

# Grady Brag Sheet 2014-2015

As of April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015

## **Academics and Scholarships**

State School Superintendent Richard Woods named 609 Advanced Placement (AP) Honor Schools. **Grady was recognized in the following categories:**

- AP Merit School
- AP Humanities School
- AP STEM School
- AP STEM Achievement School

AP Merit Schools are schools with at least 20 percent of the student population taking AP exams and at least 50 percent of all AP exams earning scores of 3 or higher. AP Humanities Schools are schools with students testing in all of the following AP courses: at least one ELA course, two social-science courses, one fine-arts course and one world-language course. AP STEM Schools are schools with students testing in at least two AP math courses and two AP science courses (AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, AP Statistics, AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Environmental Science, AP Physics B, AP Physics C, AP Computer Science), and AP STEM Achievement Schools are schools with students testing in at least two AP math courses and two AP science courses and at least 40 percent of the exam scores on AP math and AP science exams earning scores of 3 or higher.

This year Grady has fifteen finalists and one alternate for the **Governor's Honors Program (GHP)**. GHP is a residential summer program for gifted and talented high school juniors and seniors that take place on the campus of Valdosta State University. GHP was designed to provide intellectually gifted and artistically talented high school students challenging and enriching educational opportunities. Activities provide each participant with opportunities to acquire the skills, knowledge, and attitudes to become independent, life-long learners. Our finalists are Conor Downey (Communicative Arts); Nicholas Fritzinger-Pittman, Graham Kidd, and Elizabeth Moore (Engineering and Design); Jasmine Sutton (Latin); Isabelle Carson, Jordan Schuster, William Taft, and Harrison Wilco (Mathematics); Cheyenne Love (Science); Chase Kleber, Chloe Prendergast, and John Slovinsky (Social Studies); Caroline Bray (Theater); and Isabel Olson (alternate, Dance). Fourteen of Atlanta Public Schools' twenty-four GHP finalists were Grady students.

Lucy Lombardo was named a 2015 Georgia Scholar. One-hundred and eighty three graduating seniors from schools across Georgia were recognized as 2015 Georgia Scholars for their excellence in all phases of school life, in community activities, and in the home. Georgia Scholars are students who have carried exemplary course loads during the four years of high school; who performed excellently in all courses; who successfully participated in interscholastic events at their schools and in their communities; and who have assumed active roles in extracurricular activities sponsored by their schools.

Noah Clinkscales won the **2015 Trumpet Awards Foundation, Inc. Scholarship** to continue his education at an accredited college/university of his choice. The amount of

the award is to be determined later.

Kiana Simmons has been awarded the 2015 11Alive Kids Who Care award. 2015 marks the 40th anniversary of the 11Alive Community Service Awards. The 11Alive Community Service Awards began in 1975 as a way to annually honor persons who had contributed significantly to their communities. The program honors 11Who Care- eleven outstanding local volunteers who have demonstrated selfless devotion for the betterment of the community.

Jessica Hume won Georgia Laws of Life Essay Contest two years in a row (2013-2014 and 2014-2015)

Colin Bray will be featured on WSBTV (channel 2), on October 17th for being honored as Athlete of the Week for his hard work in the classroom and on the field.

On October 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, around 500 Latin students from all across the state met at Northview High School for Fall Forum. Fall Forum is a miniature Latin Convention where students compete in a variety of academic, athletic, oratorical, and artistic competitions, as well as attend workshops devoted to Roman culture/Latin. Grady sent 26 delegates this year, and our students performed well. It is considered an honor to place in the top 10 in any category. Please congratulate the students below on their success!

#### Academic Awards

Sajjad Ali, Josh Ortega, Nicholas Fritzinger-Pittman, and Jasmine Sutton made it to the semifinals of the Advanced (Latin III and above) *certamen* (Latin Quiz Bowl) competition before a tough loss to Walton. This is quite a feat since all four of these students are currently in Latin III, while their competition consisted mostly of students in AP Latin.

#### Oratorical Awards

Sajjad Ali—2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Sight Recitation contest

#### Athletic Awards (*mens sana in corpore sano!*)

Gabriel Kupersmith—1<sup>st</sup> in the “discus” throw (Boys)

Elizabeth Khayat—1<sup>st</sup> in the “shot put” (Girls)

Ellie LaRocca-Pitts—2<sup>nd</sup> in the discus throw (Girls) and 6<sup>th</sup> in the shot put (Girls)

Mack Hodges—3<sup>rd</sup> in the discus throw (Boys)

Sajjad Ali—3<sup>rd</sup> in the 100-yard dash (Boys)

Steffen Martin—4<sup>th</sup> in the discus throw (Boys)

Claudia Thrasher—5<sup>th</sup> in the discus throw (Girls)

Anna Lomsadze is a 2014 Atlanta Women in Transportation scholarship recipient.

Women in Transportation (WTS) Atlanta Chapter's Transportation YOU program has paired students with mentors. Heidi Schneider, Science Project Engineer at HNTB Corporation mentors Casey Manders, who is in 12th grade at Henry W. Grady High School.

The following students received 2<sup>nd</sup> place ribbons at the Social Science Fair: Clair Miller, Jamie Panarites, Maxwell Rafferty, Orly Mansbach, Robi Roberts, and William Chapman. Allie Schneider and Mei Nathan received first place ribbons and will be moving on to the city-wide fair.

Alana Jacobs, Nishat Shormi, Komi Siddiqui, Jordan Schuster, Tayler Jordan Aungeligue McGhee, Maysa Jhumi, and Grace Hawkins won first place at the Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl District competition on Saturday January 31<sup>st</sup> and advanced to the Regional competition at Clayton State.

Alana Jacobs, Nishat Shormi, Komi Siddiqui, Jordan Schuster, Tayler Jordan Aungeligue McGhee, Maysa Jhumi, and Grace Hawkins won first place at the Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl District competition on Saturday January 31<sup>st</sup> and advanced to the Regional competition at Clayton State.

Three Grady students have won awards in the 2015 Scholastic Art & Awards contest, 'the nation's longest-running, most prestigious recognition initiative for creative teens.' Clarissa Mullig received a Gold Pin for Personal Essay, one of 19 Gold Pins across all writing categories in Georgia, as well as a Silver Pin for Science Fiction Story and four Honorable Mentions for Dramatic Script, Fantasy Story, Poetry, and Short Story. Seraphina Cooley received a Silver Pin for Poetry and four Honorable Mentions for Poetry. Walden Jones received an Honorable Mention for Short Story.

On Wednesday, 1/28/2015, students and adult judges from across the Atlanta region participated in the 2015 Atlanta Regional Math, Science, & Engineering Fair at Coretta Scott King Young Women's Leadership Academy. Among all of the outstanding projects presented, the following Grady High School students were recognized to be among the best.

These projects were recognized by the judges as deserving of an **Honorable Mention**:

- Katie Earles & Sarah Slutsker for their project "Greenhouse Gasses"
- Cheyenne Love for her project "How Does Human Blood Immune Response Vary in Natural and Transformed E. Coli?"
- Robert Weimer and James Bryan for their project "Effects of Soul Permeation on pH."

