VOL. 16, NO. 1 SEPTEMBER 2013

# PPO CONNECTIONS

THE QUICK DETAILS ON WHAT'S HAPPENING AT BCA WWW.ACADEMYPPO.COM

## President's Message

Dear Fellow BCA Parents.

Welcome back for another school year! I hope your summer was full of great memories and relaxing days. Summer is my favorite time of the year and it always seems to go by a little too quickly. Thank you to all those volunteers who dedicated a few of their summer days to copying, preparing, and mailing out the PPO summer packet. Cathy Hornyak coordinated this huge undertaking. With the exception of the summer mailing, the PPO is trying to be "green". Email blasts and this newsletter will be our primary means of communication. Important information, including parent groups, class parents, and the PPO calendar, will be posted on our website – www.academyppo.com

If you haven't already joined the PPO, please consider doing so. Your generous donation of PPO membership dues makes many of our programs possible. We allocate money to subsidize activities for each class and we support many of the student clubs at BCA. We also support the College Fair and Field Day and host the International Dinner and Picnic. As a benefit of membership, each family will receive a copy of the 2013-2014 BCA Family Directory. PPO membership is paid annually, unlike the class dues, which are a one-time payment for all 4 years.

As we all know, BCA is an excellent school and unique in so many ways. BCA welcomes parental involvement and provides numerous opportunities for parents to volunteer and be a part of our students' high school years. Come join us! Come work and volunteer with us to make this a memorable school year.

I will close with the student theme for the year: "It's a great day to be a Knight!"

#### **Christine Ogden, PPO President**

# Academy Parent Partnership Organization A New Jersey Nonprofit Corporation

## **Calendar Highlights**

Comt Ofth	
Sept. 25 <sup>th</sup>	Freshman Parent District Wide Meeting 7:00p.m 9:00p.m BCA Auditorium
Sept. 27 <sup>th</sup>	Freshman Pasta Pot Luck Dinner 7:00p.m 9:00p.m 2 <sup>nd</sup> Flr. Cafeteria
Oct. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	HALF DAY – Back-to-School Night 6:30p.m 9:00p.m.
Oct. 4 <sup>th</sup>	NO SCHOOL – Curriculum Day
Oct. 10 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Brother/Sister Evening (Students only)</b> 4:30p.m. – 5:30p.m., 1 <sup>st</sup> Flr. Cafeteria
Oct. 10 <sup>th</sup>	PPO General Meeting 7:00p.m. Auditorium Complete College Planning Solutions Financial Aid Presentation
Oct. 16 <sup>th</sup>	PSAT
Oct. 19 <sup>th</sup>	<b>PPO International Dinner</b> 6:30p.m 9:30p.m. BCA Gym
Oct. 19 <sup>th</sup> Oct. 21 <sup>st</sup>	
	6:30p.m 9:30p.m. BCA Gym  PAPA Meeting Visual Meet and Greet
Oct. 21 <sup>st</sup>	6:30p.m 9:30p.m. BCA Gym  PAPA Meeting Visual Meet and Greet 6:00p.m. 1st – Flr. Cafeteria
Oct. 21 <sup>st</sup> Oct. 25 <sup>th</sup>	6:30p.m 9:30p.m. BCA Gym  PAPA Meeting Visual Meet and Greet 6:00p.m. 1st – Flr. Cafeteria  HALF DAY – Staff Development  Choir Coffeehouse

Our next issue will be published on October 23rd. Please submit all November calendar entries and all articles to Ruth Walsh at <a href="mailto:ireny110@yahoo.com">ireny110@yahoo.com</a> by October 15, 2013. Thank You.



## From the Principal's Desk

#### "It's a Great Day to be a Knight"

#### Welcome Back!

You can feel the energy as we begin the 2013-2014 school year here at the Bergen County Academies. During our recent teacher convocation, our entire faculty reflected on the positive impact a teacher can have on the lives of their students. Teaching continues to be a noble profession and one that we are all proud to be part of. We also took time to highlight what it means to be a "distinguished" teacher and listened intently as BCA teachers shared their best practices in the classroom with their colleagues. It was an amazing convocation which served as a wonderful kick-off to the new school year.

