



CHALKTALK IS A PUBLICATION OF HANNAH MORE SCHOOL

FALL 2011

chalktalk



2011 graduation

“If it weren’t for HMS I don’t think I would be here today. I would have given up a long time ago. I owe HMS my life. I was in such a bad place. I have learned that you can be open and not hide your feelings or pretend to be somebody else. I don’t have to be perfect.”

Source: 2011 senior exit interviews



On Friday, June 17, graduation ceremonies were held in the school’s Jonathan M. Camp Memorial Gymnasium. Hannah More School President Mark Waldman welcomed everyone and congratulated the class of 2011 on their achievements, stating that this year 58 percent of graduates would be attending college, 23 percent planned to pursue additional vocational training, and 19 percent would be enrolling in training through the Division of Rehabilitative Services. School Social Worker Shelley Jones-Price introduced the guest speaker, alumna Allison Berg, who talked about her struggles in school. Berg entered Hannah More in 8th grade, and was able to transition back to her home school in 10th grade. She obtained a Bachelor’s Degree in Social Work from Salisbury University in May 2010, and a Master’s Degree in Social Work from Boston University in June 2011. Berg talked about the support she received from Hannah More staff and also about lessons for success she has learned along the way. Paul Kaplan, Director of Clinical Services, recognized the 31 new members of the Alumni Association. Director of Education Michael Kerins congratulated all of the graduates on their achievements and announced several awards. Jackson Element received the Principal’s Award. Manny Dunstan was recognized as the Student of the Year for the middle school, and Nia Dobbs received the Student of the Year award for the high school. The School Spirit Award was presented to senior Nadia Pickett.

Since graduation would not be complete without a musical performance, Mr. Kerins welcomed senior Bria Griffith to the stage for a solo saxophone performance. Next, Griffith and Matt Oberholtzer—Senior Class President

and Vice President, respectively—talked about their experiences at Hannah More and thanked their teachers, parents, family, and friends for supporting their success.

Parent speaker Gloria Petros, mother of senior Tony Petros, congratulated the graduates and expressed her thanks to staff for their efforts on behalf of her son and all of the students at Hannah More. Students Bria Griffith, Elizabeth Steffen, Stephanie Hotem, and Alex Layte were welcomed to the stage where they sang, “Seasons of Love,” from the Broadway musical, “RENT.”

Vanna Kauffman presented the Arthur Kauffman Memorial Scholarship to Matt Oberholtzer. This scholarship is in memory of Arthur Kauffman, a good friend of the school who passed away in 2007. It is awarded each year to a graduating senior enrolled in the Decker Career Technology Education Program and helps cover the costs of career education and training. Hannah More School Foundation Board Member Shirley Smith also presented several awards. Middle school students Ta’Von Baker and Daniel Graham were selected as winners of the Martin J. Smith Summer Scholarship to pursue a summer sports camp. The late Mr. Martin Smith was an active member of the Hannah More School Board of Directors. Ms. Smith presented the Martin J. Smith-Hannah More School Academic Scholarship to Leah Banthem Gibson in recognition of her academic achievements. Ms. Smith then presented the Stephen W. McNierney Scholarship Award to Bria Griffith.

Congratulations to the class of 2011, and best wishes for your future success! We hope you will stay in touch.



Gigamajig!

On Friday, May 13, 2011, more than 250 supporters, friends, and staff of Hannah More School gathered at the Grand Lodge in Hunt Valley for Gigamajig! 2011: Unloose Your Seuss! Proceeds from this year's event will help support technology for the classroom and the Rev. Frederick J. Hanna Scholarship Fund.

The fun Dr. Seuss theme was reflected in the more than 30 colorful table centerpieces, which were created by students under the direction of art teacher Maria Wilson. A variety of unique live and silent auction items were offered including several very popular wood pieces constructed by the school's Building Trades students. Among the sought after auction items were four seats in the Governor's Box at M&T Bank Stadium to see a Ravens game, a getaway to a private island in Norway, Orioles Club Seat tickets, and other great items.