These projects were recognized by the judges as deserving of a **Bronze Medal**:

- Jordan Schuster for her project "The Science of the Sauté: The Correlation between the Depth of the Plié and the Height of the Sauté"
- Bailey Damiani, Javon Sapp, and Nicholas Hill whose project "Light Organ: A Frequency Sensitive LED Sound Box"

These projects were recognized by the judges as deserving of a **Silver Medal**:

- Grace Bridges, Robert Brown, & Rayedean Sparks for their project "Testing the Waters: Analysis of Desalination Efficiency"

- Alex Durham & Caleb Weinstock for their project “Does Urine Help or Hinder Plant Growth?”
- Maxwell Rafferty, Amber Thomas, and Drew Davis for their project “Desalination Technology and the California Drought”

These projects were recognized by the judges as deserving of a **Gold Medal:**

- Will Taft and Harrison Wilco for their project “Building a Better Laptop Charger: Smart Cycling.”
- Grace Dwyer for her project “Windex: the True Multi-Purpose Cleaner.”

**The following projects will advance to the Georgia Science & Engineering Fair at the University of Georgia, March 26-28, 2015\*:**

- Grace Dwyer: “Windex: the True Multi-Purpose Cleaner”
- Will Taft and Harrison Wilco: “Building a Better Laptop Charger: Smart Cycling.”
- Grace Bridges, Robert Brown, & Raydean Sparks: “Testing the Waters: Analysis of Desalination Efficiency

Maxwell Rafferty, Amber Thomas, and Drew Davis: “Desalination Technology and the California Drought”

Molly Looman walked away from the 2015 SkillsUSA Region 3 Championships as the First Place, Gold Medal winner for Prepared Speech. Molly was the sole representative for the SkillsUSA Grady Chapter for this years competitions. Molly spoke with confidence, poise, and earnestness. Her speech and its content demonstrated the true characteristics that SkillsUSA promotes as key for industry’s future leaders and innovators. On Saturday, May 28, 2015 Molly Looman won the state championship for her prepared speech. Onto Louisville Kentucky for Nationals!

Robi Roberts National Center for Civil and Human Rights' Youth Activism Fellowship. It was an honor to get to know you through your application, essay, and recommendation. I was very impressed with your individual strengths and your awareness of where you currently stand as a leader. You also had a very strong recommendation letter and should be proud. For this inaugural class, there were 72 applicants for 25 spaces.

Let’s congratulate these students and their teachers on their success at the APS Technology Fair.

<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Solo/Team</b>	<b>School</b>
Ali	Sajjad	First	Robotics (11,12)	Team Project	Grady
Benator	Sam	Second	Game Design (9,10)	Team Project	Grady
Bowman	Micah	Second	Case Modification (9,10)	Solo Project	Grady
Bradburn	Andrew	First	Non-Animated Graphic Design (9,10)	Team Project	Grady
Briggs	James	First	Digital Audio Production (9,10)	Team Project	Grady

Carson	Isabelle	First	Robotics (11,12)	Team Project	Grady
Coletta	Dominic	First	Case Modification (9,10)	Team Project	Grady
Cormier	Tyler	First	Hardware (9,10)	Team Project	Grady
Diacou	Skyler	First	Hardware (11,12)	Team Project	Grady
Downing	Kalei	Second	Digital Photography (11,12)	Team Project	Grady
Dunsbury	James	First	Game Design (9,10)	Team Project	Grady
Epstein	Samuel	First	Mobile Apps Design (9,10)	Team Project	Grady
Hammond	Georgia	First	Team Programming Challenge (9,10)	Team Project	Grady
Hinton	Safiah	First	Team Programming Challenge (9,10)	Team Project	Grady
Jenkins	Lundyn	First	3D Modeling (9,10)	Team Project	Grady
Johnson	Calder	First	Case Modification (9,10)	Team Project	Grady
Johnston	Mason	First	Digital Audio Production (9,10)	Team Project	Grady
Lerner	Jon	First	Non-Animated Graphic Design (9,10)	Team Project	Grady
Moore	Catherine	First	Digital Video Production (9,10)	Team Project	Grady
Moore	Catherine	Third	Digital Video Production (9,10)	Team Project	Grady
Morrison	Jan	First	Game Design (9,10)	Team Project	Grady
Petrea	Ethan	First	Hardware (9,10)	Team Project	Grady
Salomon	Jacob	Second	Game Design (9,10)	Team Project	Grady
Simon-Brecke	Nicholas	First	Non-Multimedia Applications (9,10)	Solo Project	Grady
Smalley	Henry	First	Mobile Apps Design (9,10)	Team Project	Grady
Smith	Devin	First	3D Modeling (9,10)	Team Project	Grady
Smith	Ripley	First	Digital Video Production (9,10)	Team Project	Grady
Smith	Ripley	Third	Digital Video Production (9,10)	Team Project	Grady
Starr	Anna	Second	Digital Photography (11,12)	Team Project	Grady
Williams	Aaron	First	Hardware (11,12)	Team Project	Grady

Clarissa Mullig has received a National Silver Medal for her personal essay "Callings" in the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, "the nation's longest-running, most prestigious recognition initiative for creative teens." Medalists will receive their awards at a ceremony at Carnegie Hall in June. Over the past six years, 14 Georgia students have

received a National Medal across all writing categories. Clarissa is the only Georgia student to have won twice, having received a Gold Medal for Science Fiction two years ago, as well as the Silver Medal she won for Personal Essay.

<http://www.artandwriting.org/>

### **Robotics**

Three Grady High School students and their engineering mentor were selected as finalists for the 2014 Drone Prize sponsored by Intel. The team traveled to Portland, Oregon, all expenses paid, to present their project at Innovation Day hosted by SOAR Oregon and competed for the 2014 Drone Prize worth \$10,000! On Friday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, at Innovation Day hosted by SOAR Oregon, G3 presented to children, parents, and members of the UAV community. They were selected by the audience as the People's Choice Award winning team.

On Saturday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, the team competed in practical UAV maneuvers. The students operated the Unmanned Aerial Vehicles on an obstacle course, competing against teams made up entirely of college students and adults.

On Sunday, G3 Robotics was award 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in the 2014 Drone Prize for their work with MARTA and their practical UAV performance on Saturday. As part of the prize, the team won a prize package of UAV and camera hardware valued at approximately \$3000 and donated by SkyWard. First Place went to the Furman University UAV team.

Isabelle Carson, Sajjad Ali, and Gabriel Kupersmith worked with mentor Gardner Chambliss over the summer to develop a project proposal for MARTA to use UAVs (unmanned aerial vehicles or "drones") as part of their safety, security, and maintenance programs. The team presented their proposal to MARTA officials in July and brainstormed possible uses for UAVs with members of the MARTA police force. Their work with MARTA inspired the team to create their video submission to the 2014 Drone Prize.

On October 4th, G3 grabbed 1st place in the Georgia Regional Invitational Tournament and Showcase (GRITS) in a redux of last year's FRC competition: Aerial Assist. Along with the help of our alliance partners Walton Robotics (2974), Westminster Wildcats (2415), and Team RoboBibb (4941), and after a long grueling day of competition, our work paid off and our alliance took home 1st place and a show-stopping trophy.

