



# American Heritage School News

March/April 2009

## Message from the Principal

The following address was delivered by Benjamin Patch, a 10<sup>th</sup> Grade student at American Heritage School, at a recent assembly of the middle and high school students for the inauguration of the newly elected Student Government Association officers. After being sworn in as president, Ben gave this stirring “State of the School” address that inspired a standing ovation – and a figurative “bended knee” in our hearts. No administrator or teacher could possibly have said it better, nor would we have wanted to. From the heart of a student, it was one of those divine and renewing moments of realization: character education – and particularly Christ-centered education – is true education! Thank you Ben! God bless you and the many students like you who make American Heritage School what it is today, and who will make our nation, communities, and homes what they can be tomorrow!

Gratefully, --Grant Beckwith, Principal

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Ben Patch, AHS Student Government President, Winter Semester 2009

I could have spoken today on many different subjects since Mr. Beckwith simply asked me to give a state of the school address. But I decided to speak on an issue that I think all of us, including myself, can work on, namely, the principle of self-government. Self-government is a guiding principle of this school. It is in the mission statement as a founding reason that this school exists “...to

learn to reason and discern between right and wrong, truth and error; develop character and self-discipline of mind and body; and conduct ourselves in all aspects of life as Christians.” ...

On a large scale this has been accomplished. Rarely, if at all, do we hear of stealing, fighting, swearing, or

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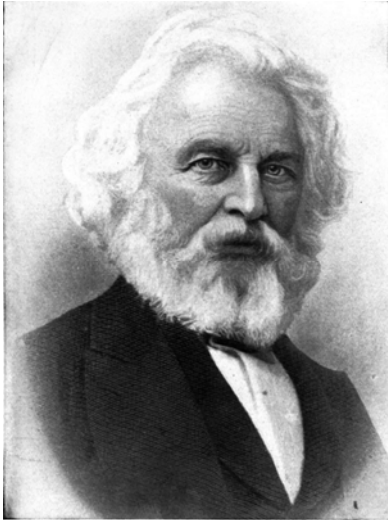
lying at our school; but what about the small things? What about the non-uniform jackets in class, the snowball at recess, the untidy shelves in the student prep-room, the crumbs on the lunch table left by a student anxious to play outside? It is these “small things” that I would like to speak about today.

With small things, the question “why?” often comes up. “What difference does it make to have an untidy prep-room if we clean it up sooner or later?” “Will one little snowball make a difference in the outcome of my life?” The answer is that it does make a difference, however small.

President Benson said, “Making decisions is probably the most important thing people ever do.” Life is made up of decisions, and so every decision makes up your life.

In C. S. Lewis's *The Screwtape Letters*, Screwtape (an experienced devil) says to his nephew, Wormwood, an inexperienced devil, "For they constantly forget, what you must always remember, that they are animals and that whatever their bodies do affects their souls." We are not animals, but we are a soul, made up of a spirit and a body, and whatever our bodies do affects our soul.

Every little thing, such as dropping a wadded up Starburst wrapper, or not reminding someone to remove his or her non-uniform jacket before an administrator has to, affects our soul. When we cease to participate in disobedience, and in its place act and encourage others to act in obedience, we become strong — and we increase the unity and strength of the School. It is the small decisions that make us strong.



*Henry Wadsworth Longfellow  
1807 – 1882, American educator and poet*

Longfellow stated, "The heights by great men reached and kept were not attained by sudden flight, but they, while their companions slept, were toiling upward in the night." Not littering or not breaking the rules is not enough. We are better than that, for not doing something is simply neutrality, and we are not a neutral School. Laziness is in both neutrality and disobedience. How much effort would it take to pick up a piece of garbage on the floor, or take off our jackets when we come into school, or keep our cubbies clean? The answer is, not much. Reminding others, encouraging them to obey the rules, does not take much effort.

Kaden Caldwell, our last Student Government president, was an excellent example of this. At recess when everyone else was throwing snowballs, we would see Kaden out there telling us, without much success, to stop throwing snowballs and obey the rules. Few, if any, stopped throwing snowballs immediately, but Kaden continued to speak out against it. His voice for obedience weighed upon my conscience as I am sure it did upon others, to the point that eventually I stopped throwing snowballs.

There are many stories about the power of one person in speaking out against disobedience to the small and simple rules. Alma 37:41 states, "Nevertheless, because those miracles were worked by small means it did show unto them marvelous works. They were slothful, and forgot to exercise their faith and diligence and then those marvelous works ceased, and they did not progress in their journey." It was by obedience in small deeds that the marvelous works came to pass, and it was by slothfulness in those small deeds that the marvelous works ceased.

This principle is as true for our School in 2009 as it was for the people in 73 B.C. If we cease our slothfulness and replace it with small deeds of obedience and righteousness, marvelous works will come to pass. President Kimball said, "We help to develop a world where vice is unprofitable, uncomfortable, and disappointing."

By our actions we can make even the smallest vice uncomfortable, we can make the smallest rule big, and we can make great works come to pass. I hope we will exercise our influence to make righteousness and obedience, even to the smallest degree, the "Norm." AHS means "Always Honor and Serve" – in all things – and encourage others to do the same. Thank you!

*(Address delivered by Ben Patch, AHS Student Government Association President, March 18, 2009)*

### **Student Submissions**

*"O My Mother: Reflections on a True Son of Israel,"  
Character relating from the novel Ben Hur  
(by Andrei Tien, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade)*

In Book II, Chapter 4, of *Ben Hur*, Judah Ben Hur confronts his mother with a question – a question that

every person eventually asks in his or her own way: “[W]hy may not a son of Israel do all that a Roman may?” Ben Hur learns from his mother that a true son of Israel must remain true. Defilements of wine, women, power, and gambling will soon corrupt a man and bring about his destruction. Messala, who is Ben Hur’s best friend, has gone to Rome. Messala comes back desensitized by the constant flash and glamour of the world. But the world is shabby compared to the truth of God. Ben Hur is told by his wise and venerable mother that one does not benefit from being drunk, immoral, and unwise with money. A true son of Israel honors and serves the ones he loves, and not for the sole benefit of himself. Judah must honor his family as he descends not only from a line of princes but of the great prophets. Judah’s mother shows the love and compassion only a mother can show, and Judah becomes truly enlightened.

I also am a son of Israel, descending from Ephraim. I have been given the priesthood. Though Satan continues to try to draw me away, promises of temporal power are dwarfed by the rich blessings of eternal glory. I must stay worthy to use my priesthood in daily responsibilities. When the world entices or tries to get my attention, I must turn to God’s guidance. Wickedness never was happiness. If I look to God I am promised rich blessings for being a true son of Israel. I hope not to put my trust in the arm of flesh, but to be enlightened like Judah Ben Hur.