#### "It's a Great Day to be a Knight!"

At our All School Convocation held on Monday, September 16th our school community came together to reflect on the past, look at the present and dream of the future. Using the theme "It's a Great Day to be a Knight," we shared news about our wireless upgrade, our new Electrical Engineering Lab, our Commons Area renovations, and our new Fitness Center. In addition, we welcomed our new teachers and celebrated BCA's tradition of excellence. Mr. Lynch then returns to the Bergen County

spoke on how hard work and persistence paid off for BCA's Charlie Gleason just as it did for a group called the "Quarrymen" who toiled in obscurity for several years before becoming world famous as the Beatles!

**Congratulations** to Mr. Victor Lynch, who has been promoted to Supervisor on our campus. Vic has been an active member of our staff for many years and we know he will be an asset to our administration.

#### Our New Teachers...

I'm happy to introduce our new staff members who have joined our BCA community. We wish them many years of success!

Mr. Will Muller - Athletic Director Will comes to us from Bergen Tech in Teterboro and is happy to be our new Athletic Director. Will is currently in training for a Cross-Fit Competition taking place this summer.

Mr. Joe Marmora – Physical Education Joe previously taught at Paramus High School, before joining our Physical Education Department. Joe recently completed a 12 mile Tough Mudder that consisted of numerous challenging obstacles such as the mud mile, electroshock run and fire walk.

**Dr. Ozgur Dogru** – Physics Ozgur joins us after teaching Physics at Ramapo College. Ozgur will be teaching Physics and Advanced Physics. Ozgur has enjoyed playing backgammon since he was 10 years old. He thinks strategy plays a more important role than luck in this game.

Mrs. Christine Wallace – History After several years away, Christine Academies to join our History Department. She will be teaching AP Economics and History. Last summer her family bought a 1960 transit bus on eBay and flew to California to pick it up. They drove home in the bus and arrived in New Jersey about 10 days later.

Jonathan Pinyan- Jon's role in the Math Department has expanded to full-time status. He will be teaching Algebra and Math Analysis II. Jon is the youngest of 8 children, 3 of whom, including Jon, graduated from the Bergen County Academies.

#### Charles Gleason #1 in the International **Biology Olympiad**

I am thrilled to share with you that graduating senior Charles Gleason, one of only four United States students invited to participate in the International Biology Olympiad in Bern Switzerland, was the top winner of the worldwide competition! Being number one in the world certainly stands out as a tremendous accomplishment. Congratulations to Charles, his parents, teachers and mentors!

#### "A World Class Education"

Through our rigorous course offerings we continue to raise the bar of excellence for our students. This past year we had some of our highest AP & IB scores in our school's history! Last year we participated in Global Exchanges to South Korea and Greece and we continue to explore possible exchanges with China and India in the near future. Please check out the new display in our main lobby which highlights the many global exchanges our students have participated in over the years.

Have a great year!

Russell Davis, Principal

Please view our Superintendent Dr. Howard Lerner;s Message by using this link: http://www.academyppo.com/uploads/1/1/7/11170958/superintendent letter 9 2013.pdf

### All Parents are Invited to an Important Financial Planning Presentation at our October PPO Meeting



## "Secrets to Getting College Financial Aid – No Matter Your Income"

Date: October 10th (Thurs.)

<u>Time</u>: 7:00 PM Location: Auditorium

Featuring Ian Welham, co-author of the book, CASH FOR COLLEGE

You've seen him on Channel 11... in Forbes, Kiplinger, the Newark Star-Ledger... and as the college funding expert on AOL. On Thurs., October 10, we are pleased to welcome Ian Welham to Bergen County Academies to show parents how to crack the code of the college financial aid system and lower the cost of college.

Learn why those who told you there is no way you'll get financial aid are wrong! Parents who attend the free workshop will hear time-tested strategies that they can implement to save \$25,000 to \$65,000 (or more) off the cost of college. Topics covered:

- √ How to receive thousands of dollars in free money for college, even if you have been told you make too much money.
- $\sqrt{\phantom{a}}$  The costly mistake 9 out of 10 parents make when applying for college aid (and how to avoid it).
- √ Why advice from your accountant, broker, or financial advisor may have already cost you thousands of dollars in lost aid...and what you can do to get it back!
- $\sqrt{}$  Ways to simplify the complex formula that every college in the country uses to calculate how much financial aid you will receive and how making a few legal and ethical changes can dramatically increase your award!
- √ The secret to sending your child to a private university for less than the cost of a state college.