Congratulations to the members of FIRST Team 1648, Grady High School's [G3 Robotics](#), for winning the inaugural Georgia Southern Classic FIRST Robotics Competition Regional. Our alliance competed against a strong field of 43 teams from across the Eastern US. We consistently outscored teams in the finals, posting the highest scores seen at the event. Our win earns the team a spot to compete at the FIRST International Championship in St. Louis, MO, in the third week in April alongside 600 teams from across the globe. The current group of students, and especially the seniors, deserve recognition for the hard work and determination that brought them this win.

### **Mock Trial**

On October 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, the Grady Mock Trial Team had an excellent performance at The Empire Mock Trial World Championships in New York. We went in ranked 40<sup>th</sup> out of the 40 teams, and we finished 9<sup>th</sup>. Among many amazing performances, Nina Stern won a best witness award. It was a great honor for me to see such amazing hard work and growth over just a weekend.

On February 8<sup>th</sup>, the Grady Mock Trial Team placed 1st in region after competing in three rounds this past Thursday and Sunday. Along with winning first place, they were able to earn multiple individual awards.

#### **1st Round Awards**

Elizabeth Lansing, Outstanding Witness  
Nina Stern, Outstanding Witness  
Chandler Morris, Outstanding Attorney  
Griffin Kish, Outstanding Attorney

#### **2nd Round Awards**

Griffin Kish, Outstanding Attorney

#### **3rd Round (The Finals) Awards**

Elizabeth Lansing, Outstanding Witness  
Nina Stern, Outstanding Witness  
Eli Hendler, Outstanding Attorney

The Grady Mock Trial Team finished a close second in the district competition on March 1st. That result, unfortunately means we will not be advancing to the state tournament. Below, are the students that won awards for their performances in the district tournament.

#### **Outstanding Witness**

Nina Stern Round 2  
Veronica Skelton Round 2  
Nina Stern Round 3

#### **Outstanding Attorney**

Griffin Kish Round 2

### **HOSA**

32 Students advanced to the 2nd round in the Hosa SLC Competition. 15 students advanced to National Competition already. Other Students that placed in Top 10 have an opportunity to move up on the National roster to represent Georgia. Disneyland, Anaheim, California here we come!

#### **1st place - On stage recognition & Advanced to National Competition**

KnockOut Leukemia

Black, Morgan	Community Awareness	1st
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Freeman, Nykeria	Community Awareness	1st
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McGhee, Aungelique	Community Awareness	1st
Samuel, Ebony	Community Awareness	1st

**Top 3– On stage recognition & Advanced to National Competition**

Caldwell, Haleigh	Med Innovations	3rd Created Diabetes Phone App for
Nelson, Elia	Med Innovations	3rd
Butts, Cinquai	MRC-Medical Reserve Corps	3rd
Dorta, Crystal	MRC	3rd
Jordan, Tayler	MRC	3rd
Santos, Michael	MRC	3rd
Sawyer, Karol	MRC	3rd
Thorton, Rodrecka	MRC	3rd

**Advanced to National Competition (will represent Georgia)**

Jacobs, Alanna	Health Issues Exam	NLC -Georgia
Slusker, Sarah	Health Issues Exam	NLC -Georgia
Samuels, Ebony	Health Issues Exam	NLC -Georgia

**Top 5 – On stage recognition- May move up to NLC**

Blackmon, Chancellor	Parliamentary procedure	Top 5
Britton, Dvyne	Parliamentary procedure	Top 5
Gentry, T'Mia	Parliamentary procedure	Top 5
Greenridge, Jadah	Parliamentary procedure	Top 5
Patterson, Paige	Parliamentary procedure	Top 5
Stewart, Steven	Parliamentary procedure	Top 5
Evans, Sydnee	Med Innovations	Top 5
Walker, Ashley	Med Innovations	Top 5
Clark, Nia	Med Innovations	Top 5
Slusker, Emma	Pathophysiology	Top 5
Arnold, Eva	Clinical Specialty	Top 5
Mukarram, Muhammad	Clinical Specialty	Top 5
Dodson, Shea	Interviewing Skills	Top 5



## **Other students that Advanced to 2<sup>nd</sup> Round**

Guzman , Gabriela	Health Career Display	Round - 2
Manders, Holli	Health Career Display	Round - 2
Relja, Ivona	Nursing Assisting	Round - 2
Harbuck, Isabelle	Health Career Display	Round - 2
LaRocca-Pitts, Ellie	Health Career Display	Round - 2

## **Business and Entrepreneurship**

The following students passed the Fashion Marketing NOCTI exam and are now pathway completers. They were recognized by Dr. Maze at the CTAE “CELEBRATION OF CHAMPIONS” banquet on April 22<sup>nd</sup> at Atlanta Technical College. The exam itself was 200 questions and comprised of 9 different standard areas within the Marketing curriculum. Congratulations to all!

- Kennedy Jackson
- India Mitchell
- Jada Morgan
- Nzinga Oby
- Ardesia Pierce
- Maya Pines
- Angelicah Rivers
- Diamond Smith
- Jayla Tibbs

## **JROTC**

The Grady JROTC program has been very successful this year and look to continue the trend to the end of the school year. First the drill team entered five drill meets this year and we came home with 21 trophies. We attended the Area 6 drill competition where we dominated the field and finished up with a second place trophy at the Georgia State Drill meet against 56 other JROTC programs throughout Georgia. The Knights Battalion has been very busy this past year with numerous Color Guard commitments, college visits, inspections, and community service events.

Jefferson Martin applied and was awarded the Air Force ROTC 4 year scholarship to Georgia Tech and Crystal Dorta also received the Army ROTC scholarship and will attend Georgia Southern for Nursing this Fall.

## **Visual Art**

Grady placed third in the art THROWDOWN interscholastic art competition at the High Museum on March 7th. Eight teams from the North Metro Region competed in head to

head art making competitions. Grady artists finished as follows: Jenn Steckl and Decker D'Alesio, Digital Photo Manipulation, 1<sup>st</sup> Place; Une Belle Revolution, Wearable Sculpture, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place; Decker D'Alesio, Wearable Sculpture Performance, 1<sup>st</sup> place; Reilly Blum, Art Critical Writing, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place; Anna Poznyak, 15 Minute Figure Drawing, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place; Grace Dines, 15 minute Figure, 5<sup>th</sup> place; Johnny Bakos, 30 Minute, Figure, 5<sup>th</sup> Place; Johnny Bakos, Gabe Kovacs, and Decker D'Alesio, Collaborative Painting, 1<sup>st</sup> Place. Grady finished third overall behind North Atlanta High and North Gwinnett.

### **Grady Music Programs**

**Mason Johnston** was the grand prize winner of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra's **2014 Next Generation Student Composition Contest!** Mason is a rising 10<sup>th</sup> grader at Grady High School. Mason's Composition, *Dominus* for Solo Violin and String Orchestra was selected unanimously by an esteemed panel of judges. Inspired by the moon, this new piece will be performed on the Atlanta Symphony's Concert for Young People called [\*Space: Music of the Universe\*](#), conducted by Assistant Conductor Joseph Young.

Ken Wagner from the Atlanta Symphony gave a master class to the orchestra class on August 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>.

Maestro Juan Ramirez from the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra provided master classes to Grady's Advanced Philharmonic Orchestra.

Justin Oliver and Sejin Kim both won seats at the prestigious Emory Youth Symphony Orchestra.

Julia Borthwick, Justin Oliver, Mason Johnston and Uzuki Kakinuma had an outstanding performance at the GSU/ASTA chamber music workshop. They performed the first movement of Dvorak String Quartet.

