

A photograph of a graduation ceremony. In the foreground, several graduates in maroon caps and gowns are shown in profile, looking towards the right. One graduate's cap has a gold tassel with the year '2016' on it. The background is filled with a large crowd of people, some in white caps and gowns, creating a sense of a large-scale event.

YEAR IN REVIEW 2015-2016

PORTSMOUTH
CHRISTIAN
ACADEMY
— AT DOVER —



Spring Break Missions Trip to Haiti

PCA senior Amelia Sheedy spent her February break in Haiti with fellow students Wes ('16) and Magdalena ('18) Tobin. During this church-sponsored missions trip, Amelia and the Tobins provided support for a daycare hosted by Maranatha Ministries. Read more about this transformational week on page four.



MISSION STATEMENT: PCA exists to honor God joyfully by inspiring students to maximize their God-given potential.

VISION: Christ-centered graduates impacting the world for good

From the desk of Dr. Engstrom, HOS

Through God’s grace, PCA was blessed with many accomplishments this past year. Our 2016 graduates were accepted to excellent universities and colleges throughout the world, and have left an outstanding legacy, particularly in the fine arts and athletics.

During exit interviews with seniors and eighth grade students in May, I was so impressed by the way they expressed their spiritual growth. One said, “I have grown a lot during the daily chapel program at the Upper School; God has spoken to me this year.” As one eighth grader said, “I have begun to be a more God-loving person and have grown drastically in my faith!” I count it a privilege to see how God is at work at PCA, nurturing the intellectual and spiritual formation of each of our students.



In Memoriam

We dedicate the *2015-16 Year in Review* to the memory of William Pope. In the words of Dennis Runey at Bill Pope’s memorial service on July 23, 2016:

“Bill was the type of American who made this country great. His faith was deep and manifested in the manner in which he carried out the Great Commandment, to love thy neighbor. Bill was particularly supportive of PCA because of its strong emphasis on critical thinking, American history and the role of its founders, and rigorous academics all taught within the framework of a Christian worldview. The art and music rooms at the Upper School bear testimony to their generosity.”

Thanks to the Pope family, Mr. Runey continued, PCA also *“now boasts a magnificent four-court tennis complex and is home to a thriving tennis program whose athletes compete at the State championship level. What an enduring legacy!”*



~ YEAR IN REVIEW ~

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The *Year in Review* is produced annually for parents, alumni, and friends of Portsmouth Christian Academy.

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And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Colossians 3:17





**The Class of 2016
plans to attend:**

Emily Brashear, *Plymouth State University*
 Alexander Cheney, *University of Redlands*
 Rachel Cunningham, *Great Bay Community College*
 Kristin Durham, *Southwestern Assemblies of God University*
 Emma Foley, *Fitchburg State University*
 Alexandra Garton, *Kingswood University*
 Caleb Gendron, *Great Bay Community College*
 Maria Ghigliotti, *Emmanuel College*
 Rebecca Heidt, *University of Maine*
 Christian Hollis, *Johnson & Wales University*
 Jeremy Johnson, *United States Naval Academy Prep School*
 Noah Johnson, *Great Bay Community College*
 Charlotte Kohl, *Redeemer University College*
 Breana Kniphfer, *Johnson & Wales University*
 Kylani Lafleur, *Notre Dame Preparatory School, Post Grad Year*
 Ashley Lemire, *York County Community College*
 Tianze Liu, *Rutgers University-New Brunswick*
 Benjamin Lovern, *New England College*
 Fei Ma, *University of California, Irvine*
 Yanzhe Ma, *University of California, San Diego*
 Grace MacLeod, *Rollins College*
 Jessica Mayes, *American University*
 Patricia McCrone, *Saint Anselm College, Honors Program*
 Michael Moran, *York County Community College*
 Judith Notaro, *York County Community College*
 Rebecca Poole, *West Virginia University*
 Andrew Porter, *Massachusetts College of Art and Design*
 Devon Raftery-Smart, *Great Bay Community College*
 Joshua Rocconi, *Baylor University*
 Kylie Sanborn, *Liberty University*
 Ben Shao, *Pennsylvania State University, Erie*
 Amelia Sheedy, *University of Maine*
 Cara Song, *Sciences Po-College Universitaire du Havre*
 Sam Su, *University of Melbourne*
 Lauren Taylor, *Campbell University*
 Wesley Tobin, *Olivet Nazarene University*
 Joseph Towle, *Wentworth Institute of Technology*
 Nicholas Wakeman, *University of New Hampshire*
 Emma Wisniewski, *University of Rochester*
 Man Yuan, *Michigan State University*

For a complete list of where PCA graduates have been accepted please visit pcaschool.org.



Josh Rocconi, Class President and Valedictorian

Portsmouth Christian Academy proudly celebrates the accomplishments of the Class of 2016, whose graduation ceremony took place Friday evening June 10, 2016 at the Bethany Congregational Church in Greenland, NH. The new graduates received over \$4 million in merit awards and were collectively accepted at 172 different colleges and universities, including Case Western Reserve, Colby-Sawyer College, George Mason University, Loyola University, American University of Paris, and the University of Melbourne.