All parents are invited, regardless of your child's age or grade. Thousands of New Jersey families have benefited from this event. Don't miss this opportunity to hear one of the nation's most knowledgeable college funding experts, right here in our school, Thursday, October 10 at 7:00 pm. Parents who attend will receive 2 Free Bonuses:

- 1) a special edition of the #1 book on college funding, plus
- 2) a handy checklist of "The Top 10 Strengths and Experiences Colleges Look For in a High School Student."

We look forward to seeing you at this most informative educational workshop.

### 2013 PPO International Dinner

We look forward to seeing those who are able to attend this year's **PPO International Dinner.** 

Volunteers are essential to the success of this evening and we anticipate a night that celebrates diversity through a banquet of food from all around the world.

Thank you to all who have registered . . .

We look forward to seeing you on October 19th!



#### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR BCA 2013 OPEN HOUSES**



Volunteers are needed to help at the 2013 Bergen Academies Open Houses on Sunday, October 27th, Saturday, November 2nd, and Sunday, November 17th for the morning and afternoon sessions. Please consider helping out from either 9:45a.m. to 12:00p.m. or from 12:45p.m. to 3:00p.m. on any of these dates. We need parents to greet prospective students and their families at the Open Houses. We also need parents to assist in the parking lot. This is a great way to meet other parents and find out what's happening at the Academies with a relatively short time commitment! Your help will be greatly appreciated. Please either e-mail Carol Monahan at <a href="mailto:bcaopenhouses@gmail.com">bcaopenhouses@gmail.com</a> or call (201) 930-9187 indicating the day (s) and time(s) you are available to help. Thanks again for volunteering your time!

Carol Monahan Open House Chairperson

### Welcome Back Juniors and Seniors!!!

If you would like to attend a college information session, please sign up in Naviance under the "Colleges" tab and click on "view all upcoming college visits" to sign up. This is a great way to learn firsthand about specific colleges, their programs, as well as an opportunity to meet our BCA representatives. Remember, if you have class at the time of the visit, please ask your teacher for permission. Attendance will be taken.

\*\*Presentations will be held in the College Center, room 116 unless noted otherwise.

Silvana Forne-Neves
College Office



COLLEGE	REPRESENTATIVE	DATE	TIME
Yale University	Debra Jones	Wed September 25, 2013	7:00 PM
The University of Scranton	Kelly Connor	Thu September 26, 2013	9:07 AM
Columbia University	Donna Badrig AB	Thu September 26, 2013	10:01 AM
Franklin and Marshall College	Kate Jacobson	Thu September 26, 2013	11:49 AM
Houghton College	Nathan Cronk-AB	Thu September 26, 2013	1:37 PM
Simmons College	Dayna Bradstreet	Thu September 26, 2013	2:31 PM
Hofstra University	Frederick Koromi	Fri September 27, 2013	8:13 AM
State University of New York at Albany	James Curly	Fri September 27, 2013	9:07 AM
Union College	Susan Hanks	Fri September 27, 2013	10:01 AM
Stony Brook University	Ralph Donnell AB	Fri September 27, 2013	10:55 AM
Albany College of Pharmacy	Beth Dickson	Fri September 27, 2013	11:49 AM
Northeastern University	Jeffrey Portu PK	Mon September 30, 2013	8:13 AM
Bloomfield College	Julia Delbagno	Tue October 1, 2013	10:01 AM
Brown University	Eric Hunter	Wed October 2, 2013	7:00 PM
SUNY College at Cobleskill	Sarah Mess	Mon October 7, 2013	9:07 AM
Vassar College	Paola Gentry	Mon October 7, 2013	10:01 AM
Georgia Institute of Technology	Christopher Briggs	Mon October 7, 2013	1:37 PM
Lehigh University	Sarah Bombard	Tue October 8, 2013	8:13 AM
University of Rochester	Davin Sweeney AB	Tue October 8, 2013	9:07 AM
University of Pennsylvania	Amy Smith	Tue October 8, 2013	7:00 PM
Wellesley College	Erika Blauth	Thu October 10, 2013	8:13 AM
Centenary College	Anna Boelter PK	Thu October 10, 2013	9:07 AM
Stevens Institute of Technology	Matt Bardwell	Thu October 10, 2013	10:01 AM
New York University	Jackie Willimas	Thu October 10, 2013	1:37 PM
Vanderbilt University	Andrew Moe	Tue October 15, 2013	9:07 AM
Bentley University	Kyle Swords-PK	Tue October 15, 2013	2:31 PM
Polytechnic Institute of NYU	Alex Kaplan	Thu October 17, 2013	10:55 AM
Smith College	Adriana Chalas	Thu October 17, 2013	9:07 AM
Hult International Business School	Austin Carr-Jones PK	Thu October 17, 2013	10:01 AM
Monmouth University	Lauren Puglisi	Thu October 17, 2013	11:49 AM
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	Theresa Kelly	Fri October 18, 2013	10:55 AM
Bowdoin College	Taylor Mc Cormack	Fri October 18, 2013	11:49 AM
Washington and Lee University	Grace McGee	Mon October 21, 2013	10:01 AM
Case Western Reserve University	Rachel Oscar PK	Mon October 21, 2013	10:55 AM
Caldwell College	Aaron Tucker	Tue October 22, 2013	9:07 AM
Washington University in St. Louis	Victor Thomas PK AB	Thu October 24, 2013	2:31 PM
Drew University	Joe Yeck	Mon October 28, 2013	8:13 AM
Barnard College	Michelle Biller-Levy	Mon October 28, 2013	11:49 AM
Boston College	Danielle Wells	Mon October 28, 2013	1:37 PM
Marymount Manhattan College	Alexandra Giorgio	Tue October 29, 2013	10:01 AM
The College of New Jersey	Jamie Caponera	Tue October 29, 2013	11:49 AM
Sacred Heart University	Ashley Orourke	Fri November 1, 2013	8:13 AM
University of Connecticut	Jayson Hodge	Tue November 12, 2013	10:01 AM
The George Washington University	Danielle Toglia	Tue November 12, 2013	1:37 PM