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Thomas Jefferson Portrait – Ink Sketch  
By Aja Tolman, 10<sup>th</sup> Grade

*“Relating Mosiah 29 and Good Government”  
(In-class 4-R Exercise, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, Mrs. Updike)*

*“Therefore, choose you by the voice of this people...that ye may be judged according to the laws which have been given you by our fathers, which are correct, and which were given them by the hand of the Lord.” (Mosiah 29:25)*

- “I learned that good government always comes from God.” (Jessica Shelton)
- “There was a type of republic in the Americas before the Founding Fathers arrived. Good men are always willing to give up their power to serve God.” (Jacob Kleinman)
- “I learned this inexorable principle: ‘When the voice of the people doth choose iniquity... the judgment of God will come upon [them].’” (Mosiah 29:27) (Daniel Rose)
- “To have good government, good citizens must be willing to vote and to serve. The Holy Spirit and the Light of Christ convince men of TRUTH – if we will listen.” (Cynthia Chan)
- “All citizens must do their part to help their country, including serving on councils, knowing what their leaders are doing, and voting for good, wise, and honest men. When righteous leaders die, the Lord will always provide a way for his work to go forward.” (Michelle Morris)

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*“Good Parenting – The Greatest Challenge”  
A Student’s Perspective on Parenting  
(by Austin Hendricksen, 10<sup>th</sup> Grade)*

The Lord has directed, “Bring up your children in light and truth” (D&C 93:40). From President Faust’s talk “The Greatest Challenge in the World – Good Parenting” I chose three attributes of a good parent that I would like to cultivate. First, good parents bring up their children in light and truth; second, good parents pray personally and teach their children to pray; third, parents are the best teachers for their children. President Faust stated that “there is no more

important human effort [than parenting].” In the future when I become a parent, I must have a full understanding of the gospel so I can teach my children how to read and understand the scriptures. I have made a goal to read the scriptures every day so I can teach my children the truth and the light of Christ.

When I am a parent, it will be important for my family to have personal and family prayers. President Kimball said, “In the past, having family prayer once a day may have been all right. But in the future, it will not be enough if we are going to save our families.” I can make a goal now to say my personal prayers and have family prayer with my family at least twice a day.



President Faust taught,

*As societies as a whole have decayed and lost their moral identity and so many homes are broken, the best hope is to turn greater attention and effort to the teaching of the next generation – our children. In order to do this,*

*we must reinforce the primary teachers of children. Chief among these are the parents and other family members, and the best environment should be in the home. (James E. Faust, “The Greatest Challenge in the World—Good Parenting, Ensign, Nov. 1990, 32)*

By going to American Heritage I am preparing myself now to teach my future children. I have set a goal to study hard and become a true scholar. Good parents bring their children up in truth and light. Good parents pray personally and teach their children to pray. Good parents teach their children in the home. I can start to cultivate these attributes now by studying the scriptures every day, by having personal and family prayers at least twice a day and by studying hard to become a true scholar at American Heritage School.

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“And God created every living creature...”  
Watercolor, by Kristeena Hone, 10<sup>th</sup> Grade

### **2009/2010 Admissions and Financial Aid**

The admission process for the 2009/2010 school year is well under way! Early admission letters have been sent to most current families returning to the school in the Fall. All applicant families, including new families who applied in open enrollment, can expect to receive a response from the school by May 15. We have had more applicants to the school than ever before and the waiting lists continue to grow for many grade levels (even with the expanded capacity). Nonetheless, we continue to encourage all interested families to apply as there are always a few seats that become available between Spring and Fall.

In response to the present economic environment, the American Heritage School Board of Trustees has approved more flexible need-based scholarship guidelines for currently enrolled families needing assistance. Contact Rich Weyland, Director of Finance, for more information or visit the school’s website under the “Enrollment” link, which includes the financial aid application and instructions.

<http://american-heritage.org/enrollment.html#scholarship>



**Middle and High School Open House**

Middle and High School parents, particularly those who have applied for 2009-2010 enrollment, please join us on Wednesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. for a Middle and High School Open House where we will share important information with you concerning upcoming middle and high school programs, electives, teachers, graduation requirements, and more. Students are welcome (there will be food and maybe a few surprises!). Come a little early and see the American Heritage School Science and Invention Fair, which will remain set up for parents to see that evening. See you there!

**Calendar at a Glance**

**March**

- 23-27 Standardized Testing Week
- 26 Utah Valley String Festival Honors Recital, 7 p.m., North Auditorium
- 28 (Saturday) Utah Valley String Festival Honors Recital, 12 noon., North Auditorium
- 31 ACT Exam Practice #4 (Grades 9-10) 8:10 a.m.

**April**

- 1 Silly Sock Day
- 2 Spring Choir/Orchestra Class Concert  
4th-6th Grade, 12:30 p.m.  
7th-10th Grade, 2:00 p.m.
- 3 **Teacher Inservice, No School (K-6<sup>th</sup>), Regular Classes (7<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>)**
- 8 Youth Orchestra Spring Concert 7:00 p.m.
- 10 Third Grade Devotional 8:40 a.m.
- 13-17 Easter Vacation – No School**
- 22 Science Fair
- 22 Middle/High School Open House 7:00 p.m.
- 24 Midterm
- 24 **Teacher Inservice, No School (K-6<sup>th</sup>), Early Out (7<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>) 2:00 p.m.**
- 27-1 Teacher Appreciation Week

**May**

- 2 (Saturday) Incoming Kindergarten Readiness Assessments and Orientation, 9-11 a.m.
- 8 **Teacher Inservice, No School (K-10)**
- 11-15 Shakespeare Week, Art Show
- 15 Shakespeare Play “Comedy of Errors” 6:30 p.m.

**“Sing Alleluia!” 2009 Spring Concert**

Join us for our annual Spring Choir Concert “Sing Alleluia!” featuring the combined 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Choirs and AHS orchestra class at 12:30 p.m. and the combined 7<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> Grade Choirs at 2:00 p.m. Choir students: Please wear the concert dress set forth below to school on Thursday, April 2:

**Choir Student Friday Uniform Dress:** Boys please wear white long-sleeved Sunday dress shirt, with the Friday uniform dress pants, dress shoes, dark socks and navy blue tie. Girls please wear Friday dress uniform with dark tights and Sunday dress shoes.

**Orchestra Class Students:** dress for the concert is “concert black.” Boys please wear long-sleeve black dress shirt and black dress pants with dark socks and shoes (no tie required). Girls please wear long-sleeve black dress (or blouse and knee-length-or-longer black skirt) with black nylons and dark dress shoes.

If you have any questions please contact choir teacher Mrs. Hancock at [chancock@ahsmail.com](mailto:chancock@ahsmail.com) or 642-0055 ext. 323, or Orchestra teacher Mr. McKinney at [lmckinney@ahsmail.com](mailto:lmckinney@ahsmail.com) or 642-0055.



