Smart Board for interactive learning.

BFA has a strong record of fiscal responsibility, with stable enrollment and very high student retention. The school is debt-free and has a maintenance reserve for ongoing building repairs and upgrades. This campaign will enable BFA to make significant improvements that will benefit generations of future students.

**"BFA HAS A WHOLE DIFFERENT APPROACH TO PREPARING YOUNG PEOPLE FOR LIFE. THEY HELP STUDENTS GET RE-FOCUSED ON LEARNING, RATHER THAN FRETTING OVER THE NEXT REPORT CARD. THE SCHOOL CERTAINLY EMPHASIZES COLLEGE PREP, BUT THEY HELP STUDENTS DEVELOP OTHER SKILLS THAT ARE EQUALLY IMPORTANT. THE WORK-STUDY PROGRAM IS EXCELLENT; IT ALLOWED MY SONS TO THINK ABOUT THE FUTURE AND LEARN HOW TO GET ALONG IN A REAL WORK ENVIRONMENT."**

— C. Michael Cassidy, Parent of two BFA Alumni  
President and CEO, Georgia Research Alliance



## BEN FRANKLIN ACADEMY (BFA) IS LIKE NO OTHER SCHOOL IN ATLANTA.

With a focus on student mastery of knowledge and comfortable classroom settings, BFA has created a unique environment for students and families seeking a more individualized, innovative and flexible approach to a college-preparatory education.

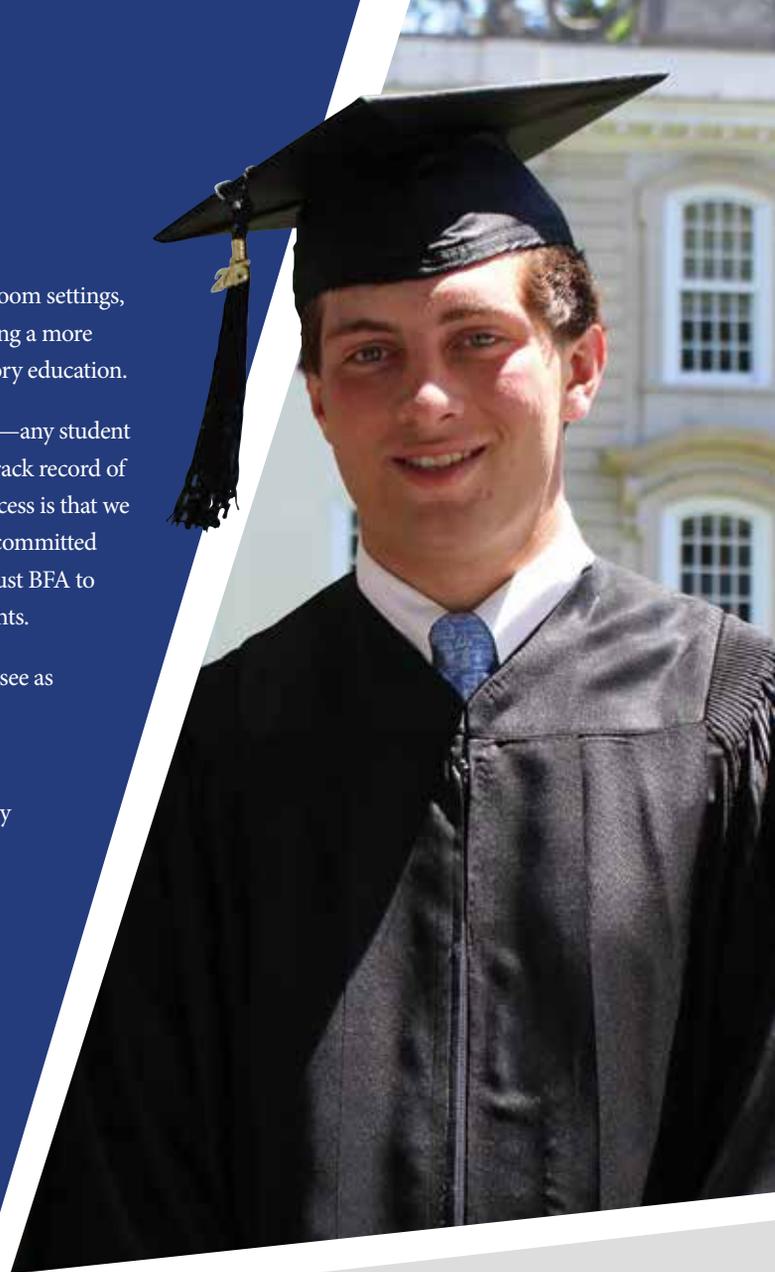
Time and again, BFA has shown that—when given the right approach—any student with the desire to learn can excel academically. We have an excellent track record of helping students understand how they learn best. The key to BFA's success is that we understand the “right approach” differs from student to student. Our committed faculty work hard to engage and support students. In turn, students trust BFA to challenge and guide them to unimagined academic and personal heights.