# Show Your School Pride ~~BCA Magnets Now Available!

The Class of 2015 is now offering the popular BCA magnets for your car, refrigerator, dryer, family members! They are very handsome looking magnets depicting the school logo in black and gold.

To acquire one of these discs of gorgeousness please fill in the form (on PPO website) or use this link to purchase:

http://www.academyppo.com/uploads/1/1/1/7/11170958/magnet\_order.pdf

# **GO4TheGoal Club Helps Support** Richard's Run

The BCA GO4TheGoal Club is supporting Richard's Run on October 6th. Named after a 13-year old boy who bravely fought cancer, this year marks the 10th Anniversary of the Run and we are excited about bringing people together again for this extremely important cause. Your support helps to raise funds for pediatric cancer and proceeds this year will go to Tomorrows Children's Fund at Hackensack University

This link provides Richard's Run information and registration form:

http://www.academyppo.com/uploads/ 1/1/1/7/11170958/ g4g richardsrun5k 2013 flyerapp final3.pdf

We are also having a school event on September 27<sup>th</sup>. See the link for more information on Sept. 27th in the event in the Workplace! http://www.go4thegoal.org/Sept27.aspx

Evelyn Rios, Club Advisor





# Class News Updates....

#### Class of 2014

On Wednesday, September 11th of this year, what a heartwarming sight it was to see over two hundred confident, spectacular, young men and women stream in to the upper cafeteria. The event was the Senior **Breakfast**, and what a wonderful group of seniors they are! This event is the first of many to come this year for our seniors. Thanks to all of the parent donations and volunteers - we could not have done it without you! \*\*\* Parents, please remember to pay class dues so your children will have automatic admission to other events this year such as: Senior Day at Six Flags, Senior Lunch, Graduation Rehearsal Lunch including a graduation photo taken at the lunch. Payment was due end of junior year but the deadline has been extended until September 30th. Dues can be conveniently paid on line at: http://www.academyppo.com/class-of-2014.html. If dues are not paid by September 30th, each event will be **charged on a per event, non-discounted basis.** \*\*\* On Sunday, October 27, our class will hold a Bake Sale during the open house for prospective freshmen. Please mark your calendars because we'll need lots of baked goods and help for this class fundraiser! \*\*\* Also, it's not too early to save the date for the **BCA Senior Fashion Show** which will be held Tuesday, March 25, 2014. Plans are in the works! More to come later. We are looking forward to a fun, event-filled year with our fantastic young adults let's enjoy it! Dawn, Nieves and Pat! Class of 2014 moms bcaclass2014@gmail.com