**Reflections from Josh Rocconi, Class President and Valedictorian
(Excerpts from Valedictorian Address)**

To the class of 2016, thank you. Thank you for all the great memories, like Brookwoods, countless volleyball, soccer, basketball, baseball and softball games, many great theatre productions, and this final memory now, that we will remember for the rest of our lives.

... When you look at the class of 2016, you'll see a lot of diversity. That is what makes us great. We have some people who are brilliant, some great artists, amazing actors and actresses, incredible singers, leaders and hard workers, a kid that can kick a soccer ball into a net from fifty yards out and another one that can throw a baseball ninety-three miles an hour. We even have a Chris Hollis, and that makes us the most unique class on earth.

In 20 years, the people in this class will have become doctors, lawyers, business owners, pastors, politicians, professional athletes, missionaries, and ultimately world-changers. My challenge to you, my fellow seniors, is to not let the opportunities and the talents God has given you go to waste. Use them to help further His kingdom and bring glory to Him.

**Reflections from Jessica Mayes, Salutatorian and Class Secretary
(Excerpts from Salutatorian Address)**

I'm sure you have all heard, our generation is supposedly the most apathetic. We don't care about politics, we don't care about our community, and we don't care about the world. However, when I reflect on the students I have spent four years with, I refuse to accept this. Sitting in front of me are students who do care. Students who spent study halls in the lounge debating public policy, who spent many hours volunteering, and who want to make a difference in the world. As you go out into the world, do not lose this passion. Continue speaking your mind about politics or current events, keep on volunteering, find a cause that speaks to your hearts and together we will change this misconception about our generation. I cannot wait until the day I read articles about my classmates finding the cures to diseases, starting nonprofits, or even becoming president.



We are in a room that is full of people who care about you and want you to succeed. But, if you ever forget that, please remember that Christ always loves you and He will help you succeed. If you remember this amazing support system you have from back home, you will be able to overcome any challenge the future throws your way.

Reflections from Dr. Susan Pleticha, Senior Class Advisor

It was a great experience working with the young men and women of PCA's class of 2016. Every year it is such a bittersweet time to say goodbye to the graduating class. May God bless you all richly in your endeavors and we will look forward to hearing how God is using all the gifts and experience he has given you.



Dr. Susan Pleticha, Senior Class Advisor and Bible Teacher

 *For the full text of the graduation speeches, go to pcaschool.org/YIR*



Graduates Jessica Mayes and Grace MacLeod with Russell Weatherspoon, graduation speaker



These five graduating seniors attended the Academy for twelve years or more: Left to right, Top: Danielle Brashear, Emily Brashear, Ashley Lemire. Bottom: Andrew Porter and Joseph Towle.

*Each of these students earned high or highest honors **every** marking period of their high school careers:*

- Emma Foley
- Rebecca (Becky) Heidt
- Grace MacLeod
- Jessica Mayes
- Judith Notaro
- Joshua Rocconi
- Runkun (Cara) Song
- Lauren Taylor
- Nicholas Wakeman
- Emma Wisniewski

See photo left



Lauren Taylor, 2016 Golden Eagle Award recipient



PCA UPPER SCHOOL STUDENTS SERVE IN HAITI

Over February break, three Upper School students – Amelia Sheedy ('16), Magdalena Tobin ('18), and Wesley Tobin ('16) – participated in a mission trip to Haiti sponsored by their church, Be Free – Dover. In photo on the right, are Amelia's reflections from their trip as seen through *Instagram*



PCA SENIOR TEACHES MANDARIN

PCA 2016 graduate Runkun "Cara" Song is a member of the Chinese Calligraphers' Association of Zhengzhou City, China; founder and CEO of the non-profit organization New New Star, Corp; and a Top 10 contender in the 2015 "Miss Asia" Pageant US East Coast-Boston. Three years ago, Cara started studying at PCA as a sophomore, where she founded the Chinese Club and served on the school's student council. Combining

her passion for calligraphy with a desire to help others in need and preserve traditional Chinese culture, she launched New New Star Corp (NNS) in September 2015. NNS is a US registered non-profit organization with a two-fold purpose. NNS supports under-resourced, at-risk, Chinese elementary schools by collecting donations to purchase desperately needed supplies. NNS also works to preserve traditional Chinese culture through Chinese language and calligraphy instruction, both of which embody the essence of traditional Chinese culture, which is so quickly disappearing in our digital age. To learn more about Cara's corporation please visit NNS's official website newnewstar.org.



COSTA RICA TRIP

Over spring break, eleven seventh grade students experienced Costa Rican culture and missions work, and studied life science as they explored caves and the jungle.

AROUND THE WORLD IN TEN DAYS!

