



*Sapientia et Scientia*

## Samuel Fuller School

“...Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.”  
Colossians 2:2b-3

March 11, 2019  
*Volume 11.24*

### Upcoming Events

**March 13 –**

**National Latin Exam**

**March 14 –**

**Noon Dismissal: Parent  
Teacher Conferences 4-  
8PM**

**March 20 –**

**5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Field  
Trip to Boston**

**March 27 –**

**Open House 9AM-2PM**

**March 28 –**

**All school field trip to  
BSO**

**March 29 –**

**7PM: 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Recital**



## *Monday Missive*

**CCE Trains National Journalists**, by Nicole Ault  
from “The Classical Difference” magazine (Spring 2019)

My first journalism exercise, of sorts, was on my senior class capstone trip to Europe, and I didn’t even know it. As we trekked through Greece and Italy with pens and notebooks, taking notes and sketching scenes, we recorded and synthesized experiences like reporters. In keeping with an important tenet of classical Christian education (CCE), we imitated a master work—in our case Mark Twain’s *Innocents Abroad*, his account of his Mediterranean travels. (Twain was a journalist, before he reached Tom Sawyer fame.)

At the time, I didn’t think much about journalism formally. But with its liberal-arts emphasis, CCE is supposed to prepare students for any field of work and that includes reporting. What if our country’s most persuasive, top-notch journalists were classically educated? It almost goes without saying that CCE, done well, equips students with the basics for good journalism. The emphasis on logic and structured writing particularly develops expertise in the writing process. From our seventh-grade essays on *The Epic of Gilgamesh* through our senior thesis, our assignments drilled into us universal principles of good writing. But compelling writing needs to answer thought-provoking, creative questions that carry the reader to the heart of the story. In the world of reporting, we need more of what CCE teaches, especially in the dialectic stage—courteous discussion of meaningful, often hard, questions.

As I delve further into journalism, one principle stands out: the best journalists are well read. Beyond the nuts and bolts of writing and arguing, the great literature so essential to CCE provides an intellectual context, a depth of mind and of creativity, essential to good journalism. I have begun to learn, I hope, to know what images will make readers exclaim, “Wait, that’s from Shakespeare!” and to convey multiple layers of meaning with a single word or meaningful metaphor. This literacy includes, perhaps most of all, biblical literacy, which pervades even the works of non-Christian writers. Memorizing Bible verses in grammar school and sweating over junior-year analyses of biblical texts allow a writer to add depth to his work by referencing the most read book in the world.

Through literature and all other subjects of the liberal arts education, CCE provides something more fundamental as well: an understanding that the world is integrated and purposeful, and therefore abundantly fascinating. Everything in creation, CCE teaches, belongs to God, and studying the world—from ancient literature to calculus—is a way of knowing Him better. There is nothing to fear and everything to learn. Life is rich.

The motto of Rockbridge Academy, the classical school I attended K–12, epitomizes this: In captivitate redigentes, omnem intellectum, from 2 Corinthians 10:5, “We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ.” That mindset makes journalism much more exciting, and beautiful. A journalist will have to tackle any number of subjects, and sometimes, they won’t be appealing. I’ve dragged my feet on many an assignment. But recognizing that all things glorify one God, and that all humans are made in His image, gives purpose and meaning and interest to each assignment.

It becomes a gift, then, to tell each story.

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*NICOLE AULT currently attends Hillsdale College where she is editor for the school newspaper. During summer internships, she has contributed to and written more than 60 articles, which have appeared in The Washington Times, Industry Dive, and World magazine. She has also been published in The Wall Street Journal. She believes Rockbridge Academy laid much of the foundation for her current pursuits by teaching strong, logical writing and encouraging a curiosity about the world that’s essential for good reporting.*



## Announcements and News

### 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> FIELD TRIPS

We have two exciting field trips coming up on **Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>**! The **5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders** will walk the Freedom Trail learning about the many historic sites connected to their literature book, Johnny Tremain. The **7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders** will also journey to Boston and spend a day enjoying the many treasures at the Museum of Fine Arts. Permission slips for the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade trip went home last week, and permission slips for the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade trip are attached to this newsletter. **Please sign and return the permission slip as soon as possible.** We also need several drivers for these two trips, so please let Mrs. Rivers know if you are willing help out in this way.

### KINDERGARTEN FIELD TRIP

On **Thursday, March 21<sup>st</sup>**, our Kindergartners will be visiting the Foxboro Animal Hospital where they will learn how local veterinarians help our community. Parents of Kindergartners, please **sign and return the attached permission slip** to the school dropbox as soon as possible.

### NATIONAL LATIN EXAM

Please pray for our 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students as they take the Introduction to Latin and Latin I exams on **Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>**. Mrs. Murdy has been working hard to prepare them, and we are rooting for them all to do a wonderful job!

### CLASSICAL EDUCATION SEMINAR AND BANQUET

Registration is open for our 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Classical Education Seminar and Banquet on **Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup>**! Visit the school website today to register for this event! Save the date cards were passed out last week. Please use these to invite your friends and family, and let us know if you would like more cards!

Our speaker this year is **Christopher Perrin**, an author, consultant, and speaker who specializes in classical education and is committed to the renewal of the liberal arts tradition. He cofounded and serves full-time as the CEO/publisher at Classical Academic Press, a classical education curriculum, media, and consulting company. Christopher is also a consultant to many classical schools across the country.

### EARLY REGISTRATION

Registration for the 2019-20 school year is now open! Please visit our website and click on the "Registration for 2019!" tab under "Parent Portal." **Any registrations received after April 1st will be charged a \$50 fee.**

### ENROLLING A SIBLING

If you plan to enroll new siblings at SFS, fill out the Registration form and call Alia to schedule STS or ISEE testing for entrance evaluation.

### PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

This **Thursday, March 14<sup>th</sup>** is parent teacher conferences. If you have not already, please fill out and return the form to sign up for conferences with teachers. Your child's report cards will be sent home on Wednesday.

We believe that regular communication between parents and teachers strengthens our partnership as we seek to work together to educate your children. If you cannot conference with your child's teachers on March 14<sup>th</sup>, please set up another time to touch base with each of your children's teachers.

### GOLF TOURNAMENT

Do you have friends who like to golf? Do you know a business that would be willing to donate raffle items or be a sponsor? Please tell them about our annual golf tournament coming up in June 2019! Let Mrs. Rivers know if you would like more flyers or sponsor letters to hand out. This event is so key to the financial health of our school.

### OPEN HOUSE

In two weeks on March 27<sup>th</sup>, we will have our final open house. We would particularly like to reach out to families with younger children to grow SFS school in the lower grades. Please spread the word to all friends and families, but especially those with younger children. We would also like volunteers to bring promotional materials to local preschools. Please contact Mrs. Rivers if you are willing to help in this way.

### AMERICAN NINJA WARRIOR VIEWING PARTY

This past fall, Addy Herman (8th grade) participated in the American Ninja Warrior Junior competition, which was filmed for television. Addy's first appearance on ANW Jr. will air from **7-8 PM on Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup> on Universal Kids**. All of our Samuel Fuller School students and their families are invited to join us to watch the competition together in Fellowship Hall at school.

The viewing party will be on **Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup>** from 6:30-8:30 PM. Please RSVP to **Stacy Herman (508-243-6431)** by March 11<sup>th</sup> so we can plan for the right number of people. Although not necessary, if you would like to bring a small snack or dessert to share, you can let Stacy know.