*\*Note: The “AHS Orchestra” performing on April 2 is the AHS orchestra class, not the after-school American Heritage Lyceum Philharmonic, which performs on April 8.*

***American Heritage Lyceum Philharmonic,  
BYU-Idaho Symphony, to Perform  
Side-by-Side Concert***



As reported in the Daily Herald, the BYU-Idaho Symphony directed by Dr. Robert Tueller has invited American Heritage School's own Lyceum Philharmonic to perform side-by-side with them on stage in Rexburg, April 1, 2009. This represents another opportunity for American Heritage Youth Orchestra students get the inside track to university admissions and scholarships. Students who have played with the Lyceum Philharmonic for the past three years will now have performed with the BYU Philharmonic, University of Utah Philharmonia, and BYU-Idaho Symphony.

American Heritage Lyceum Philharmonic students go far beyond what the average student is able to experience at a college visit. In fact, Dr. Tueller made a special trip to American Heritage School on March 18<sup>th</sup> to work with the American Heritage Lyceum Philharmonic in preparation for an April 1<sup>st</sup> bus trip to Rexburg to rehearse and perform side-by-side with the musicians of BYU-Idaho (some of whom our students will recognize from earlier seasons at the Lyceum Philharmonic!).

Each university program that has hosted the Lyceum Philharmonic has seen players from the orchestra attend their music programs and receive scholarships. The program works well for both student and university: students get an inside look at what it would be like to attend and universities get a chance to attract talent that might otherwise have gone out of state or to a different program.

"Each year we try to give students the chance to find out what school is right for them," remarked director Kayson Brown. "It's hard to know exactly what you're getting yourself into when you apply to a college music program. This way at least our students know the director, can talk to the college students about what it's like to go there, and can get a feel for what it would be like to attend. I can't think of a better way to make an educated decision about your education."

For those who are unable to attend the collaborative concert event on April 1<sup>st</sup> at BYU-Idaho, the Lyceum Philharmonic will be performing the same works at home in the American Heritage School Auditorium April 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. The concert is free and open to the public.

***Building Expansion  
Campaign and Construction Update  
100% Participation! That's Our Goal!***

Construction for the elementary and high school expansion is well underway and progressing nicely! We expect to occupy the new facilities in August of 2009. Our fundraising efforts for the building expansion have been admirable: we have raised approximately \$2.5 million in the last year since we began our building expansion campaign, but we have not yet achieved our \$4 million goal and we need everyone's help!

On Thursday, May 7, we will be holding our last major development event of the year, entitled "An Evening at Mount Vernon" – by invitation-only for guests who can help us to complete our fundraising goal for the School's expansion effort. See the attached flyer for more on this very special event – and please contact Mr. Leland Anderson, [landerson@ahsmail.com](mailto:landerson@ahsmail.com) or 801-642-0055 x. 307 if you or someone you know would be interested in an invitation for this one-of-a-kind experience!



Of course, our most important development goal is to demonstrate to ourselves and to other potential donors that 100% of our families at American Heritage School are making a donation – of any amount – in addition to tuition. Just over 50% have done so in connection with our current expansion effort. This is OUR school and we owe it to future generations to continue building upon the dreams of those who sacrificed and built for the future prior to us!

Since we do not include capital improvement costs in tuition, the actual tuition paid by families at the school represents only a portion (approximately half) of the “real” cost of per-student education at the school factoring in the would-be costs for building, land, facilities, furniture, fixtures and equipment. We are all grateful for sacrifice of those who made this school possible for our children. Let’s show our gratitude! There are many ways to give to the Building Expansion Fund! Participate in the Student Pledge Fund, hand- or mail-deliver a donation to the School office, or make a donation online!

<http://american-heritage.org/giving.htm>

“Sacrifice brings forth the blessings of heaven!” and we THANK those who have donated and continue to donate to the ongoing needs of the School. You are angels on earth!

### **Additional Parking – Coming Soon!**

We are pleased to announce that American Heritage School has agreed to purchase and develop over an acre of land immediately north of (adjacent to) the School’s northern driveway – for the purpose of additional parking and landscaping. As with all major capital improvements to the School, this new parking lot has been funded by donations to the School. Approximately 120 new stalls will be added, including a three lane access, which, in addition to the parking and access on the east side of the building, will dramatically increase the efficiency and safety during carpool and special events. The north parking lot will also be the designated parking lot for any student drivers that we will have in years to come. We anticipate the new parking lot to be available in time for the beginning of Fall classes. Heartfelt thanks to our angel donors and thank you parents for the patience and understanding that you have exhibited throughout our expansion phase!

### **AHS Senior Bee and Regional Spelling Bee Winners!**

Congratulations to the following students who won top honors at the recent AHS Senior Spelling Bee and the Regional Scripps, Daily Herald Spelling Bee:

#### AHS Senior Bee All-School Winners:

- 1st Place – Hannah Waddel, Mrs. Brinkerhoff’s 8th Grade Class
- 2nd Place -- Macie Anderson, Miss Richardson’s 6th Grade Class
- 3rd Place –Natasha Huhem, Mrs. Arnold’s 5th Grade Class



Special congratulations to Hannah Waddel who placed first in the all-school AHS bee and eighth at the Scripps-Daily Herald Utah County Regional Spelling Bee!

#### Class Senior Bee Winners:

The following students were top spellers in their individual classes at American Heritage School:

- 5th Grade – Mr. Cornell
  - 1st Place – Jordan Kirby
  - 2nd Place – Amber Sessions
  - 3rd Place – Rebekah Crawford
- 5th Grade – Mrs. Arnold
  - 1st Place – McKinzie Smario
  - 2nd Place –Natasha Huhem
  - 3rd Place – Elena Hadlock
- 6th Grade – Miss Richardson
  - 1st Place – Macie Anderson
  - 2nd Place – Luke Lytle
  - 3rd Place – Matthew Brown
- 6th Grade – Mrs. Connors
  - 1st Place – Sasha Morales
  - 2nd Place – Merrick Carr
  - 3rd Place – Max Higbee
- 7th Grade – Mr. Latimer
  - 1st Place – Misha Duncan
  - 2nd Place – Brianna Crampton
  - 3rd Place – Andrew Bartholomew
- 7th Grade – Mrs. Scanland
  - 1st Place – Andrew Sessions
  - 2nd Place – Allan Hastings
  - 3rd Place – Mitchell Benson



8th Grade – Mrs. Brinkerhoff  
 1st Place – Hannah Waddel  
 2nd Place – Hannah Tolman  
 3rd Place – Joshua Jensen

8th Grade – Mr. Haymond  
 1st Place – Quinn Sutton  
 2nd Place – Alexis Wulfenstein  
 3rd Place – Nicole Klingler

### Geography Bee Honors

Congratulations to the following students who performed brilliantly in the first annual American Heritage School geography bee:

#### Overall AHS School Winners:

1<sup>st</sup> Place, Max Higbee (Mrs. Connors, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade)  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Michael Sorensen (Mrs. Scanland, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade)  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Hannah Waddel (Mrs. Brinkerhoff, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade)



Special congratulations to Max Higbee, who passed the qualifying test for the State Bee and will be competing at the state level of the National Geographic Bee at Thanksgiving Point Gardens on Friday, April 3, 2009 at 11 a.m.