In June, Cara Song ('16) and Dr. Susan Pleticha led a trip to China with Brian and Leanne ('98) Pellerin and their daughter, PCA freshman Hannah Pellerin; Fred Diehl and freshman Erik Diehl; and senior Kyle Lewis. A great introduction to the country and culture of China, the trip included visits to the Forbidden City, Tiananmen Square, and the Great Wall, as well as lesser known "off the beaten path" destinations. According to Dr. Pleticha, the food was amazing though they often didn't know what they were eating!

LOCALLY AND GLOBALLY

PCA students experience opportunities to serve at all levels. Here are just a few examples:

MATH BUDDIES

Older students sharpen their math skills as they buddy with younger students to work on math.



5TH GRADERS SERVE AS SHEPHERDS

PCAP parents always feel reassured to see their little ones helped to class by the fifth grade shepherds.

FOOD AND COATS AND BOOKS, OH MY!

The JH Student Council organized another successful year of collecting \$5,847 worth of food items, 156 coats, and over 700 books for local charities.

STUDENTS AND ALUMNUS GET WIRED

Matt Corso ('18), Nick Lauer ('17), Amy Shevenell-Davies ('07), and Fiston Kapongo ('19) provided countless hours of IT support over Winter Vacation.

10,000+ UPPER SCHOOL SERVICE HOURS

Upper School students provided a combined total of over 10,000 service hours to the community on and off campus.

GRANDPARENTS' DAY

In October, more than 400 grandparents of PCA students joined us to experience school all over again and make new memories with their grandchildren.



DIG PINK

The Varsity Volleyball Team's annual Dig Pink event during Homecoming raised \$1000 for breast cancer research.



FATHER-DAUGHTER DANCE

PCA girls and dads danced the night away at the annual Father-Daughter Square dance at Turbocam's Barrington facility. Thanks to PCA mom Shirley Tuten for leading other parent volunteers who made this fun night possible.



MOTHER-SON OLYMPICS

Jenn Dinges and sons Logan and Boden competed victoriously in the annual volunteer-led Mother-Son Olympics. Shout out to Nicole and Brian Marquis, James and Supatra Truman, and Abigail Monahan for your leadership!




SOUP AND SONG

The "OX Bros." performed their comedy routine between acts to a crowd of hungry soup-eaters. \$1000 was raised at this annual talent show to benefit the 8th Grade trip to Washington, DC.

Learning about the Philippines

Each year PCAP students learn about a different country. This year it was the Philippines. Marivic Leavitt came and spoke with the students about what life is like in the Philippines.

 For more about this see a video at pcaschool.org/YIR



PCAP staff huddle (l to r): Sue Long, Beth Jones, Deb Drew, Corinne Vermette, Kelly Leavitt, and Diane Pineo



Learning to tell time in PCAP



Mother's Day Tea Party



Monkeys in the annual telling of the Kapok Tree story



Dover Fire Department visits PCAP

MEET CAROLYN SITES

Fifth grade teacher Carolyn Sites is committed to excellence, both for herself and her students. She graduated from Grove City College with a B.S. in Elementary Education and worked diligently to finish her degree in three years. In the classroom, Carolyn studies the unique strengths, weaknesses, and background of each child so that she can specifically tailor instruction to meet their needs.



Carrie has enjoyed finding creative ways to help children learn and grow for the past ten years. Both college coursework and practical experiences at schools, summer camp, church, and in homes have helped her gain an understanding of child development. At PCA she is learning how to motivate her students, not only academically, but also towards the development of godly character.



2016 Speech Meet Class Winners



Read-a-thon Class Winners



Mr. Murray and 5B celebrated the 100th day of school by dressing up as if they were 100 years old!



LEFT: Gabrielle Maher as Amelia Earhart at Biographers' Tea.

The Immigration Project immersed 2nd grade students in the history and culture of their ancestors as they researched where their families came from and how they arrived in the United States.

Mrs. Treadwell's Rules for Writing (and Life)

From 8th grade teacher Tammy Treadwell's comments to her students at the 8th Grade Milestone Celebration:

1. Start every sentence with a capital letter.

When you begin a journey, you want to start with a purpose – a capital letter. Take time to find God's purpose for your life so that you have a reason to begin.

2. End every sentence with punctuation.

End punctuation is like finishing the journey. Be sure to persevere and see things through to the end. Experience the satisfaction of pushing through a difficult task to reach the end.

3. "cuz" is NOT a word . . . because

"Cuz" is quick and easy, hence why you want to use it. However, in life, there are no shortcuts. Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your paths.

4. "I" is ALWAYS capitalized.

You can never do anything to make God love you more or less than He does right now. But it's not about you. God's love for you, the capital I, should remind you that you need to share that love with others.

5. Never write in 2nd person.

Writing in 2nd person assumes you know how others think or feel. What's important is that Jesus knows how each person feels. Your job is to be a friend who listens and points others to Jesus.



Olivia LaRose, Kalahn Leavitt, Izzy Low, and Lily Kohl stand on the steps of the US Capitol Building during the annual 8th grade trip to Washington, D.C.