#### Class of 2015

Class Parents Report -- Welcome back! Why is it that July and August pass in a flash and February seems never ending?..Anyway, it's great to be writing to you all again at the beginning of Junior year. We have lots planned for this year, including Cabaret and Junior Prom and, of course, we have one eye looking forward to graduation in 2015 and all the fun and games that will entail. Many thanks to all of you who have paid your class dues (you only need to pay once!) and to those who have yet to do so, please consider paying soon, just so that we can stop asking...\*\*\* On the subject of merchandise our class is selling magnets for your car, refrigerator, dryer, family members! They are very handsome looking magnets depicting the school logo in black and gold. To acquire one of these discs of gorgeousness please fill in the form (on PPO website) or ask any one of us, we nearly always have a supply on us! \*\*\* Our first event, an informal coffee will be held on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> of October at Panera Bread on Route 4 (next to Kohls), between 8a.m. and 10a.m. Very casual, please just come along and mingle with your fellow parents. While we're on this subject, we

are always on the lookout for good ideas for social events for parents to attend, so if you have any ideas please don't keep them to yourself, drop us a line. Our email addresses are all in the PPO directory. Drop us an email, if you feel that you're not getting class communications, we have had a glitch with our main email, but we're always happy to check that your correct email is on our list. *Enjoy this lovely fall weather*, Lizzie Trimm, Donna Tittensor, Lisa Caron (much welcomed new Class mom!) bcaclass2015@gmail.com.

#### Class of 2016

Welcome back Class of 2016! We hope you all had a very relaxing and enjoyable summer. As we embark on our Sophomore year, we would once again like to thank everyone who contributed to our Freshman year events. We could not have done it without you. \*\*\* Communication is the key to success. This year, we will attempt to send a class update monthly. Our coffee socials at Panera will continue, hopefully beginning October. We are also considering organizing another class potluck dinner, if there is interest. \*\*\* The National Honor Society Induction Reception and a dinner for the College Fair Representatives are two BCA events our class is responsible for organizing this year. We will send additional information as the events draw nearer. \*\*\* The big social event for the students this year is the **Soph/ Frosh Dance**, which will take place in February. We hope to start planning this event with the Class Council in December. We are currently planning the Junior and Senior Prom. If you have any suggestions or connections with venues, please let us know. \*\*\* Important information regarding Class Dues....dues are only paid once. If you have not paid your dues, please pay \$200, either by PayPal on the PPO website or send a check made out to "Student Activity Fund Class of 2016." If unsure if you have paid, please contact us. Even though we are collecting dues toward senior year events, we still need to raise additional funds to help support events like the Soph-Frosh dance, the Junior prom and other incidental costs like supplies for potluck dinners. Therefore, we need a fundraiser for this year. We will be sending an email to recruit all interested in joining our fundraising committee. \*\*\* Finally, please make sure we have your correct email. Looking forward to working with you all again this year. Our best, Maria Jasionowski mariajasionowski@yahoo.com and

Laina DeRose msdr21@yahoo.com

## Class News Continued.....

#### Class of 2017

Welcome! The year is off to a great start and we are gearing up to help make this experience as special as possible for our Freshman class! We will be organizing get-togethers and sharing information via email to our Class of 2017 families throughout the year. Please be sure to check your emails regularly and let us know if you've changed your email address. \*\*\* Important things to note: We are committed to keeping our Class of 2017 connected and wellinformed, to the best of our ability. Please feel free to reach out to us with any questions, ideas, suggestions, etc. you may have, at the following: D'Arcy Natale cell: (646) 283-3828 and Allison Orecchio cell: (201) 803-5034 \*\*\* Please send in your \$200 class dues as soon as possible. Almost 70% of our families have already paid. Our collective class dues make a huge difference as they are used for special events for your child throughout his/her tenure at BCA, including the Soph-Frosh Dance, family events, Senior Year activities, and many others. If you haven't already, please send in a check payable to "BCA Class of 2017", to the address: BCA Class of 2017 Class Dues, 200 Hackensack Ave, Hackensack, NJ 07601. Thank you! \*\*\* Our first Class of 2017 event is this Friday, September 27th: our Class of 2017 Family Pasta Pot Luck Dinner, from 7:00p.m. to 9:00p.m. in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Cafeteria. Many thanks to all of you who are donating items, food, and/or drinks for this special event. We look forward to seeing your family there! \*\*\* BCA Back to School night is October 3<sup>rd</sup>! You should receive your Back-to-School packet in the mail shortly. \*\*\* Besides us, three additional sources of information for you are the Bergen County Academies Family Handbook & Student Code of Conduct Manual (on the BCA website), BCA Calendar (also on the BCA website), and the BCA Parent Participation Organization (PPO) website at http://www.academyppo.com/ \*\*\* So, welcome to BCA! We are looking forward to four extraordinary and memorable years together! Best regards, D'Arcy Natale & Allison Orecchio Email: BCAClassof2017@gmail.com