#### Class Geography Bee Winners:

5<sup>th</sup> Grade, Katherine Bennett (Mrs. Arnold)  
 5<sup>th</sup> Grade, Sarah Jensen (Mr. Cornell)  
 6<sup>th</sup> Grade, Max Higbee (Mrs. Connors)  
 6<sup>th</sup> Grade, Sara Lininger (Miss Richardson)  
 7<sup>th</sup> Grade, Misha Duncan (Mr. Latimer)  
 7<sup>th</sup> Grade, Michael Sorensen (Mrs. Scanland)  
 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, Hannah Waddel (Mrs. Brinkerhoff)  
 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, Evan Peterson (Mr. Haymond)

Many thanks to Mr. Steve Miller for his hard work organizing and executing the geography bee. Thank you Mr. Miller, and congratulations students!

To visit the ruins of Persepolis, an ancient ceremonial capital of Persia, you would have to travel to what present-day country? (Sample question from the National Geographic Bee Official Study Guide)

### ***Freedom Festival Essay Contest*** **School Winners**

We are so pleased to have had so many students participating in the Freedom Festival Essay Contest this year, especially from the younger grades. The theme was “*American Values: Family, Freedom, God, and Country.*” There were many wonderful essays, and our judges enjoyed reading them. Thanks so much for your participation!

Fifteen essays were chosen to continue on to compete with essays from other schools (listed here from oldest grade to youngest). Congratulations to these students and their teachers. You did a wonderful job!

Aaron Kennedy (Latimer 7<sup>th</sup>)  
 Evan Ayers (Latimer 7<sup>th</sup>)  
 Kaiden Nunes (Latimer 7<sup>th</sup>)  
 Misha Duncan (Latimer 7<sup>th</sup>)  
 Allyssa Merkley (Latimer 7<sup>th</sup>)  
 Matthew Brown (Richardson 6<sup>th</sup>)  
 Hayden Wall (Richardson 6<sup>th</sup>)  
 Rebekah Crawford (Cornell 5<sup>th</sup>)  
 Katherine Bennett (Arnold 5<sup>th</sup>)  
 Daphne Boggess, (Arnold 5<sup>th</sup>)  
 Lindsey McGuire (Desoto 3<sup>rd</sup>)  
 Caleb Uhl (Bills 3<sup>rd</sup>)  
 Aryn Jones (Bills 3<sup>rd</sup>)  
 Claire Hilmo (Bingham 2<sup>nd</sup>)  
 Hannah Bingham (McNamara 1<sup>st</sup>)

In addition to the fifteen winners, the judges have chosen school winners for each grade:

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Grade School Winners:

1<sup>st</sup> place - Hannah Bingham (McNamara)  
 2<sup>nd</sup> place - Davis Tovey (Sivert)  
 3<sup>rd</sup> place - Samuel Beckwith (Sivert)

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade School Winners:

1<sup>st</sup> place - Claire Hilmo (Bingham)  
 2<sup>nd</sup> place - Alex Bigelow (Bingham)  
 3<sup>rd</sup> place - Stephen Sessions (Bingham)

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade School Winners:

1<sup>st</sup> place - Lindsey McGuire (Desoto)  
 2<sup>nd</sup> place - Caleb Uhl (Bills)  
 3<sup>rd</sup> place - Aryn Jones (Bills)



**4<sup>th</sup> Grade School Winners:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> place - Gabe Thurston (Knight)  
 2<sup>nd</sup> place - Gabi Sutton (Knight)  
 3<sup>rd</sup> place - Spencer Hart (Knight)

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade School Winners:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> place -Rebekah Crawford (Cornell)  
 2<sup>nd</sup> place - Katherine Bennett (Arnold)  
 3<sup>rd</sup> place -Daphne Boggess (Arnold)

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade School Winners:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> place - Matthew Brown (Richardson)  
 2<sup>nd</sup> place - Hayden Wall (Richardson)  
 3<sup>rd</sup> place - Kyle Allred (Richardson)

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade School Winners:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> place - Aaron Kennedy (Latimer)  
 2<sup>nd</sup> place - Evan Ayers (Latimer)  
 3<sup>rd</sup> place - Kaiden Nunes (Latimer)

Thanks for your participation. Good luck to those of you who are continuing in the competition!

***First AHS High School Students  
 Admitted to BYU, SVU***



*Aja Tolman*



*Catherine Bowen*

We are pleased to announce that our first two American Heritage High School students have been officially admitted to universities: Aja Tolman, Brigham Young University (Provo), and Catherine Bowen, Southern Virginia University. Both were admitted early on the strength of their applications and standardized test performance, and both students are also strong candidates for scholarships (and of course we are confident that they will receive those scholarships!). Many thanks to the Tolmans, Bowens, and the entire faculty and administrative team, all of whom played such an important role through the years in preparing Aja and Catherine for this next step.

Though Aja and Catherine may not be physically present with us for our inaugural graduating class commencement exercises in the Spring of 2011, they will certainly be considered a part of this very special "Pioneer Class of 2011". Congratulations to Aja, Catherine, and the Tolman and Bowen families!

**ACT Exam Information**

Congratulations to the 9th grade students who completed the ACT EXPLORE. Students interested in a baseline performance measure on an actual ACT may be interested in taking an ACT well in advance of their junior year.

BYU and many other universities and colleges consider only a student's highest ACT score when making admission and scholarship decisions, no matter how many times a student takes the test. Therefore, it will be advantageous for most students to take the ACT multiple times. In fact, 55% of students who retake the ACT improve their score by one to three points! This is a good reason to take the ACT sooner rather than later, and to take it multiple times.

For students interested in taking an actual ACT soon, the next actual ACT will be administered on June 13, 2009. The cost is \$31.00. Go to [www.act.org](http://www.act.org) to register no later than May 8!

**AHS Students Serving  
 and Learning in Mexico**

Under the enthusiastic direction of American Heritage high school teacher Mr. Ruel Haymond, AHS students Austin Hill, Kelsey Crawford, Christian Hartman, and Rachael Breaux recently travelled to Ensenada, Mexico with parents, native hosts, and Mr. Haymond, for a week of service and learning that they will never forget. A daily blog was updated for students back at school who were unable to participate. The following note from Mr. Haymond, written from Mexico to Mr. Beckwith, sums up the experience well:

*"Just a quick and late note to you...we are doing so well here. The people, the culture, the work, the sun, the poverty, the joy, the smiles,*

*the gospel....everything has been a dream here. Sunday, the adults in our group spoke in church, I sang, and the students got to know the youth. We went out with the missionaries and the bishopric on Sunday night and sang hymns with families, prayed and cried. It was absolutely life changing for all of us. The opportunities for service are vast and marvelous. I hope we can have the chance to share our experience with the school, parents, and community, etc.”*

Thank you Mr. Haymond and students for representing American Heritage School so well and for being ambassadors of good will to the people of Ensenada, Mexico!