Junior High Student Council Service

Griffin Hotz, Golden Eagle Award winner



8th Grade Milestone Ceremony

TRIBUTE TO MR. CONNELL



Beloved teacher Robert Connell retired in July following twenty years at PCA teaching 8th grade students. Students enjoyed Mr. Connell's studies in Revelations, end-of-year baseball games, humor, and relaxed classroom management

style. His great aptitude for understanding his students and getting the best out of them in the classroom always left them feeling good about themselves and their place in God's world. Mr. Connell consistently challenged his students to grow, as Christ, becoming strong, filled with wisdom, and having the favor of God in them (Luke 2:40).

Graduating 8th grade students commented:

"He makes the most difficult Bible lessons simple and easy to understand and I have never known more about history than now."

"He is the man to go to if you have hard troubles or difficulties."

"He is sympathetic, tender-hearted, hilarious, and enthusiastic."

Godspeed, Mr. Connell. We will all miss you greatly!

Excerpts courtesy Dr. Lawrence, Cindy Tiemann, and the staff of *2016 Through Eagles Eyes*, PCA's Lower School yearbook.



Members of the VFW Post 12060, Dover NH, From left to right: Robert Mitchell, Commander; Phil Rinaldi, Past Commander; Sam Stevens, student Patriots Pen winner; and Jorge Camacho, Quartermaster/Adjutant

PCA 8TH GRADERS SWEEP ESSAY CONTEST

Congratulations to Sam Stevens for placing first in the Patriots Pen essay contest for the VFW's Dover Post #12060! Each year, more than 125,000 students in grades 6-8 enter the VFW's Patriot's Pen Youth Essay Contest nationwide. This past year's theme was "What Freedom Means to Me."

Congratulations to Kevin Baker for placing second and to Rebecca Jones for placing third in the contest. Read Sam's essay at pcaschool.org !

The Source and Constraints of True Freedom by Sam Stevens

"America will never be destroyed by the outside. If we falter and lose our freedoms, it will be because we destroyed ourselves," so said the great American leader, Abraham Lincoln. America's greatest threat is that we will misunderstand the true meaning of liberty.

America is the land of freedom; it is even quoted multiple times in our national anthem: "O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!" Many brave souls gave their lives to defend that freedom. For what kind of freedom did these soldiers die? Was it so that we may do whatever we would like? While we do have the freedom to make our own decisions, we must be ready to bear the consequences of those choices, good or bad. True freedom requires self-restraint, acting responsibly, and setting boundaries for ourselves. For example, in America I have the freedom and opportunity to create a business and make money from it, but I do not have the right to just take from others.

Our freedoms are given to us by God, not the government. The Declaration of Independence states, "... all men ... are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness." Our founding fathers recognized that liberty is a right given to all by God. For example, the government cannot make us worship in any way. It is my decision who to follow. The Constitution's Bill of Rights specifically protects these freedoms. Among these are the freedom of religion, speech, press, and assembly; the right to bear arms, protection from cruel and unjust punishment, and more.

All in America share freedom equally, and that is good. Our past presidents and military worked hard to gain and maintain our liberty. We can walk anywhere within our borders knowing we, our families and our freedoms are safe. Let us all be thankful for God's gift of freedom in our land.



Mrs. Shevenell – Still Making Science Fun!

Beverly Shevenell has been teaching science at PCA since Mr. Dennis Runey (Head of School at the time) talked her into joining the faculty in 1994! When the new high school opened in 1995, Bev became one of the first Upper School teachers and has been inspiring teenagers in the exploration of God's world ever since. She currently teaches Chemistry and AP Chemistry, and she enjoys teaching in her off-time as well, both at Sunday School and Vacation Bible School. Bev has a BS in Plant Science and MS in Chemistry from the University of New Hampshire. Her two daughters, Naomi Crystal ('05) and Amy Davies ('07), graduated from PCA, and her husband, Michael, serves as both Director of IT and Computer and Robotics Teacher at the Upper School. The Shevenell family was blessed this year with the addition of freshman Fiston Kapongo, one of our Congolese students.



Katya Engalichev Accepted to Prestigious Writers Workshop



Katya Engalichev

Senior Katya Engalichev participated in the ***Kenyon Review Young Writers Workshop*** over the summer. She said, "I count it as a great honor and privilege to have been accepted to the Kenyon Review Young Writers Workshop. Writing is fulfilling for me because it is art, and I choose to treat it as such... art is expression, art is communication, and consequently, art breeds connection. I'm very grateful to my fantastic English teachers, Mr. Foley and Mr. Beal, for their wisdom, guidance, and support, and grateful to God for the opportunity to further my passion for writing through this summer workshop. I am enormously excited to learn."