Orchestra students Justin Oliver, Mason Johnston, Uzuki Kakinuma, Sejin Kim, and Nicholas Hamilton won seats at the prestigious GMEA All-state Music Festival.

On October 22<sup>nd</sup>, Grady String Quartet performed at the Multiple Sclerosis Society. **Grady Knights Philharmonic Orchestra performed at the Governor's Mansion Holiday Celebration 2014. December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

On November 18<sup>th</sup>, the Grady Philharmonic won the highest ratings at the annual GMEA solo and ensemble festival. Mason Johnston, Uzuki Kakinuma and Justin Oliver won highest ratings in solo performance. Grady Knights String Quartet and Uzuki and Justin duets won highest ratings in chamber music!

Grady Knights String Quartet was chosen through a rigorous audition to participate at the annual Chamber Music Competition at USC. Unfortunately, one of the member of the string quartet has a conflict performing with the AYSO in Washington DC the same day of the festival, and we were not able to find a replacement in the short time span. Here is

a comment of one of the judges left us: “ I very much enjoyed the recording the Grady Knight String Quartet submitted and if it is encouraging to them, please let them know that they would have been one of the 8 quartets chosen to participate in the USC Chamber Day, out of 16 applying quartets.”

March 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Grady orchestra program had an outstanding performance at GMEA and won the highest SUPERIOR ratings from all four judges!!!. The orchestra competed at the highest levels of V/VI. Soloists Justin Oliver, Julia Borthwick and Mason Johnston received acclaim bravos from the audience and judges.

On Thursday October 2<sup>nd</sup>, Grady **Orchestra** students attended a music workshop at Emory University Emerson Hall with master class with renowned artist in residence Daniel B. Romain.

**Grady Knight Orchestra program won two grants; PTA and CINS to feature guest artist and composer Juan Ramirez for the Spring Concert “Orchestra Olé! Performing Suite Huasteca May 8<sup>th</sup> @6:30 PM**

**Grady Knights will be feature at World Chamber of Commerce on May 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM**

The Grady Jazz Knights plus one performed for Atlanta Falcons Executives as they prepared the Dome for the opening game of the season. Special thanks to Ms. Woods and Inman Middle School for loaning us a drummer for the performance; Max Seldes. Our Grady performers included Henry White and Sam Wilson.

Sam Sims held a master class with the Grady jazz Knights on November 12<sup>th</sup>.

Jacob Badgett, Tyler Hunt, and Lucy Ferguson qualified for the District Honor Chorus.

Two students passed the first audition for All State Chorus: Shann Mack and Hannah Prausnitz-Weinbaum will move on to the second round of auditions in January. The first round is the more difficult audition. Hannah actually ACED the audition with a perfect score of 90! We also had three students, Max Calderon, Anya Lomsadze, and Lucy Ferguson, that were within only a few points of the cutoff score.

Shann Mack and Hannah Prausnitz-Weinbaum, passed the second All-State Chorus audition with flying colors. Hannah passed with a perfect score on both auditions! If you know these students, congratulate them on their amazing accomplishment. Also, the Grady Chamber Singers have been asked to participate in another concert with the Atlanta Symphony! On February 27 and 28 we will be singing with the ASO and the Chieftains!

On February 23, 2015, the Grady Chorus scored superior and excellent ratings at LGPE.

## **Publications/Broadcast Programs**

*The Southerner* staff swept the story, design and multimedia categories in the Ball State Journalism Workshops Monthly Contest for May, 2014.

Grady journalists and publications won several 2014 Gold Circle Awards. Colin Bray won first-place in his category, Declan Farrissee won first place for infograph design and the Nexus staff won first place for overall specialty magazine design.

The Southerner made history! For the first time in recent (and not so recent) memory, the Southerner published a 24-page edition. The edition is filled with community news as well as following up on stories that developed at the end of the last school year. The staff worked hard to pull it together, as well as to mail off a substantial number of entries to Columbia Scholastic Press Association's online competition. If you're not familiar with Southerner Online, just click the link: <http://thesoutherneronline.com/frontpage/>

Journalism I students were treated to a presentation by a great journalists/authors team who have more than 20 published books and a Pulitzer Prize between them. Nick Chiles and Denene Millner spoke to Ms. Bolster's journalism classes about writing feature stories. Students heard about the fun interviews (Lena Horne) and the difficult ethical decisions (how do you decide whether to publish the facts and thus perpetuate stereotypes). As an added benefit Chiles and Millner are not only Grady parents, but also volunteers with the Writing Center (they share Mondays).

*The Southerner* staff learned on Feb. 4 that it had received an ALL-SOUTHERN rating—the highest possible evaluation rating—from the Southern Interscholastic Press Association (at the University of South Carolina). The award marks the first staff award for the current publication year. In order to be evaluated, the staff submitted the first two editions from the fall 2014 semester. The staff earned the highest possible marks in six of the seven categories evaluated: reader services, editing, news, opinion, features and sports.

The Southerner staff won 12 2015 Digital Media Gold Circle Awards from the Columbia (University) Scholastic Press Association. The tally included three first-place awards, one each for Josh Weinstock (on-campus personal opinion), Jennifer Steckl (photo illustration) and Quinn Mulholland (interactive graphic). Weinstock was the winner or co-winner of four of the 12 Gold Circle Awards. Senior Brandon Kleber (sports news) and junior Reilly Blum (general feature) each won second-place awards. Other winners included 2014 graduate Olivia Volkert; seniors Anna Braxton, Griffin Kish, Ben Simonds-Malamud and Margo Stockdale; and juniors Will Taft and Harrison Wilco.

<http://cspa.columbia.edu/receptient-lists/2015-awards-student-work-gold-circle-awards-scholastic-recipients#Digital%20Media>

## **Digital Media**

These awards reflect entries produced between Nov. 2, 2013 through Oct. 10, 2014. Because CSPAs dates its awards by the year in which they are given, they are given, they

are known as the 2015 Gold Circle Awards for Yearbooks.

**DM7. Personal opinion: On-campus issues**<sup>[SEP]</sup>FIRST PLACE: Josh Weinstock, "Comments From Parents Lack Integrity," The Southerner, Henry W. Grady High School, Atlanta, GA;

**DM30. Photo illustration**<sup>[SEP]</sup>FIRST PLACE: Jennifer Steckl, "Blowing Off Steam," The Southerner, Henry W. Grady High School, Atlanta, GA;

**DM45. Interactive graphic**<sup>[SEP]</sup>FIRST PLACE: Quinn Mulholland, "A Two-Tiered System," The Southerner, Henry W. Grady High School, Atlanta, GA;

**DM12. Sports news**<sup>[SEP]</sup>SECOND PLACE: Brandon Kleber, "Home Field Disadvantage," The Southerner, Henry W. Grady High School, Atlanta, GA;

**DM15. General feature**<sup>[SEP]</sup>SECOND PLACE: Reilly Blum, "Jeni's Ice Cream: Where Modernism Meets Meringue," The Southerner, Henry W. Grady High School, Atlanta, GA;

**DM3. News writing**<sup>[SEP]</sup>CERTIFICATE OF MERIT: Will Taft and Harrison Wilco, "Hackers Exploit Security Flaws," The Southerner, Henry W. Grady High School, Atlanta, GA;

**DM5. In-depth news/feature story**<sup>[SEP]</sup>CERTIFICATE OF MERIT: Anna Braxton and Margo Stockdale, "Sexual Violence on the Rise Across College Campuses," The Southerner, Henry W. Grady High School, Atlanta, GA;

**DM7. Personal opinion: On-campus issues**<sup>[SEP]</sup>CERTIFICATE OF MERIT: Ben Simonds-Malamud, "Inequality Shows in Senator's Audience," The Southerner, Henry W. Grady High School, Atlanta, GA.