*AHS students Austin Hill and Christian Hartman make a new friend (Mori), building homes and relationships!*



*AHS Student Rachael Breaux (with shovel) helps work on the foundation for a home in Ensenada, Mexico*



*AHS parent Jay Hill and high school teacher Ruel Haymond take a few moments to 4-R their experience!*



*Kelsey Crawford, 9<sup>th</sup> Grade AHS student, and her father, Robert (top row) pose with other volunteers, locals, and members of the Church working together on the housing development project in Ensenada, Mexico.*

### **2009 Parent Foundations Training**



Save the dates! Monday and Tuesday, June 1-2, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days, at American Heritage School, “How Firm a Foundation: Essential Practices that Produce Principle Approach Results” – the annual Parent Foundations Training, this year featuring Carole Adams, President of the Foundation for American Christian Education. Join us for this important and inspiring training for parents and teachers. **The registration fee of \$125 is waived for all parents enrolled at the School.** New parents to the school are required to attend. Current parents are strongly encouraged to attend (even if you have attended the American Heritage School Foundations Training before). See the attached flyer for more information. You won’t want to miss this!



### **Congratulations AHS Girls Basketball!**

Congratulations to the AHS Girls Basketball team and Coach Elaine Gibson for their third place finish in the 2008-2009 Utah County Private and Charter School League.



*AHS Girls Basketball Placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Utah County Private and Charter School League Tournament*

### **Spring Soccer is Here!!** **(6th-11th Grades)**

We are pleased to announce that all of the students who have participated in tryouts will be on either the Boys' (14 and older) or Co-ed team. Games will begin the last week of March (game schedule forthcoming from the league). If you are unable to come to the first few practices, but are interested in playing soccer this year, please contact Mr. Hunsaker at [bhunsaker@ahsmail.com](mailto:bhunsaker@ahsmail.com) 642-0055 ext. 304.

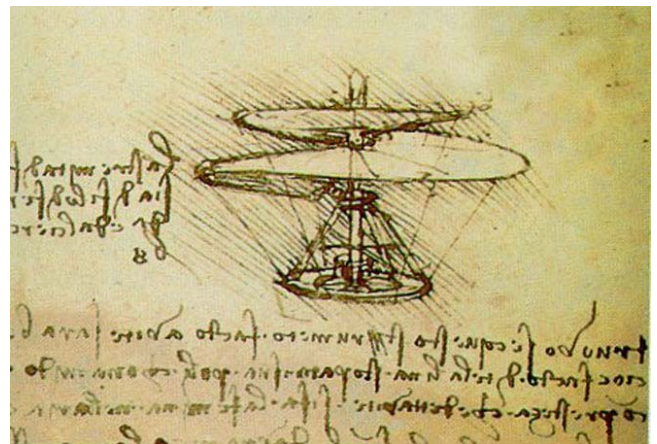
Please note that the \$75.00 participation and uniform rental fee for the Co-ed team and the \$95.00 participation and uniform rental fee for the Boys' team is due not later than March 30<sup>th</sup> 2009. Students who have not paid the fee by that date will not be allowed to practice until the fee has been paid. We are looking for an Assistant Coach for both teams;

please contact Mr. Hunsaker at [bhunsaker@ahsmail.com](mailto:bhunsaker@ahsmail.com) or 642-0055 ext 304 if you are interested. We look forward to a fantastic soccer season! Go AHS Eagles!



### **Science & Invention Fair!!**

The annual American Heritage School Science & Invention Fair will be held April 21-22. Participation in the Science & Invention Fair is mandatory for all fourth, sixth, eighth, and tenth grade science students and optional for all other students in the School. Sixth, eighth, and tenth grade students are producing science projects using the scientific method and all fourth grade students are producing an invention. Fifth seventh and ninth grade students will receive extra credit in science if they choose to participate in the fair.



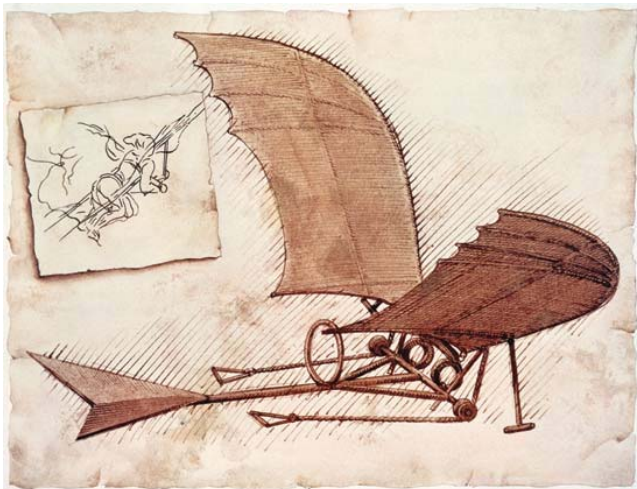
*Leonardo Da Vinci's Original Helicopter Concept*

### **Please note the following guidelines for 6<sup>th</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Grade participants:**

- Students should approve the project with their parents and with Mr. Miller or Mrs. Logan prior to starting.
- All students in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade should choose a project in the Life Science or Biology field

(Mrs. Logan will provide direction for students in Biology)

- As you work, identify and apply the steps of the scientific method. Thinking through the process of the scientific method, then applying each step, is one of the most important learning experiences associated with the science fair.
- Make sure the project presents a specific question that can be solved through the proper use of research and documentation. Don't worry if your hypothesis ultimately proves inaccurate! Attention to the scientific method is far more important than the accuracy of the hypothesis.
- Each project should include a poster board display to explain the project, as well as a written paper to provide detailed documentation to be evaluated by the Science Department.
- Each project will be displayed in the recreation hall for other students and parents to view the innovative work of our students.
- Any components of a project that are potentially harmful if touched or ingested should be brought to the attention of Mr. Miller or Mrs. Logan prior to being put on display.



Another of Leonardo Da Vinci's flying machines. He conceived at least 20 such machines.

**Please note the following guidelines for all 4<sup>th</sup> Grade participants:**

The criteria for the 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Inventions and point allocations (150 total points possible) are as follows:

1. *A self-supporting upright display.* (No larger than 36" x 36") This display should contain:

- a. A title of the model or prototype (5 pts.);
- b. A statement of purpose (10 pts.);
- c. A diagram of the device (10 pts.). The best and detailed drawing should be here; and
- d. A description or explanation of how the invention works and how the invention might improve life today or in the future (10 pts.).