## Junior State of America (JSA) Welcomes New Members

The Bergen County Academies' chapter of JSA is excited to kick off another eventful year. For those of you who are new to the BCA family, the Junior State of America (JSA) is a student run organization which fosters political discourse and activism in high schools across America. JSA chapters host weekly debates featuring topics such as foreign policy, philosophy, current events, and controversial issues. These weekly meetings provide members with a chance to exchange views and form new opinions.

BCA JSA hosts events for non-JSA members as well. In October and November we will be hosting election night parties for both the senate and gubernatorial races. We also have a school wide mock election in the works, as well as many other exciting activities. Any student wishing to become more involved can contact Mr. Demeter or Mr. Madden. We look forward to another successful year!

Scott Demeter and Will Madden
JSA Club Advisors



We are just beginning to rev our engines for the new school year but, we cannot start the race without updating you with recent winning competitors!



Closing out last year. . . . . During the summer, we were informed that an ATCS Junior, whose watercolor work from her AP Studio Art portfolio, was chosen as the National Winner in the Sargent Art "Creating a Brighter World" contest. Student winners, teachers and parents from NJ to Hawaii and Trinidad, gathered together to share the accolades. In addition to the national recognition, publication of the image in various promotional media, goodie bags filled with art supplies, the award included an all-expense paid weekend in NY with 3 days filled with tours, fabulous meals, a Broadway show and a moving award ceremony. Congratulations are in order for the attitude, effort and outcome of this young artist in truly "creating a brighter world" through her artwork and being recognized in a grand arena.



Many of you are familiar with Scholastic Art & Writing Awards and the successes we have had particularly in the past few years, both in Visual arts and writing. Scholastic, partnering with the USDOE, has once again honored one of our students with the prestigious U.S. Department of Education Elite Exhibit Award. Honored in Washington, DC this past Friday, our student's artwork is not only a part of the yearlong ART.WRITE.NOW Show but, was chosen by Rachel Goslins, Executive Director, President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities, for display in a very special place of honor. Fifty three works are selected from approximately 500 National Gold Medal Winners for this exhibit and I am proud to say we have been lovingly dubbed as "repeat offenders!" (That – is actually a huge compliment and honor!) After the ribbon cutting ceremony, students, parents, and teachers were treated to a day of celebration including workshops, museum visits, and awards with national dignitaries.



Students of **all grades and academies** are welcome to prepare works for this year's Scholastic entries in multiple media arenas. I am very excited to continue our tradition of success as we embark on this new challenge... creating new, amazing, original artworks. Please visit <a href="www.artandwriting.org">www.artandwriting.org</a> for information about the many opportunities Scholastic offers or stop in Studio 139 to discuss the possibilities.



Now the time has come.... Ladies and Gentlemen...start your engines!

JoAnn Onnembo Visual Academy

Champions at Work

## Unprecedented Success at SkillsUSA Nationals!

In June, seventeen BCA students who earned State Gold Medals, traveled to Kansas City, Missouri for the SkillsUSA National Conference and Competition representing our school and the State of N.J. More than 15,000 students, teachers and business partners from 50 states and US territories participated in this week-long event. By the end of the week at Closing Ceremonies, **15 BCA students\_earned National medals\_** an amazing feat that is unprecedented in New Jersey.

One ACAHA team placed second in the nation for their **Community Service** project about Pediatric Cancer Awareness. Another ACAHA team took silver for their project in **American Spirit**, a patriotic-themed community service project, which included a project for the Veterans Home in Paramus. Our\_**Entrepreneurship** and\_**Career Pathways Showcase-Hospitality** teams both won silver medals for their creative business efforts. All of these contests were multi-faceted, with a component making a positive impact on our community.

In addition, a BCA's **Culinary Arts** student took third place in the Nation in a grueling, six-hour contest that was highly competitive and rigorous.

NJ State SkillsUSA Director, Mr. Peter Carey, said "it was an amazing accomplishment" and the "Jersey Strong" campaign came to mind as BCA's team showcased their efforts for the rest of the country to see".