**DM11. Sports commentary**<sup>[SEP]</sup>CERTIFICATE OF MERIT: Griffin Kish, "Athletic Homophobia, Unfounded, Pointless," The Southerner, Henry W. Grady High School, Atlanta, GA;

**DM12. Sports news**<sup>[SEP]</sup>CERTIFICATE OF MERIT: Olivia Volkert and Josh Weinstock, "Investigation Finds 14 Guilty of Address Fraud," The Southerner, Henry W. Grady High School, Atlanta, GA;

**DM36. Informational graphics**<sup>[SEP]</sup>CERTIFICATE OF MERIT: Josh Weinstock, "Atlanta Sports Teams Suffer Same Fatal Flaw," The Southerner, Henry W. Grady High School, Atlanta, GA;

We are pleased to report that Nexus and The Southerner both received 2015 Columbia Scholastic Press Association Gold Crown Awards on Friday. Both publications were one of 20 nationwide to win a Gold Crown in their respective category. It is the first Gold Crown Award ever for Nexus after three consecutive Silver Crowns. It is the Southerner's second consecutive Gold Crown Award. With the Gold Crown, the Southerner has won all three top national press association awards--the CSPA Gold Crown, the NSPA Pacemaker and the Quill and Scroll Gallup Award--in the same publication year for the first time in school history. Congrats to the 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 staffs on achieving these historic firsts for Grady's publications program. <http://cspa.columbia.edu/receptient-lists/2015-awards-student-work-crown-awards-scholastic-recipients>

*Grady News Now* and *The Southerner* were named the top broadcast and newspaper programs in Georgia, and senior Mary Claire Morris was recognized as the state's journalist of the year at the 2015 Georgia Scholastic Press Association Awards Ceremony Friday afternoon at the Tate Center at the University of Georgia. Mary Claire is the 10th

Grady senior to be named Georgia's journalist of the year since 2002. The last was Isabelle Taft in 2013.

The staffs of *GNN*, *The Southerner* and *Nexus* magazine combined to collect 51 individual and staff awards. In addition to Morris's distinction as the GSPA Georgia Champion Journalist, junior Will Taft was named runner-up in the GSPA Junior Journalist of the Year competition.

Of the school's 38 winners in the individual entry competition, eight were named All-Georgia winners as the best in the state in their respective categories. The All-Georgia winners included Sydney Lord and Angelique Dale (broadcast feature package), Marquise Eppinger (broadcast production), Chase Kleber and Carolyn Capelouto (opposing viewpoints column), Olivia Volkert and Josh Weinstock (sports news story), Conrad Newton (sports column), Madeline Veira (news photograph), Ben Simonds-Malamud (information graphic) and Margo Stockdale, Jennifer Steckl and Carter Guensler (photo illustration).

*Grady News Now* and *The Southerner* both received the All-Georgia Award, signifying that they are the best programs in the state in their media category. *GNN* also won the General Excellence Award in the small school category, as did *The Southerner* in both the newspaper category and the news website category. The General Excellence Award is similar to a state championship in sports because schools win it in competition with other schools in the same size classification.

To be eligible for the General Excellence Award, each staff had to receive a superior rating from GSPA evaluators. *GNN*, *The Southerner* and *The Southerner Online* received superior ratings. *Nexus*, the school's journalistic features magazine, received an excellent rating.

To see the complete list of Grady winners, please visit [thesoutherneronline.com](http://thesoutherneronline.com)

### **Grady Thespians**

On October 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, Grady drama students participated in the GHSA Region 6AAAA One-Act Play competition. Senior, Tatyana Sampson's directorial debut, *Tracks*, won out against competitors from Redan High School. Junior Chloe Citron was named Best Actress, and sophomore, Ben Grady won Best Actor. Junior, Cheyenne Johnson and Sophomore, Anna Hutchins were named to the All-Region Cast.

On January 10, several Grady students: Miguel Flores-Hormigo, Mia Panarites, Tatyana Sampson, and Camille Williams competed in TheatreSports on Saturday at Dad's Garage Comedy Improv Club. Not only did they prevail against competitors from Chattahoochee High and Clarkston High School, they had a good time and entertained the small but supportive audience.

2015 Georgia Thespian Conference

Our regional-winning One-Act, "Tracks", performed twice and received a standing ovation for both performances. It was the first show directed by a student (Tatyana Sampson) ever brought to conference.

James Winer auditioned for and performed in the State-wide opening number at the conference. He is the first Grady student to make it into the show twice.

Six students performed in Individual Events (IE's). Three of the six Grady IE's achieved an accomplished rating - Carter Guensler, Elizabeth Gibbs, and Chloe Citron - the most we've ever had at Grady. In addition, two of the six (Chloe and Elizabeth) scored a perfect 300, something we've never achieved before. Finally, out of the 80 accomplished IE's, the conference selects ten performances for a showcase at the end, and Chloe's was one of the ten. She performed the only monologue at conference - also a Grady first.

Three students auditioned for scholarships and colleges. Emma Mathews was called back for 15 different schools as a junior, and Tatyana Sampson and Carter Guensler were called back for the twelve achievement scholarships. Carter Guensler won the Gerald Ray Horne scholarship of \$2,500 - the largest scholarship they offer. Again, a Grady first.

### **Grady Speech and Debate**

On September 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, the Jesters Speech and Debate Team competed at two different tournaments: The Chattahoochee HS "Cougar Classic" and the RW Johnson HS "Joust." The team represented Grady HS in spectacular fashion! Here are the results:

Chatthoochee HS Tournament:

- Co-Champions in Lincoln-Douglas Debate: Conor Downey\* and Meredith Fossitt\*
- Semi-finalist in Lincoln-Douglas Debate: Logan Mann\*
- Quarter finalist in Lincoln-Douglas Debate: Will Taft
- Octo-finalists in Policy Debate: Morgan Choi and Hannah Rakoski

RW Johnson HS Tournament:

- Champion in Lincoln-Douglas Debate: Grace Bridges\*
- 6th Place in Lincoln-Douglas Debate: Gilbert Young
- Champion in Extemporaneous Speaking: Molly Gray\*
- 4th Place in Extemporaneous Speaking: Isabel Olson\*
- 6th Place in Extemporaneous Speaking: Max Rabb\*
- 3rd Place in Impromptu Speaking: Molly Gray\*
- 6th Place in Impromptu Speaking: Isabel Olson\*
- 4th Place in Original Oratory: Max Rabb\*
- 6th Place in Original Oratory: Ashley Carter
- 3rd Place in Public Forum Debate: Todd Pengelly\* and Grady Jones\*
- 2nd Place Speaker in Public Forum Debate: Todd Pengelly
- Morgan Choi won 4th Place Speaker in Varsity Policy Debate out of 130 speakers