2. *A journal (log) of your ideas and work.* This will help show the originality of your idea, and it will allow you to track the steps in your inventive process. The journal should be organized with dividers labeled A-F. Make sure to date and initial your log every time you work on your invention (5 pts.). Each journal section should contain the following:

- Journal Section A (50 pts.): The first four steps to creating your invention should be described in this section ("Steps to Creating an Invention" will be sent home separately with students). After you have identified your invention, you may continue with Journal Sections B-G.
- Journal Section B (20 pts.): Describe all your ideas, make a drawing of your ideas, tests, work and results using Steps 5, 6, and 8 of "Steps to Creating an Invention."
- Journal Section C (10 pts.): Keep records of the costs of the materials (Step 7 of "Steps to Creating an Invention").
- Journal Section D (10 pts.): Answer the question "What problem does your invention solve?" Use as much detail as possible and use complete sentences.
- Journal Section E (10 pts.): Answer the question "Who might benefit for your invention?" Use as much detail as possible and use complete sentences.
- Journal Section F (10 pts.): Answer the question "What makes your invention unique or different from others?" Use as much detail as possible, and use complete sentences.



Make sure to use a folder or binder to organize your invention journal and label all dividers as indicated above!

All projects and inventions are due on April 21<sup>st</sup>. Start working on your projects early! Start now! Good luck students!

### **Children's First Utah Scholarships**

Children's First Utah is accepting scholarship applications for the coming school year. The mission of Children First Utah is to increase educational opportunities for children in low-income families by offering tuition assistance to private schools. Eligibility is based upon income. Scholarships will be awarded March through August. To learn more about this opportunity and how to apply, visit the Children's First Utah website at [www.childrenfirstutah.org](http://www.childrenfirstutah.org). If you have any additional questions, please contact Children's First Utah at 801-363-0946.

### **Alumni Notes**

*Ryan (Leavitt) Rogers, AHS alumnus, 1983-1987.* I am constantly telling my wife and three (soon to be four) children about the experiences I had as a child where my mostly single mother scraped what little money she had to put my brother and me through years of school at American Heritage. I just listened to the Children of Liberty song, and truthfully, I cried as the memories of my little brother who also attended and passed away a few years ago flowed through my mind. I have so many amazing memories/experiences that have made me who I am today and that came from American Heritage as a child. Mrs. Cornell instilled a love of history and a thirst for knowledge that I have always held on to. Kay Asay had to have pulled my ears what seemed like a hundred times for misbehaving, yet I truly loved and respected her with all of my soul. I told my wife tonight how I remembered our choir winning all the competitions at Symphony Hall in Salt Lake, and I remember her and all of my classmates crying when it was over. What an amazing thing to be a part of – what I call a family because that is what we became. We did so much together, and to this day I remember having to say good-bye because at that time the school did not extend passed the 7<sup>th</sup> grade. So off we all went our

separate ways. The values and principles that I was taught have made me a better person through life. My wife and I were married in the Washington D.C. temple and now live in Michigan with three (soon to be four) children. I am amazed to see what the new school looks like now, since I attended the old one. I am happy for the current students and hope they realize how privileged they are to attend such an outstanding school! I wish you all the best! *Ryan (Leavitt) Rogers, AHS alumnus, 1983-1987, currently resides in Saginaw, Michigan.*

*Kimball Palmer, AHS Alumnus, 1970-1976.* My father, Alan Palmer, was involved with the founding of the school and was a personal friend of Dr. Anderson. I and some of my siblings were among the first enrolled at American Heritage School, and I remember those days well. I remember the teachers by name and many of the students and I have many fond memories of the old church house campus in Pleasant Grove. I sang my heart out for Kay Asay in choir. I played the role of Stephen Langton in the 1975 Patriotic Program, and sang the solo part in the Battle Hymn of the Republic. Pres. Ezra Taft Benson sat on the front row and presented me with a bouquet of roses. It was a highlight of my life! I regret that my children have not attended American Heritage School. We live in Arkansas, and I have home taught my children, and several have attended BYU. I am simply flooded with memories and affection for American Heritage School and the history of it. *Kimball Palmer, AHS alumnus 1970-1976, currently resides in Arkansas.*

### **Positions Available**

**Elementary Core Teacher (FT)** (posted 1/20/09) (Grades 2-3): Minimum two-years' experience, preferably in formal elementary school setting. Bachelors degree or higher preferred. Must have an enduring love of youth, love of teaching, and love of the Restored Gospel. Competitive salary based upon experience. Health and retirement benefits available. Position for 2009/2010 school year; applications will be accepted through April 15, 2009.

**High School Core Teacher (FT/PT)** (posted 1/20/09) (Grades 9-10 English/Literature/History): Minimum two-years' experience, preferably in formal middle or high school setting, bachelors degree or

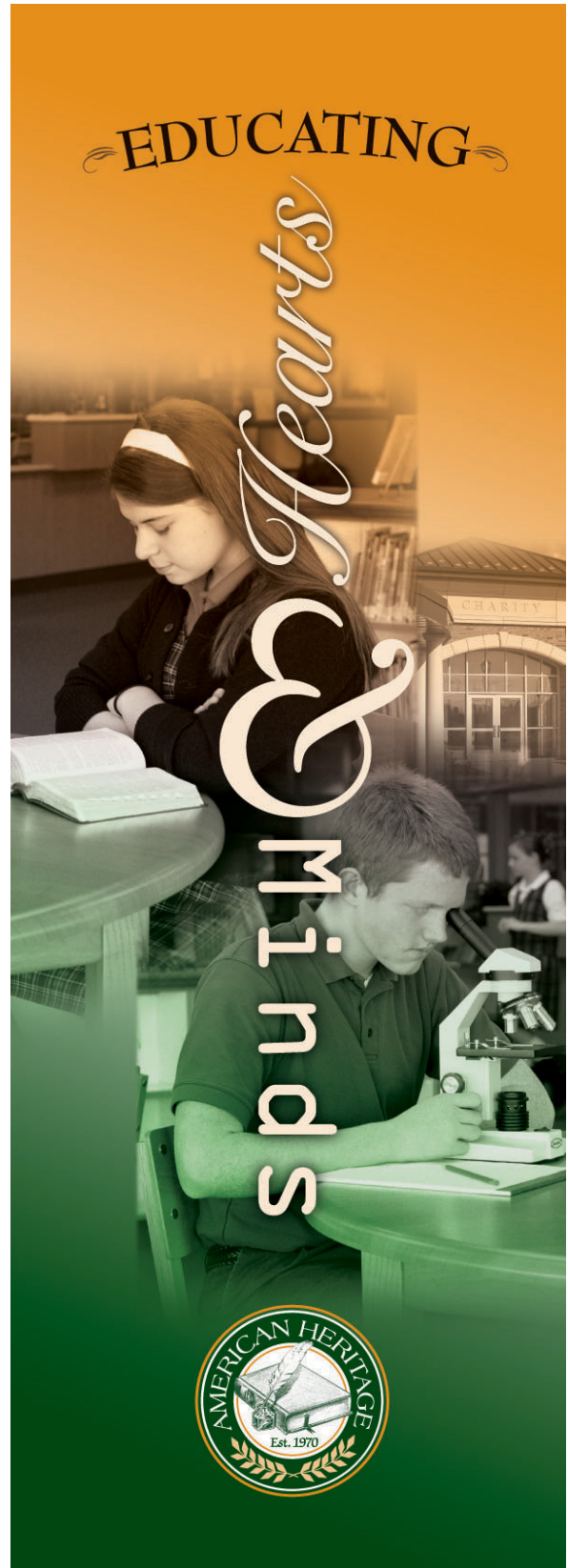
higher preferred. Must have an enduring love of youth, love of teaching, and love of the Restored Gospel. Ability to teach English (including writing and grammar), Literature, and History (U.S. and World History) strongly preferred. Competitive salary based upon experience. Health and retirement benefits available (FT only). Position for 2009-2010 school year. Applications are being accepted through April 15, 2009.