Also, we are proud to announce that an ACAHA junior student was elected the NJ State President for the 2013-2014 school year.

We are looking forward to another great year for our BCA SkillsUSA Chapter.

Mary Beth Brace, John Branda Academy of Culinary Arts and Hospitality Administration

## Three BCA SkillsUSA Students win MikeRoweWorks Scholarship

Three BCA students from the SkillsUSA
National Team won a travel scholarship
from the MikeRoweWorks Foundation
(Mike Rowe from Dirty Jobs and
Deadliest Catch). Mike Rowe held a
private luncheon in Kansas City and
gave out additional awards and met
with each student who won this
prestigious award.

## HOLD THE DATE:

Tuesday,
March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014
Annual BCA Fashion
Show

~Doors Open at 6:00p.m.~

Please be sure to mark your calendars *now* so you're able to attend the Annual BCA Fashion Show in the BCA Auditorium.

This evening features fabulous fashions, our stunning BCA student models, great food and wonderful entertainment.

A lovely tradition and a fun evening!

# Three ACAHA Students Awarded the Presidential Volunteer Service Award

Three of BCA's very own seniors in ACAHA recently won the Gold Presidential Volunteer Service Award. This recognition is an honor that each of them has worked toward for a year.

The President's Council on Service and Civic Participation was established in 2003. It recognizes the valuable contributions volunteers are making in our communities and encourage more people to get active in their community. The Council created the President's Volunteer Service Award program to thank those that have given up their time for a greater good, and who have inspired others to do the same.

In order to win the gold award, our students had to secure over 250 hours of community service. The Presidential Volunteer Service Award can also recognize families or groups, so it is truly outstanding that three of our students were able to achieve this award individually.

Of course, when it comes down to it, their volunteer work was done merely to benefit the community. However, it is truly remarkable that today's volunteers can be recognized for their efforts in this way. We are proud to have Presidential Volunteer Service Award winners in our academy.

Mary Beth Brace, John Branda Academy of Culinary Arts and Hospitality Administration



#### **REGISTRATION IS OPEN!**

The 2013 Fall Academy After Hours program offers summer courses for 5th through 8th grade students, October 9<sup>th</sup> - December 19<sup>th</sup> Visit our website for more information: <a href="http://www.bergen.org/aah">http://www.bergen.org/aah</a>

**Special thanks** to all of the teachers and students who made the Summer AAH program a huge success! Thanks to their efforts, along with the support of our administrators, tech team, and custodial staff, we were able to offer a wide variety of inspiring classes to over 600 students (a 20% increase over last year).

Ken Mayers, Ph.D. Director

# Do You LIKE TO SHOP ONLINE? TRY IGIVE.COM .....NEW ACAHAPA FUNDRAISER

The Academy for Culinary Arts and Hospitality Administration Parents Association (ACAHAPA) supports the educational endeavors of ACAHA through various fundraising initiatives. One of our new endeavors is **iGive.com**, an online shopping fundraising website. *You can help us every time you shop online*.

It takes only a few minutes to register at iGive.com and download the iGive button. After that, all you need to do is shop normally. There are more than 1,000 participating retailers who will automatically donate a percentage of your purchase price to "BCA PPO/ACAHAPA" at checkout.

It costs you nothing, but will benefit BCA students. Here's the link: http://www.igive.com/doa8CPY

Thanks,

**ACAHAPA Board** 



# Ski Trip in Okemo, VERMONT January-17-19, 2014

#### **Dear Students:**

You are invited to participate in our annual ski trip to Vermont. The package includes transportation, lodging, two breakfasts, one dinner, 2-day ski lift ticket. Rentals and lessons are not included. They are available for an additional fee.

The total cost of the trip is \$410.00. The <u>nonrefundable</u> deposit is \$200, payable to "Student Activities Fund" (ski trip). It is collected by Dr. Galitskiy in room 233. The balance will be due November 20th.

<u>Please Note:</u> We have only 44 spots. We reserved 8 spots for each grade. The remaining spots will be distributed on a first come basis. Five students may be placed on a waiting list. Then the list will be closed. The administration reserves the right to exclude any student from this trip.

There will be a parent meeting on Wednesday, January 15th at 6.30p.m. Parents are required to attend. If you need rentals and/or lessons (skies or snowboard) contact Dr. Galitskiy (room 233) <a href="mailto:emmgal@bergen.org">emmgal@bergen.org</a>.