\* = first of two legs required for qualification to Varsity State Speech and Debate Championships

On October 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> the Jesters participated at the Calhoun HS's "Sandra Silvers" Speech and Debate Invitational in Calhoun, Ga. Here are the results:  
Molly Looman, Champion, Dramatic Interp\*; 2nd Place, Prose/Poetry  
Chloe Citron, 2nd Place, Dramatic Interp\*; Champion, Prose/Poetry\*  
Max Rabb, Champion, Extemporaneous Speaking\*\*; 3rd Place, Original Oratory\*\*  
Sam Lombardo, 3rd Place, Extemporaneous Speaking\*\*  
Ben Simonds-Malamud, 4th Place, Extemporaneous Speaking\*; 2nd Place, Impromptu Speaking\*  
Gregory Fedorov, 5th Place, Extemporaneous Speaking\*\*; Champion, Impromptu Speaking\*  
Robert Brown, 3rd Place, Prose/Poetry  
Ashley Carter, Champion, Original Oratory\*\*  
Morgan Choi/Hannah Rokoski, 2nd Place, Varsity Policy Debate\*\*;  
Morgan Choi, First Place Varsity Policy Debate Speaker  
Gilbert Young, 2nd Place, Lincoln-Douglas Debate\*\*; 1st Place Speaker  
Conor Downey, 3rd Place, Lincoln-Douglas Debate\*\*; 2nd Place Speaker  
Harrison Wilco/Chloe Prendergast, 3rd Place, Public Forum Debate

On October 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, the Jesters competed in the Saint James School Speech and Debate Tournament in Montgomery, AL. Even though we had a dozen students against teams of 40, the Jesters represented! Here are results:

#### OVERALL SWEEPSTAKES CHAMPION

Extemporaneous Speaking: 5th Place, Isabel Olson\*; 4th Place, Keegan Hasson\*;  
CHAMPION, Gregory Fedorov\*  
Impromptu Speaking: 5th Place, Gregory Federov; 3rd Place, Isabel Olson; CHAMPION, Keegan Hasson  
Dramatic Interpretation: 3rd Place, Chloe Citron\*  
Prose/Poetry: 3rd Place, Chloe Citron\*  
Lincoln-Douglas Debate: 5th Place, Conor Downey; 5th Place, Grace Bridges; 3rd Place, Will Taft; 3rd Place, Meredith Fossitt; 2nd Place, Logan Mann\*

\* first bid earned to the Tournament of Champions in Louisville, KY.

At the Johns Creek Tournament on October 18, the Policy Debate team had a great showing. Morgan Choi and Hannah Rakoski advanced to the semifinal round of Varsity Policy Debate. Solomon Watson and Manny Navarette were undefeated in preliminary rounds of Novice Debate and advanced to quarterfinals.

On Saturday, October 25, of the team competed in the Valdosta High School "Wildcat Classic." In Valdosta the team, as a whole, won the First Place Sweepstakes Award - the "**Hjort Award for Excellence and Sportsmanship.**"

In Lincoln Douglas debate, Meredith Fossitt and Grace Bridges were co-semifinalists; **Logan Mann and Gilbert Young were co-champions.** In Public Forum



debate, Ben Simonds-Malamud and Max Rafferty were semifinalists and **Bailey Damiani and Ely Peteet were champions.** Reid Barry was named Outstanding Novice in Lincoln Douglas.

In individual events at Valdosta, Molly Looman took 2<sup>nd</sup> place awards in both Dramatic Interpretation and Prose & Poetry. **Robert Brown was champion in Prose & Poetry. Ashley Carter was champion in Original Oratory.** Gregory Fedorov placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in Impromptu Speaking and **Sam Lombardo was champion.** In Extemporaneous Speaking Quinn Preston won 6<sup>th</sup> place, Denis Goldsman won 4<sup>th</sup>, Sam Lombardo 2<sup>nd</sup>, and **Gregory Fedorov was champion.**

Members of the Jesters Speech and Debate Team competed at the Alpharetta High School "Treasure Hunt" Speech and Debate Tournament on November 1. Here are the results:

- Novice Policy Debate: Solomon Watson, 2nd Speaker
- Solomon Watson and Manny Navarette were semi-finalists in Novice Policy debate
- Varsity Public Forum Debate: Harrison Wilco, 8th Speaker
- Original Oratory: Ashley Carter, CHAMPION
- Prose/Poetry: Grace Dwyer, 6th Place; Ashley Carter, CHAMPION
- Extemporaneous Speaking: Max Rabb, 5th Place; Keegan Hasson, 4th Place; Gregory Fedorov, 2nd Place; Molly Gray, CHAMPION
- Impromptu Speaking: Keegan Hasson, 4th Place; Gregory Fedorov, 2nd Place; Molly Gray, CHAMPION
- Varsity Lincoln-Douglas Debate: Conor Downey, 3rd Place; Will Taft, CHAMPION

The Jesters won 5 of the 10 varsity events! Please congratulate these students, and thanks for your continued support.

On November 8th, the Jesters traveled to Sequoyah High School in Canton, Ga on Saturday to compete in the "Autumn Argument" and earned more sweepstakes points than any of the 36 schools from three states in attendance! Here is how individual students fared:

- Extemporaneous Speaking- 6th Place, Denis Goldsman; 3rd Place, Gregory Fedorov; 2nd Place, Keegan Hasson; 1st Place, Molly Gray
- Duo Interp- 3rd Place, Branden Carter and Grace Hawkins
- Dramatic Interp- 3rd Place, Chloe Citron
- Prose/Poetry- 5th Place, Jamie Panarites; 1st Place, Chloe Citron
- Novice LD- 3rd Place Speaker, Alex Opasahl
- Varsity LD- 5th Place Speaker, Grace Bridges; 2nd Place Speaker, Logan Mann
- Novice PF- 8th Place Speaker, Ellen Winer;
- Varsity PF- 9th Place Speaker, Max Rafferty; 7th Place Speaker, Ben Bizot;
- Varsity LD- Semifinalist, Grace Bridges; Co-Champion, Logan Mann
- Varsity PF- Semifinalists, Chloe Prendergast & Max Rafferty; Co-Champions, Bailey Damiani & Todd Pengelly

- Novice Policy- 2nd Place Speaker, Manny Navarette

George Mason University, Fairfax, VA, December 5-7, 2014  
187 Schools Competing, *The Jesters place with 12th with only 19 students!*

*Extemporaneous Speaking:*

Gregory Fedorov, Max Rabb, Ben Simonds-Malamud, Quarterfinalists

*Impromptu Speaking:* Sam Lombardo and Denis Goldsman, Quarterfinalists

*Poetry Reading:* Molly Looman and Chloe Citron, Quarterfinalists

*Prose Reading:* Molly Looman, Quarterfinalist; Chloe Citron, 6th Place

*Public Forum Debate:* Max Rafferty & Ben Simonds-Malamud, 3x Octofinalists

*Lincoln-Douglas Debate:* Meredith Fossitt and Conor Downey, 2x Octofinalists

Fayette Classic, November 22, 2014

*Dramatic Interp:* Chloe Citron, 3rd; Amanda Rehg, *Champion*

*Duo Interp:* Molly Looman & Robert Brown, 3rd; *Extemp:* Micah Bowman, 6th; Quinn Preston, 5th; Denis Goldsman, 3rd; Isabel Olson, 2nd; Sam