**Middle School Core Teacher (FT)** (posted 1/20/09) (Grades 7-8 English/History/Literature): Minimum two-years' experience, preferably in formal middle or high school setting, bachelors degree or higher preferred. Must have an enduring love of youth, love of teaching, and love of the Restored Gospel. Ability to teach English (including writing and grammar), Literature, and History (U.S. and World History) strongly preferred. Competitive salary based upon experience. Health and retirement benefits available (FT only). Position for 2009-2010 school year. Applications are being accepted through April 15, 2009.

**Librarian & Asst. Information Technology Director (FT/PT):** Minimum two-years' full-time experience in either library science, computers, information systems, or other applicable library/technology skills. Yearbook skills (computer graphics, design, layout) helpful. Bachelors degree or higher preferred. Must have an enduring love of youth, love of teaching, and love of the Restored Gospel. Competitive salary based upon experience. Health and retirement benefits available. Position for 2009-2010 school year. Applications are being accepted through July 15, 2009.

Please submit cover letter, resume, and employment application to Grant Beckwith, [gbeckwith@ahsmaail.com](mailto:gbeckwith@ahsmaail.com). Employment applications are available at the School or online under the "Opportunities" section.

*Non-discrimination Notice: American Heritage School does not discriminate against any employee, student, employee applicant, or student applicant because of race, creed, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, physical and/or mental disability.*



## AHS Honor Roll Third Term

*American Heritage School posts the Honor Roll each term for grades 4 and higher. Students qualify for the honor roll through exemplary performance in either academics (minimum 3.75 grade point average) or self-government (highest self-government grade of "Outstanding" in all classes). A student receives an "Outstanding" self-government grade who demonstrates exceptional respect, effort, and work ethic; makes significant or frequent contributions to the class; and completes and submits all in-class and homework assignments on time during the term (unless otherwise excused by the instructor).*

Allred, Kyle  
Anderson, Brody  
Anderson, Macie  
Bennett, Katherine  
Benson, Mackenzie  
Boggess, Daphne  
Boggess, Ian  
Bowen, Sarah  
Brown, Camille  
Brown, Erika  
Brown, Mckenna  
Bushman, Adam  
Bushman, Nicole  
Crawford, Rebekah  
Davies, Hannah  
Duncan, Misha  
Duncan, Steven  
Edholm, Emma  
Graff, Bryce  
Gunther, Kaitlyn  
Hales, Christopher  
Harbaugh, China  
Hart, Spencer  
Heras, Alexandra  
Heras, Erik  
Hilton, Sarah  
Holmes, Megan  
Holmstead, Christopher  
Holmstead, Nathan

Huhem, Natasha  
Humphrey, Sadie  
Jensen, Sarah  
Johnson, Lauren  
Johnson, Madison  
Johnson, Walker  
Jorgensen, Jens  
Jorgensen, Josh  
Kirby, Hunter  
Kirby, Jordan  
Kittell, Anna  
Larson, Tatiana  
Lofgreen, Carsyn  
Lofgreen, Kaytlyn  
Lytle, Emma  
Mathews, Ella  
McAlister, Sarah  
McMillan, Benjamin  
Miner, Linnea  
Monson, Rosie  
Morales Llan, Arturo  
Morales Llan, Sasha  
Morris, Michael  
Morris, Michelle  
Munoz, Samuel A.  
Nawahine, Breesa  
Nazer, Katherine  
Nitta, Haley  
Ostler, Hannah

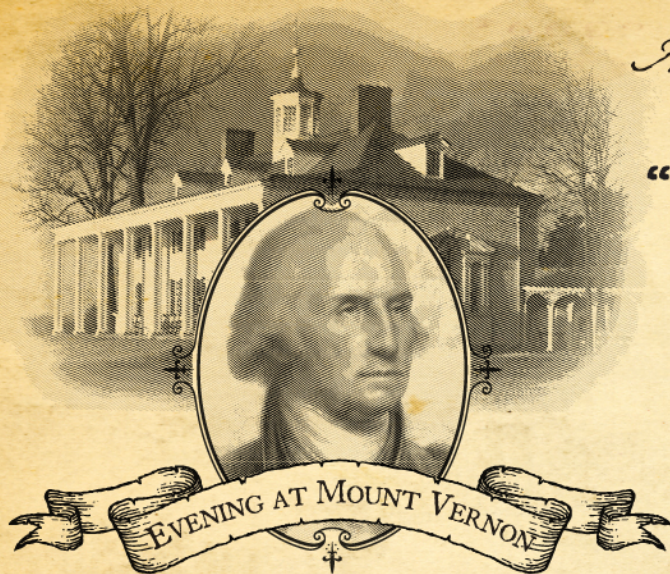
Pack, Cera  
Pearce, Connor  
Pierce, Aubrey  
Roberts, Ashley  
Rose, Daniel  
Rose, Joseph  
Ruder-Sanchez, Sebastian  
Sessions, Amber  
Sessions, Andrew  
Smith, Madison  
Sutton, Olivia  
Tolman, Aja  
Tolman, Hannah  
Uhl, Connor  
Van Der Watt, Ariane  
Waddel, Hannah  
Young, Sidney



“AN EVENING AT MOUNT VERNON,”  
a special benefit dinner by invitation only, is intended  
primarily for donors who can help us to complete funding  
for our American Heritage School Building Expansion.



If you or someone you know can help us reach our goal,  
please contact Mr. Leland Anderson  
[landerson@ahsmail.com](mailto:landerson@ahsmail.com) for an invitation,  
or call 801-642-0055 x307.