PCA QUIZ TEAM: 2016 SEACOAST REGIONAL CHAMPIONS

PCA's Quiz Bowl "A" Team of juniors (captain Riley Sipp, Davy Harju, Joe Stevens, and Rebecca Hotz) claimed the New Hampshire Quiz Bowl League's Seacoast regional championship during a tournament hosted by PCA's Quiz Club in February. The win qualified the team to move on to compete in the State Championship, held at the State Legislative Offices in Concord in April.



PCA's Quiz Bowl "A" Team of juniors (captain Riley Sipp, Davy Harju, Joe Stevens, and Rebecca Hotz)

COMCAST SELECTS PCA GRAD PATRICIA MCCRONE AS ONE OF NH'S BEST AND BRIGHTEST

Patricia McCrone ('16) was one of forty New Hampshire students selected as part of Comcast's annual Leaders and Achievers® Scholarship Program. Comcast NBCUniversal awarded \$49,000 in scholarships for the 2016-17 school year. The program, funded by the Comcast Foundation, is a one-time, \$1,000 scholarship awarded to the best and brightest high school seniors for their community service, academic performance and leadership skills. Way to go, Patricia!



Students visit Quebec on a combined Music and French trip.



Senior Mike Moran, aka Winnie the Pooh, skis along with a preschool student as part of the Ski Club.



The Upper School kicked off the school year with Fall Spiritual Emphasis Days and the annual retreat at Camp Brookwoods.

BY THE NUMBERS

PERFORMANCE PARTICIPATION

■ **Black Box Theatre**

Actors: 14 Upper School students;
11 Lower School students

Tech Crew: 5 Upper School students

Pirates of Penzance

Actors: 17 Upper School students;
13 Lower School students

Tech Crew: 12 Upper School students;
3 Lower School students

- 41 students from grades 2 to 12 participated in solos, duets, trios and quartets at the ACSI Music Festival.
- 5 Upper School students played in the UNH Youth Symphony Orchestra.
- 4 Upper School students were selected to participate in the All New England Choral Festival at Plymouth State.
- 13 Junior High students were selected to participate in the Southeast Regional Middle School Music Festival at UNH.

ACCOLADES & AWARDS

Rebecca Hotz – 2016 Paul M. Erwin Music Scholarship Recipient (Seacoast Wind Ensemble)

Megan Murphy and Kady Sternberg played in the Portsmouth Symphony Orchestra.

All State Musicians – Rebecca Hotz (Bassoon), Sarah Poole (Voice), Joseph Stevens (Voice) and Philip Pampreen (Voice)

PCA Chorale – Superior performance at Rhythms Festival, Quebec City, Canada



Kylie Sanborn with Noah Johnson

PCA PLAYERS

PCA Players were elected for the 2016 NHETG State One Act Drama Festival where Kylie Sanborn received All Star Company Award for Excellence in Acting for her portrayal of Amelia in *Amelia, Once More*.



PIRATES OF PENZANCE

PCA's Spring Musical Gilbert and Sullivan's the *Pirates of Penzance*

THEATRE AND VISUAL ARTS



Voices performs West Side Story medley at the Spring Concert. Grace MacLeod and Nick Wakeman



Susie Stevens conducts the 5th Grade Orchestra at the Christmas Concert



John MacLeod directs the symphony orchestra at the Upper School Spring Concert.



The Chapel Worship Team leads praise singing.

SQUARE1 ART PROJECT

Olivia LaRose displays her first piece of pottery. Through the Square1 Art project over the past few years, PCA was able to raise enough funds to cover the costs of installing a kiln, expanding the possibilities for the visual arts program.



This is the first year that **EVERY** varsity team sport qualified for the post season state tournament, that included Boys and Girls Soccer, Volleyball, Boys and Girls Cross Country, Boys and Girls Basketball, Baseball, Softball, Boys and Girls Track, and for the first time ever Tennis!

"Not only did we make the tournaments, but we did some damage in them."

- Derek Summers, Athletic Director



PCA Varsity Boys Tennis Team is first to make the playoffs.



Varsity Boys Basketball Team goes to State Finals.



Varsity Softball makes Final Four for third straight year.



Varsity Baseball followed up their 2015 championship with another visit to the Final Four this year.



The 2015-16 Varsity Cross Country team was the largest in school history and both Boys and Girls were runners up in D4.



Varsity Track Boys 4x800 finished fourth in the D3 Championship.

Cross Country and Track had amazing seasons with many records broken!



Wes Tobin signed a letter of intent to play baseball at Olivet Nazarene University. He was also named the D4 Player of the Year and was selected the Granite State Conference Player of the Year by coaches of opposing teams.



Alex Garton was awarded the NHIAA Three Season Athlete Award for playing three seasons of sports for all four years of high school. Alex played Volleyball, Indoor Track, and Track & Field.



Delaney Kjendal, Granite State Conference Player of the Year



Ashley Vining, PCA Female Athlete of the Year



Joseph Towle, PCA Male Co-Athlete of the Year



Grade 7-8 Boys Basketball win GENH League Championship.



Grade 5-6 Girls Basketball completed their season undefeated.