Lombardo, *Champion*; *Humorous Interp:* Tate Lancaster, 2nd; *Impromptu:* Denis Goldsman, 6th; Isabel Olson, 3rd; *Original Oratory:* Ashley

Carter, 2nd; *Prose/Poetry:* John Roorbach, 6th; Ashley Carter, 5th; Robert Brown, 4th; Molly Looman, 3rd; *Lincoln Douglas:* Meredith Fossitt and Mark Winokur,

Quarterfinalists; Miles Ezeilo, *Champion*; *Varsity Public Forum:* Chloe Prendergast and Harrison Wilco, semifinalists

*Novice Public Forum Debate:* James Bryan and Robert Weimer, *Co-Champions*

*Overall Sweepstakes Champion*

Peach State Classic at Carrollton HS, November 14-15

*Original Oratory:* Ashley Carter, 5th Place; *Dramatic Interp:* Amelia Rehg, 6th Place; Chloe Citron, 5th Place; *Impromptu:* Keegan Hasson, 4th Place; Molly Gray, *Champion*; *Extemp:* Molly Gray, 5th Place, Sam Lombardo, *Champion*

*Humorous Interp:* Tate Lancaster, 5th

*Prose/Poetry:* Robert Brown, 3rd Place; Chloe Citron, *Champion*

*Duo Interp:* Grace Hawkins and Branden Carter, 5th Place

*Novice Public Forum Debate:* Harper Gambill and Ben Kuenert, octofinals

*Varsity Public Forum Debate:* Chloe Prendergast and Harrison Wilco, octofinals; Ben Simonds-Malamud and Max Rafferty, semifinalists

*Novice Lincoln-Douglas Debate:* Alex Opasahl, semi-finalist

*Varsity Lincoln-Douglas Debate:* Logan Mann, Quarter-finalist; Gilbert Young, semi-finalist; Meredith Fossitt and Conor Downey, *Co-Champions*

*Novice Policy Debate:* Solomon Watson and Manny Navarette, semifinals

Laird Lewis Invitational at Myers Park HS, Charlotte, NC

1/9-11/15

Meredith Fossitt- Octofinalist, LD Debate

Conor Downey- Quarterfinalist, LD Debate

Molly Looman- Semi-finalist, Dramatic Interp; 5th Place, Oral Interpretation; 4th Place, Duo Interpretation

Robert Brown- 4th Place, Duo Interpretation

Milton HS Eagle Classic, Alpharetta, GA

January 16-17, 2015

Conor Downey- Champion, LD Debate; 1st Speaker, LD Debate

Meredith Fossitt- 2nd Place, LD Debate; 2nd Speaker, LD Debate

Logan Mann- Semifinalist, LD Debate

Will Taft- Quarterfinalist, LD Debate; 3rd Speaker, LD Debate

Solomon Watson and Manny Navarette- Quarterfinalists, Novice Policy Debate

Molly Looman and Robert Brown, 2nd Place, Duo Interpretation

Molly Looman- 2nd Place, Dramatic Interp; 2nd Place, Prose/Poetry

Robert Brown- 3rd Place, Prose/Poetry

Ashley Carter- Champion, Prose/Poetry; 3rd Place, Original Oratory

Gregory Fedorov- 3rd Place, Extemporaneous Speaking; 2nd Place, Impromptu Speaking

Keegan Hasson- 5th Place, Impromptu Speaking; Champion, Extemporaneous Speaking

Max Rabb- 4th Place, Impromptu Speaking

Sam Lombardo- Semifinalist, Impromptu Speaking

Jackson HS Red Devil Rhetoric Tournament

Jan. 17, 2015

Lilliana Chanler- 6th Place, Extemporaneous Speaking

Braden Pressman- 5th Place, Extemporaneous Speaking

Kassidy Kelly- Champion, Extemporaneous Speaking

Kaughlin Caver and Willy Tandengfor- 3rd Place, Duo Interp

Alex Opsahl- 3rd Place, LD Debate

Reid Barry- 2nd Place, LD Debate

OVERALL CHAMPIONS, SMALL SCHOOL DIVISION

On February 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, the Jesters competed in the First/Second Year State Speech and Debate Tournament, for novices and JV-level students, and the Varsity State Student Congress. Despite an abbreviated schedule, fire alarms during the tournament and snow falling Friday night, the team did quite well! Here are the results:

First Year Competitors:

Solomon Watson and Manny Navarette- Quarterfinalists, Policy Debate

Manny Navarette- 14th Speaker

Amelia Regh- 2nd Place, Dramatic Interpretation

Liliana Chanler- 6th Place, Extemporaneous Speaking

Quinn Preston- 5th Place, Extemporaneous Speaking

Sam Lombardo- CHAMPION, Extemporaneous Speaking

Jamie Panarites- 6th Place, Prose/Poetry

Sam Lombardo- CHAMPION, Impromptu Speaking

Harper Gambill and Ben Kuenert- Quarterfinalists, Public Forum Debate

Harper Gambill- 13th Speaker

Second Year Competitors:

Ben Bizot and Bailey Damiani- 2nd Place, Public Forum Debate  
Bailey Damiani- TOP SPEAKER  
Mark Winokur- Semifinalist, Lincoln-Douglas Debate

**VARSITY STATE STUDENT CONGRESS:**

House of Representatives:

Finalists: Todd Pengelly, Micah Bowman, Max Rabb  
Logan Mann- 5th Place  
Denis Goldsman- 3rd Place  
Gregory Fedorov- 2nd Place

Senate:

Max Rafferty- 5th Place  
Keegan Hasson- CHAMPION

On February 28<sup>th</sup> and March 1<sup>st</sup>, the Jesters competed at the National Catholic Forensic League National Qualifier at Carrollton HS. The team did a fantastic job and we qualified quite a few Jesters! Here is the list:

Willy Tandengfor and Kaughlin Caver, Duo Interp  
Tate Lancaster, Dramatic Performance  
Amelia Rehg, Dramatic Performance  
Molly Looman, Oral Interpretation  
Sam Lombardo, Extemporaneous Speaking  
Gregory Fedorov, Extemporaneous Speaking  
Will Taft, Lincoln-Douglas Debate  
Conor Downey, Lincoln-Douglas Debate  
Logan Mann, Lincoln-Douglas Debate  
Bailey Damiani and Todd Pengelly, Public Forum Debate

On March 6<sup>th</sup> and , the Jesters attended the Georgia Forensic Coaches Association Varsity State Championships at Marist School. Schools from all over the state attended the tournament. Your very own Grady Jesters won the Debate Sweepstakes Award, Speech Sweepstakes Award and for the sixth year in a row brought home the **OVERALL CHAMPIONS SWEEPSTAKES AWARD!**

Here is how individual students fared:

**PROSE/POETRY**

Robert Brown, 4th Place  
Ashley Carter, 2nd  
Chloe Citron. CHAMPION

**EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING**

Denis Goldsman, 5th Place  
Keegan Hasson- 2nd Place

Sam Lombardo, CHAMPION

IMPROMPTU SPEAKING

Denis Goldsman, semifinalist

Max Rabb, 5th Place

Keegan Hasson, 4th Place

Molly Gray, 3rd Place

DUO INTERPRETATION

Robert Brown and Molly Looman, CHAMPIONS

DRAMATIC INTERPRETATION

Chloe Citron, 4th Place

Molly Looman, CHAMPION;