The greatest measure of our impact is the personal transformation we see as students reconnect with the desire to learn and excel:

- Disengaged students recover their inner passion for learning when allowed to accelerate through subjects that are easily grasped, or they deeply explore a creative pursuit;
- Discouraged students discover unknown capabilities when taught how to study effectively and manage learning challenges;
- Bright but underachieving students learn life lessons not found in any textbook when encouraged to pursue work or volunteer experiences; and,
- Accelerated students embrace the opportunities to complete high school early or enroll jointly with colleges.

Every aspect of BFA—beginning with our well-loved academic buildings—reflects our commitment to making school a place where students feel welcomed and relaxed. BFA remains committed to its intimate size, but recognizes a need for more room to teach, counsel and provide students with space for creative and scientific exploration.

Ben Franklin Academy is now launching a capital campaign to expand and enhance our campus so that we can better serve students as they discover all the possibilities that learning reveals.



**“ATTENDING BEN FRANKLIN ACADEMY WAS A TRANSFORMATIONAL EXPERIENCE...IT CHANGED MY PATH IN LIFE. AT BFA, YOU HAVE A TEAM BEHIND YOU THAT IS PERSONALLY INVESTED IN YOUR SUCCESS. THE TEACHERS WANT TO KNOW WHAT YOU ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT, AND THEY ENCOURAGE YOU TO EXPLORE THOSE INTERESTS. I WAS ABLE TO BEGIN MY EVOLUTION TO ADULTHOOD AND REALLY PONDER, ‘WHO AM I GOING TO BE WHEN I GROW UP?’”**

— Christina Hoff, BFA Alumna  
Artistic Director, Fabrefaction Theatre Conservatory



## AN EXPANDED HOME FOR ACHIEVING THE POSSIBLE

Our namesake, Benjamin Franklin, was a self-made man who epitomized what is possible when one has the desire to learn. BFA helps young people realize dreams they might never have anticipated without the guidance of caring and trusted teachers.

For many years, BFA has been one of the best kept secrets in Atlanta's educational community—a small school that has experienced tremendous success by helping students take the lead in their own learning. There is no secret to BFA's success: it has been built student by student as young people come to understand who they are as learners and what they need to be successful.

**With your support, BFA will expand our campus so that we can better serve students as they discover and achieve all that is within their grasp.**

**“THE LEADERS AND TEACHERS AT BEN FRANKLIN ACADEMY UNDERSTAND THAT WHEN YOU HAVE TRUST, YOU CAN ACCOMPLISH A LOT MORE. BFA GETS ON BOARD WITH WHAT STUDENTS NEED, AND IN RETURN, THE STUDENTS GET ON BOARD WITH BFA. WHEN STUDENTS FEEL RESPECTED, THEY OPEN UP TO WHAT THEY NEED TO DO TO EXCEL AT SCHOOL. ONCE THAT HAPPENS, THEY CAN LEARN ANYTHING.”**

— Jane Black, President, Board of Trustees

### FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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