BEN LOVERN'S OUTSTANDING ATHLETIC CAREER AT PCA



Ben Lovern signed a letter of intent to play soccer at New England College, and was also named an NHIAA Four Season Athlete for playing four seasons all four years of his high school career. Ben played Soccer, Cross Country, Basketball, Track & Field, and Baseball. He was also named PCA's Male Co-Athlete of the Year

LILY KJENDAL AND LIZA CORSO BREAKING RECORDS IN JH CROSS COUNTRY AND TRACK



Liza Corso qualified for the State of NH Middle School Track and Field Championship Meet. She placed 4th in the 1600m and came in 5th in the 800m. Lily Kjendal also qualified for the State of NH Middle School Track and Field Championship meet in the 800m where she placed 4th.

In the Sagamore Championship meet, Liza finished 3rd and Lily finished 5th.

Portsmouth Christian Academy's Annual Fundraising Gala

On September 18, 2015, 130 PCA friends gathered at UNH's Huddleston Hall for our "Acorns to Oaks" gala, featuring Student Ambassadors and our guest speaker, children's author Sally Lloyd-Jones. Her books include award winners "The Jesus Storybook Bible" and "Thoughts to Make Your Heart Sing." Over \$51,000 in donations and pledges were made in support of PCA's mission that evening!



Speaker Sally Lloyd-Jones signs her books



VOLUNTEER SERVICE PROGRAM

The Volunteer Service Program has continued to bless PCA's faculty, staff, students, and the entire PCA community. During the 2015-2016 school year, 340 active volunteers gave 7,500 hours of their time to help with fundraising, classroom support, athletics, field trips, administrative support, and much more. Of those hours, our Moms in Prayer and Fathers in Prayer groups contributed over 1,500 hours. What an amazing blessing, as is the fact that our 340 current volunteers have given over 74,000 hours over the years of their partnerships with PCA. Thank you!

Find out more about partnering in support of PCA's mission at pcaschool.org/giving.



PCA students thank bidders at the Annual Auction for supporting the Tuition Assistance Program

21st Annual Auction Welcomes 390 Bidding Guests

PCA's 21st Annual Auction on March 19, an annual community building event to benefit the Tuition Assistance Program, raised over \$114,000. New software, allowing advance Silent Auction bidding from Smartphones, tablets or computers, updated bid information in real time, leading to much friendly competition!



Al Indelicato, Kate Baker, and Jay Levesque talk tax credits at the February PCA Connects event.

PCA CONNECTS

This past year PCA launched a seasonal event for individuals in the PCA community to get together and share their work passion, inspire each other, and make connections that strengthen us all. The first was on November 18th with over a dozen hearty souls joining in for our first gathering of "PCA Connects" sponsored by Jim Clouser and John Wilkinson of Thrivent Financial. In February, we were honored to welcome special guest Kate Baker of the NH Children's Scholarship Fund to our second PCA Connects event held at The 100 Club in downtown Portsmouth and hosted by PCA parent Al Indelicato. A key player in groundbreaking NH legislation, Kate shared a brief presentation on how the NH Education Tax Credit Program can help organizations receive a tax credit while making it possible for parents with limited means to choose PCA for their children. Finally, in June, the PCA Connects gathering focused on those who have served as host families for international students and those interested in being hosts.



2016 "EAGLES FOR EAGLES" GOLF TOURNAMENT

On a beautiful May morning, forty-eight intrepid golfers swung, putted, chipped, bogeyed, and laughed their way through our Eagles for Eagles Golf Tournament at The Oaks in Somersworth, NH. Special thanks to all who made it possible to raise over \$11,000. Net proceeds from this event go toward retiring PCA's long-term debt, a key financial priority for PCA.

**THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS
ACORNS TO OAKS GALA**

- Ameriprise Financial
- Cutter Family Properties
- Hawk Associates
- Thrivent Financial

ANNUAL AUCTION

- Bill Dube
- Cutter Family Properties
- Coolidge Law Firm
- STIFEL | Troiano Wealth Advisory Group
- Thrivent Financial
- Veracross
- Waddell & Reed
- Wentworth Hospital

EAGLES FOR EAGLES GOLF TOURNAMENT

- Ameriprise
- The Barker Family
- The Branch 96.1 FM (WBUB)
- Dominique Carpentier, Mill Pond Family Practice
- Chinburg Properties
- Coolidge Law Firm
- Cutter Family Properties
- The Marquis Family
- Justin McIsaac (MOSN)
- Dr. Jody Low
- Next Level Church
- The Ponchak Family
- The Towle Family
- Viking Photos

IMPACT PARTNERS

- Turbocam
- Word Radio



The family that golfs together...Robert Ponchak, Amy Ponchak, Bob Ponchak, and Sam Ponchak

AUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2014-2015

Category	Actual
Income	\$5,583,905
Expense	\$5,356,505
Reserve.....	\$227,400
Capital Items.....	\$108,337
Restricted Contributions.....	\$47,256
Unrestricted Contributions	\$105,881
Total Contributions.....	\$153,137
Fundraisers.....	\$153,968
Tuition Assistance Total Awarded.....	\$668,043
Number of Students Receiving Assistance	242
Average Amount of Assistance Per Child.....	\$2,760

ALUMNI NOTES



CLASS OF 2006

Samantha (Reilly) Arroyo recently published *Fragile*. In this thirty-day devotional, Samantha guides readers through their anxious valleys by reflecting on her own—and uncovers the hope found in God’s Word. (Available through, SamanthaArroyo.com, GodsGirlsStore.com, Amazon.com, and other retailers.) Samantha graduated from University of New Hampshire in 2010 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Journalism. She met her husband, Eric-Thomas, at UNH and married three weeks after graduation in 2010. She currently is working from home as a part-time freelance copywriter and full-time “Domestic Engineer,” caring for their six-month-old son, Mason. The Arroyos live in Sandown, NH.



CLASS OF 2003

Dr. Susan Pleticha, PCA Upper School Bible teacher, welcomed her first grandchild, Joel David Simons, on October 9th, 2015. Proud parents are Chris and **Lucy Pleticha Simons**.



Dr. Susan Pleticha and Joel

CLASS OF 2005

Brent and **Naomi (Shevenell) Crystal** are the proud parents of Anna, Eli, and newborn Jacob Crystal. Naomi teaches “*Scientific Foundations of Health and Fitness*” at the University of New Hampshire and coaches cross-country at PCA with her dad (Michael Shevenell). In 2013, Naomi’s groundbreaking research in Exercise Physiology was published in the *European Journal of Applied Physiology*. More than 2,000 sources have reprinted portions of her research results, including *Runner’s World*, *Men’s Journal*, and *Medical News Today*.



Eli and Jacob Crystal

CLASS OF 2008

Meaghan (Graham) Foster is currently on staff with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship (IVCF), and for the past four years has been working at UNH. She was recently promoted to the position of Area Director for New Hampshire. Starting July 1, 2016 she is overseeing IVCF’s ministry in all of New Hampshire. On June 4, 2016 she was married to Alex Foster.



Meaghan and Alex Foster

CLASS OF 2012

Ian McCormack has been accepted into the Graduate College of The Citadel (The Military College of the South) to pursue a Masters of Arts degree in international politics and military affairs. Ian graduated from Pensacola Christian College this spring with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and a minor in Public Administration. He is grateful to God and his parents for helping him through the college process and says, “*Looking back, I realize that the years at PCA effectively prepared me to pursue higher learning and to grow academically, spiritually, and emotionally.*”



Members of the Class of 2005 celebrate their reunion at Homecoming

ALUMNI NOTES

Ben Leavitt was married on August 16, 2015 to Emily Louise Lundburg (of Canby, Oregon) in New Wilmington, PA. They met each other in a choir at Grove City College, where both graduated on May 14, 2016. Ben has received a Guittard Fellowship from Baylor University (Waco, TX) where he will pursue a Master of Arts degree in History.

Elaine (Lainey) Stevens just completed her third year at LeTourneau University (LETU) in Longview, Texas majoring in Aircraft Systems with a concentration in Aviation Maintenance Management. Lainey interned in Pucallpa, Peru with JAARS, shadowing their missionary pilots and mechanics. She has also worked with Southern Maine Aviation in Sanford and currently works in LeTourneau's hangar as an aircraft mechanic assistant, maintaining 17 of the university's aircraft. In August 2016, Lainey married her best friend, Michael Finney, also an LETU student majoring in Aeronautical Science. By this time next year, they both hope to be certified aircraft mechanics and Michael will be a commercial instrument multi-engine pilot. Their vision is to one day serve the Lord overseas, through mission aviation. *"Many thanks to the teachers and staff at PCA who gave me such a valuable education and who are still such a support to me."*

CLASS OF 2013

Chelsea (Hawkins) Watson graduated from University of New Hampshire in May 2016 with an Associate's Degree in Business Management and married her best friend Kyle Watson on August 14, 2016! The Watsons live in Newmarket, NH and attend Great Bay Calvary church in Portsmouth. See Dig Pink photo.



Ian McCormack ('12) with parents Rebecca and Steven



Emily and Ben Leavitt



Carroll Stevens, Fine Arts Director, and his daughter Lainey Finney ('12) on her wedding day

PCAS CLASS OF 2012 GRADS: CLASSMATES FROM KINDERGARTEN THROUGH COLLEGE

Grove City graduates **Laura Egan, Tim Lagoy** and **Ben Leavitt**

ALUMNI COACHING PCA TEAMS: ONCE AN EAGLE, ALWAYS AN EAGLE!