Dr. E. Galitskiy Club Advisor



For those of you who don't yet know us, **PAPA** (**Parents and Patrons of the Arts**) is for every parent or other supporter of the arts (in this case, at BCA). We advocate for the arts in our school, we raise money for projects that are not otherwise funded (recent examples include a drum set, a dance floor, and a high-end printer), we support one another, and we help make the amazing arts scene at BCA possible. Our dues are low, just \$10, and every Class of '14 parent who joins PAPA will have his or her student entered in a scholarship drawing at the end of the school year. You can print a membership form by <u>clicking here</u>.

On the membership form, you are also able to sign up to help with any of the dozen or more volunteer opportunities available. Please take advantage of these -- both for your student and for you; it's a great way to meet other people whose children are active in the arts, and an even better way to help BCA.

Our biggest fundraiser of the year is the Playbill for the winter musical, and even though it seems early in the year, students have already auditioned for **Batboy**, and we have begun work on the Playbill. We are pleased to welcome Julia Chiang (AVPA-V 2017) as Playbill chair and we have promised her all kinds of support, so let us know if you want to help. We are still looking for people to chair or co-chair a few committees, from Box Office to Backstage Brigade to Publicity.

#### **Upcoming Events:**

By the time you read this, we will have just wrapped up our first meeting of the year, "Meet the Arts Faculty". We are now planning our October meeting..."A Day in the Life of a BCA Arts Student" - another must be there meeting on Monday, October 21st at 7:00pm. Parents and students who want to learn what life is really like at BCA are welcome to attend. Ahead of that meeting, at 6:00pm, Visual parents are invited to our annual "Meet and Greet" with the AVPA-V faculty (with coffee and desserts and a chance to find out what's ahead this year for your student).

We try to keep our Facebook page current, so please check it out and/or "like" us at: www.facebook.com/PAPAatBCA.

Karen Sacks (kssacks@optonline.net) and Gloria Ling Chau (pcgl7@optonline.net)

Co-Presidents

# **Membership Form**



We are the parent association for ACAHA, bringing our families together to support our children and our academy.

#### To Join

Please mail this form along with your check for \$20, payable to PPO/ACAHAPA, to:

Carol Monahan 10 Lorraine Drive Park Ridge, NJ 07656

Student Name:		Please check all that apply.		
Graduation Year:Academy		<ul> <li>YES, we would like to join ACAHAPA. Our \$20 dues are included.</li> </ul>		
Parent Names:		<ul> <li>Please accept our additional donation of</li> <li>\$ to support ACAHAPA.</li> </ul>		
Email:		Please contact me.		
Address:		<ul> <li>I work in the culinary or hospitality field.</li> <li>I have a professional contact that could help us as a speaker or resource.</li> </ul>		
		□ I would like to v	olunteer at an event.	
If you would like more inforn	nation, please contact us.			
Barbara Farrell President/Treasurer	Class of 2014 bfarrell@hcsbnj.com 201-638-8035	Heidi Walker Fundraising Co-coordinator	Class of 2015 <a href="mailto:hbainteriors@aol.com">hbainteriors@aol.com</a> 201-446-1366	
Carol Monahan Membership Coordin	Class of 2015 yankfan1950@aol.com 201-930-9187	Dawn Schildhorn Fundraising Co-coordinator	Class of 2016 dawns@optonline.net 201-262-7986	
For ACAHAPA use:				
Check # Cash		Amount \$Date Received		



# BCA Yearbooks are on sale today! Reflections 2014

Purchasing a copy of the Academy Yearbook is a great way to preserve your memories. The yearbook will include individual portraits of students in all grades. In order to purchase your copy of a yearbook online 24/7 go to:

Http://www.balfour.com

Or send in a full payment of \$85.00 with this form accompanied by cash or check payable to: Academy Yearbook

Please send all payments to: ATTENTION: Mrs. Evelyn Rios

Bergen County Academies, 200 Hackensack Avenue, Hackensack, New Jersey 07601

	Name:		
Phone: _			<u> </u>
Grade: _	Academy:	IGS:	
	# of books ordered:	x \$85.00	\$
		Total Cost:	\$

There will be NO extra books this year. You must place an order! Please send all payments to: Mrs. Rios/Room 154

Bergen County Academies, 200 Hackensack Avenue, Hackensack, New Jersey 07601 There will be NO extra books this year. You must place an order!