Featuring Stirring,  
“Theatre-in-the-Round” Portrayals of  
George and Martha Washington  
by Renowned Actors  
Mr. S. Bryce Chamberlain  
and Ms. Tayva Patch

*American Heritage School*  
presents, by invitation only,  
“An Evening at Mount Vernon”  
*Building for the Future*

The Evening Will Begin at SIX  
Dinner and Entertainment  
Will Begin Promptly at Half Past SIX

Attendees Will Enjoy  
Authentic Early-American Dining  
and Inspirational Music by the  
American Heritage Madrigal Singers  
&  
The American Heritage  
Lyceum Philharmonic String Quartet





**Spring Concert**

American Heritage School Presents

**Choir & Orchestra Spring Concert**

*Sing Alleluia!*

**Thursday, April 2, 2009  
North Auditorium**

**4th - 6th Grade Choirs & AHS Orchestra  
12:30 - 1:30 p.m.**

**7th - 10th Grade Choirs  
2:00 - 3:00 p.m.**

*\*Note: The AHS Orchestra performing on April 2 is the AHS orchestra class, not the after-school American Heritage Lyceum Philharmonic, which performs on April 8 (see separate flyer).*



# AMERICAN HERITAGE SCHOOL PARENT FOUNDATIONS TRAINING

June 1-2, 2009, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## *“How Firm a Foundation” Essential Practices that Lead to Principle Approach® Results*

Featuring Workshop Training for Parents, Teachers, and Administrators (June 1<sup>st</sup>)  
and  
Dr. Carole G. Adams (June 2<sup>nd</sup>)



Carole G. Adams, PhD, is a native Virginian, and serves as president of the Foundation for American Christian Education in Chesapeake, Virginia, faithfully carrying out the mission of the founders, Verna Hall and Rosalie Slater. She is the directing editor of the kindergarten through twelfth grade Principle Approach curriculum now published as *The Noah Plan*. The school Carole founded in 1980 to fulfill the Principle Approach vision in every subject, StoneBridge School in Chesapeake, Virginia, is now the national demonstration school for the Foundation for American Christian Education, and serves as a practical model to schools across the nation and the world. Carole continues to inspire a new generation of scholars and teachers as the editor of *The Journal of the Foundation for American Christian Education* and the *Principle Approach Education* newsletter, and by speaking her insights in defense of liberty and our God-given role as citizens, parents, teachers, and scholars. Her trademark lecture and article, “*The Christian Idea of the Child*,” describes the Biblical concept of childhood; Carole has guided thousands of teachers and parents by teaching courses and through her book *The Noah Plan English Language Curriculum Guide*. Carole also serves on the boards of StoneBridge School and the Foundation for American Christian Education. She and her husband, John, are parents of a son and two daughters, and they have seven grandchildren.

### *Applications of the Principle Approach to the Home and Classroom*

*The Seven Principles in Practice • The 4-R Reflective Learning Process • Internal Principles to External Application • Celebrating Learning • Reaching All Levels of Learners • Helping Students with Exceptionalities • Healthy Expectations • Accommodation and Accountability • Lesson Preparation Techniques • Curriculum Design • Model Lesson Plans • Classroom Applications & Tools • Classroom Management • Cultivating Christian Self-Government • Tools & Hints for Maintaining a Vibrant and Orderly Classroom Atmosphere • Pacing • The Notebook Method • The Christian Idea of the Child • Gaining a Providential View of History – “His Story” • The Power of Word Studies*

Registration fee of \$125, or \$70 per individual day, includes materials and lunch both days.

**Registration fee waived for current parents and faculty of American Heritage School, American Fork.** Ages 14 and up are welcome upon registration (no babies or young children please). Contact the front office to register. Materials and meals will not be provided for walk-in registrations the day of the event.

*Detailed agenda and biographical sketches of presenters to come. Register early – seating is limited!*

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*Humility - Faith - Charity - Courage - Self-Government - Virtue - Industry - Wisdom*

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American Heritage Schools, Inc., 736 North 1100 East, American Fork, Utah 84003, (801) 642-0055, (801) 642-0060 (fax), [www.american-heritage.org](http://www.american-heritage.org)  
The Principle Approach® is a registered trademark of the Foundation for American Christian Education.



*symphonically presents*

## “Grand Finale Concert”

Wednesday, April 8, 7:00 p.m.  
AHS Auditorium

### American Heritage Youth Orchestras

Come support the American Heritage School Jr. Strings, Chamber, and Lyceum Philharmonic Orchestras as they perform masterworks of the repertory, pops tunes, and primary hymns. Students ages 6 to 18 will entertain and impress in this family friendly concert. Admission is free and open to the public. **DON'T MISS YOUR LAST CHANCE TO HEAR THE ORCHESTRAS THIS SEASON!**

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#### ORCHESTRA STUDENT HONORS

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CONGRATULATIONS to the winners of the 2009 Utah Valley String Festival. The following American Heritage School Youth Orchestra students have been selected by judges from among the best string players in the valley and performed at the Honor's Recital held at American Heritage School on March 26<sup>th</sup> and March 28<sup>th</sup>.

Adelheid Hulme  
Alexander Heyrend  
Benson Marshall  
Catherine Willey  
Elizajane Schetselaar  
Emma Baker  
Ethan Sherman  
Grace Bowcut  
Hannah Davies

Holly Hunt  
Joseph Arnesen  
Joseph VanDuren  
Kelli Driggs  
Lyceum Honors String Quartet  
McKay Bowcut  
Megan Asplund  
Noah Schetselaar

Rebekah Loveridge  
Rebekah Willey  
Sherman Boys  
Spencer Hunt  
Spencer Wilson  
Willey Duo  
Xavier Humberg  
Yunyeong Lee

Also congratulations to Rebekah and Catherine Willey who won first place honors at the Utah Symphony Youth Guild Competition. They were selected from players from across the state and received a cash prize for their first place finishes.

**Parents, if this form is filled out by a student,  
please double check it for accuracy before submitting. Thank you!**

**Pizza Monday Orders for May**



This is our pizza-ordering sheet.

Your students' pizza orders will be for the entire month. This means that if they want 2 "total" pieces of pepperoni, that is what they will get for each of the weeks in the month. If your student wants a change, they may change next month. **The cost is \$1 per slice of pizza ordered.**



May 4 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> , 18 <sup>th</sup>					
Name of Student (First & Last Name)	Teacher	Pepperoni	Cheese	Ham	Total Pieces
				Total pieces ordered p/day	
				X 4 weeks =	
				x \$1/slice = Total Price:	\$

**\*\* Please return your order form for the month of May with a check (NO CASH) no later than Friday, April 24, 2009. This deadline is firm. Please make checks payable to American Heritage School. Thank you!**