Alicia Vining, Class of 2015, began her first coaching job with the JH Softball team when she returned to NH from American University where she is currently a sophomore and majoring in Business Administration. *"I loved coaching these girls, we had a lot of fun, were competitive, and we learned a lot. I wanted to share my passion for softball with these girls and they picked it up great! JH softball is about learning and establishing future varsity players and I am excited to see these girls play at that level."*

Meghan Long, Class of 2011, returned to PCA to coach the JH Girls Basketball team. **Karissa LeClair ('11)** and **Kimberly Woolley ('10)**, joined her as assistant coaches and helped the team all the way to the final game of the Greater Eastern New Hampshire (GENH) League. The JH Girls team had an outstanding season and finished strong placing second.

Amy (Shevenell) Davies, Class of 2007, has coached alongside her father, Mike Shevenell, at PCA for fourteen seasons. *"Amy has been running most of her life and likes competing in distance events. Her current favorite is the NH 10 miler where she places quite highly in the women's division each year,"* said Mike. *"In addition to being an excellent runner, she is a great role model for all the athletes. One of the greatest blessings she brings to the team is her cheerful and hard-working nature. Because of her great relationships with the athletes she is an amazing team builder – one able to connect others to the team mission and each other. It has been one of my greatest earthly blessings to share many miles and afternoons with both of my daughters on the track and cross country teams over the years, first as athletes then as coaches. My oldest daughter was one of the founding members of the Cross Country team in 1997. Consequently, I've had the privilege of running and coaching with one or both of my daughters almost every afternoon since that time."*

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! SEND YOUR NEWS TO ALUMNI@PCASCHOOL.ORG

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Photo credits: Lara Kildow, Anders Lund, Kimberly Pope

GROWING STEM(S) AT PCA



Dr. Engstrom fields SCIENCE questions from 2nd graders



Matthew Corso ('18) provides TECHNOLOGY support



Eighth graders ENGINEERING flashlights



Malcolm Beal inspects the MATH lab

MAJOR SCHOOL EVENTS

2016

October 21	LIFE Series with Dr. Lawrence
October 28	Grandparents' Day
November 3-5	Lower School Fall Theatre Production – <i>Charlotte's Web</i>
November 9	Veterans Day Chapel
November 25	Alumni Basketball Game
December 1	Grades K-5 Christmas Concert
December 8	JH/US Choral/Guitar Christmas Concert
December 14	Lower School Treasure Sale
December 15	JH/US Band/Orchestra Christmas Concert

2017

January 13	Martin Luther King Chapel
January 26-28	Black Box Theatre – <i>A Shayna Maidel</i>
January 27	LIFE Series
February 10	Night at the Academy
February 17	Christian Educators' Day
February 27	State of the School Address
March 7	Upper School Science Fair
March 10	Soup & Song
March 18	22nd Annual Auction
March 31	LIFE Series
April 6	Grades K-3 Spring Concert
April 7	Volunteer Breakfast
April 20	Grades 4-5 Spring Concert
May 4	National Day of Prayer Assembly
May 5	Spring Fling
May 9	Upper School Spring Concert
May 11	Visual Arts Show
May 20	Golf Tournament
May 25-27	Spring Theatre Production – <i>Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat</i>
May 26	LIFE Series
June 1	Junior High Spring Concert
June 2	Baccalaureate
June 9	Class of 2017 Graduation
June 9	PCAP 3-Year-Old Celebration
June 12	PCAP 4-Year-Old Celebration
June 13	Kindergarten Celebration
June 13	Lower School Awards Night
June 15	8th Grade Milestone

For a listing of PCA Athletic Events, go to pcaschool.org/athletics

**PORTSMOUTH
CHRISTIAN
ACADEMY**
— AT DOVER —

Accreditation

Portsmouth Christian Academy is proud to be a dual accredited school.





CLASS OF 2014 ALUMNUS IS GOING PLACES!

John Sipp ('14) majors in Theology and Environmental Geoscience at Boston College. During summer 2015, John attended Summer School in Ancient Languages at Swansea University in Wales, where he built a substantial foundation of skill with Ancient Greek. Later that summer, he traveled to Mt. Athos in Greece to research and experience firsthand one of the most ancient traditional systems still lived out in the present day. He hiked between monasteries on the steep mountainsides of Mt. Athos to research certain theological particularities of the lived tradition on the mountain. In January 2016, John traveled to Nicaragua with other Boston College scholars to meet and speak with leaders in government, public health, charity, and the church about development efforts there and in other poor countries. When in Nicaragua, John met with Fernando Cardenal, a Jesuit priest and one of the leaders of the Nicaraguan revolution. He spent this summer in St. Petersburg, Russia continuing his Russian language studies, translating documents at the Hermitage Museum, and doing research at Russian monasteries.



EAGLES FANS ARE THE BEST FANS! THANK YOU FOR THE SUPPORT YOU SHOWED AT GAME AFTER GAME ALL YEAR LONG!

"Seeing and hearing the fans drives us to the next level. The energy they create makes an unbelievable environment that is unforgettable."

Joe Towle ('16), PCA Male Co-Athlete of the Year