During the reception guests were treated to a delightful performance by student Evan

Bertrand on piano. After dinner, guests enjoyed the talents of the incredible Incognito Artists, then danced the night away to the sounds of Mood Swings Big Band.

Thank you very much to our Honorary Chairpersons, James T. Smith, Jr., and Sandy Smith, and Event Co-chairs Charlie and Nancy Klein. We are also very grateful to the following sponsors for their generous support: Susquehanna Bank; The Michael Campitelli Family; Corporate Office Properties Trust; M&T Bank; VPC; Bonnie Heneson Communications; Charles A. Klein & Sons; Farmers & Merchants Bank; Kathryn Shagas Design; McLean Contracting Company; Kathryn Painter and the Seawell Family; Whiteford, Taylor & Preston; The Whiting-Turner Contracting

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Mark Waldman, President Joan Drebing, Writer Kathryn Shagas, Design Tracey Brown, Photography

Hannah More School provides individualized academic, vocational, and therapeutic programs to elementary, middle, and high school students who have been identified as emotionally disabled, autistic, learning disabled, or other health impaired, or whose behaviors have interfered with their ability to be successful in public school. The school is committed to providing such programs in a nurturing and educationally challenging environment so that students may develop the skills necessary to reach their greatest potential in an increasingly complex and culturally diverse society.

more talk

Hannah More School Board Elects New Slate of Officers for 2011–2012

The following individuals were recently elected as officers of the Hannah More School Board of Directors: Chairman, Kenneth Higgins; Vice-Chairman, Michael G. Ritchey; Secretary, Lori Simpson; Treasurer, Christopher Holt. Congratulations to these officers on their appointments. We are grateful for your hard work and dedication to Hannah More School.

Congratulations to Staff for Years of Service

The following staff recently celebrated significant service anniversaries!

5 years: Ivan Bluman, Dean Mann, Michael McKenziey, Joyce Slessman, Matthew Marriott, Craig Piette

Save the Date! Capitol Steps Return in 2012

We are delighted that the hilarious comedy troupe the Capitol Steps will return in 2012 for a fundraiser to benefit our school. The event will be held on Saturday, March 24, 2012, at the Gordon Center for Performing Arts in Owings Mills. Please Save the Date! For more information, contact the Hannah More School Development office at (443) 881-2031.

be working with other employer partners, including Chatsworth Elementary, The Baltimore Humane Society, Franklin Elementary, Mountainside Veterinary Hospital, Brick Bodies, Quiznos, Mars, and Rite Aid. Thanks to these schools, organizations, and businesses for providing a place for our students to learn important work and life skills.

Celebrate a Special Event, or Remember a Loved One with a Charitable Gift

Did you know that you can make a gift to Hannah More School to celebrate a birthday, graduation, or other special occasion, or



Congratulations to all.

30 years: Tommy Thaniel

25 years: Janis Doten, Maria Wilson

20 years: Stefani Hoffman

10 years: Bryan Mroz, Al Chichester,

Michelle Morrison, Charles Beers, Ruth

Whiting

Students Participate in Local Work- Based Learning Programs

Our students work in the Owings Mills, Reisterstown, and Glyndon business communities participating in a variety of work-based learning programs. Currently, we have students at Reisterstown Elementary School and New Town Elementary School and will

memorialize a loved one? To make an honor or memorial gift, please send your check to the school, and include the name of the person being honored or remembered. Please be sure to include contact information for the person or the person's family. The school will acknowledge your gift, and also send a note to the person or family.

Hannah More School students and staff benefited throughout the year from generous gifts from our supporters.

annual report 2010–2011

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On Friday, May 13, 2011, more than 250 guests joined us for "Gigamajig! Unloose Your Seuss." We extend our deepest thanks to Event Co-chairs Charlie and Nancy Klein and the event committee for their hard work, and the following generous sponsors for their loyal support:

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