LINCOLN-DOUGLAS DEBATE

Octofinalists- Mark Winokur, Logan Mann

Quarterfinalist- Conor Downey

Semifinalist- Will Taft

CHAMPION- Meredith Fossitt

PUBLIC FORUM DEBATE

Quarterfinalists- Harrison Wilco and Chloe Prendergast

Harrison Wilco, 11th Speaker

CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE

SENATE: Max Rafferty, 5th Place; Keegan Hasson, CHAMPION

HOUSE: Gregory Fedorov, 2nd Place

Additionally, the Grady HS Speech and Debate Team broke some records:

- The team qualified more entries to the State Tournament this year than any other team in the history of the GFCGA, winning its sixth straight "School of Excellence" Award
- Grady HS is now the ONLY school in Georgia to have a State Championship in every event offered

On March 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, Grady hosted the final speech and debate tournament, and The Jesters had a great national qualifier!

The following students will represent the Georgia Northern Mountain District at the National Speech and Debate Association Tournament this June in Dallas, TX:

Dramatic Interp: Molly Looman and Chloe Citron

United States Extemporaneous Speaking: Sam Lombardo and Isabel Olson

International Extemporaneous Speaking: Keegan Hasson and Denis Goldsman

Lincoln-Douglas Debate: Conor Downey and Meredith Fossitt

Public Forum Debate: Harrison Wilco & Chloe Prendergast

The team won ALL FOUR SWEEPSTAKES AWARDS: Congress, Speech, Debate and Overall.

### **Law and Leadership**

Please help us congratulate The Legal Knights who after three rounds of oral argument in the Georgia State College of Law High School Moot Court Competition; won two 1<sup>st</sup> Place awards in Oral Advocacy for their respective clients. Special Kudos to Attorney Pines who won this award for the second year in a row.

The issues were: (1) Whether the government needs to prove the defendant's subjective intent for him to be convicted of a threat statute; and (2) whether officers' motives are relevant in determining the constitutionality of a consent search and whether a defendant needs to be physically at his door for his objection to be valid.

#### **STANDARD OF REVIEW**

On an appeal of a district court's denial of a motion to suppress, an appellate court reviews the district court's factual findings for clear error and its conclusions of law de novo, United States v. Charles, 469 F.3d 402, 405 (5th Cir. 2006). The Appeals Court will uphold a jury verdict unless it was "clearly, decidedly, or overwhelmingly against the weight of the evidence." Cavanaugh v. Woods Cross City, 718 F.3d 1244, 1250 (10th Cir. 2013).

**Awards:** Best Petitioner Advocate- Danielle Pines Best Respondent Advocate- Maya Hogan

The firm members are: Senior-Lead Attorney Danielle Pines, Second Chair-Attorney Monique Adams

1<sup>st</sup> year Advocate- Maya Hogan

1<sup>st</sup> year Advocate- Nyresha McCants-Lurry

1<sup>st</sup> year Advocate – Jacob Bond

1<sup>st</sup> year Advocate- Reynaldo A. Wilson

1<sup>st</sup> year Advocate- LA Brescia Reynolds

1<sup>st</sup> year Advocate- Author Hines

Associate- Nina Hannaford

Associate- Hunter G. Maddox

Associate- Amariah Lands

Associate – Khasey Harris

Associate- Shara Gebba

Associate- Kaleb Edwards

Associate- Caylin Newton

Associate- Gregory Partridge

1<sup>st</sup> year Advocate- Jalyn Riddle

1<sup>st</sup> year Advocate- Nicole Chandler

1<sup>st</sup> year Advocate- Colleen Griffin

### **Grady Sports**

USA Water Polo has recognized Jessie Hume, Catherine Hume and Sloan Hodges as 2013-2014 Academic All-Americans. They are also recognized as Outstanding Achiever award recipients. We are proud to acknowledge them for their hard work and dedication in the pool and in the classroom. Grady has 3 out of the 77 boys and girls in the East to be awarded Academic All American.

On November 8<sup>th</sup>, **Grady cheerleaders** finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in Region 6AAAA- Co-ed Division competition and advanced to the GHSA State Cheer Competition in Columbus Georgia.

**Grady Swim Team** is the City Champion! The girls placed first, the boys placed second, and the team won with the highest team score.

Congratulations to **APS Knights water polo players** Jessica Hume and Sloan Hodges. The two Grady juniors have made the Southeast Zone Olympic Development team and will train and then travel with their team to the National Championship in Riverside, California.

**Boys Basketball:** Went to the State Tournament 3 years in a row. Avi Toomer named All-Region, All-State 2nd team, first team All-Metro

**Cross Country:** APS championship - boys 1st, girls 2nd (Margo Stockdale individual champion). Region 6AAAA -3rd place - qualified for state - boys and girls. State AAAA - boys 12th, girls 10th

**Volleyball:** APS Champions, Second Place in the Region. Made it to the first round of the playoffs.

**Tennis:** The girls' tennis team finished the regular season with an 8-7 record; the boys were 8-6. Both teams qualified for the state tournament with a #4 seed in the region. MVPs were Alex Lepik, boys and Gabby Poux, girls.

### **Grady Faculty Accolades**

Grady teacher and debate coach Mario Herrera was selected to moderate a panel discussion at the annual Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation conference: *Elevating and Celebrating Effective Teaching and Teachers* (ECET2). The first convening was held in 2012 and nearly 200 educators attended. After that meeting, energized teachers began organizing local conferences to inform and inspire colleagues at home. At its core, ECET2 conferences harness the power of teacher leader networks to deepen learning and to improve the teaching practice to better serve students.

Mario Herrera was selected as a KEY coach of the KEY Society of the Barkley Forum. This honor is particularly special since it is an election of your peers and reflection of their esteem for your professional contributions as teacher, coach, and judge. While a small number are elected each year they represent all the talented teachers who advance the forensic arts.

Mario Herrera was inducted in to the Georgia Forensic Coaches Association Hall of Fame. Ramika Gourdine, Grady Class of '07, was at the ceremony with kind words and funny anecdotes about when Herrera joined the team. Herrera joined the ranks of Lisa Willoughby and other Georgia coaches in the Hall of Fame.

### **Community Service and Civic Involvement**

Kiana Simmons is a 2015 Kids Who Care Award recipient that will be honored at the 40th 11Alive Community Service Awards ceremony on April 30, 2015. Check out this story on 11alive.com: <http://on.11alive.com/1GscpQu>

### **Grady Graduate Accolades**

Sarah Bufkin is a 2009 Grady Graduate who was recently named a Rhodes Scholar; her sister is a current Grady student. While at Grady, Ms. Bufkin was a member of the State Championship Mock Trial Team and was also Editor of *The Southerner*.

<http://www.ajc.com/news/news/3-new-rhodes-scholars-hail-from-metro-atlanta/njDqw/>

Samuel Holder, a 2003 Henry W. Grady High School graduate and Rhodes College sophomore, recently won a Debating for Democracy Conference competition held in New York City.

Here is a link to the news on the Rhodes website:

<http://www.rhodes.edu/news/28942.asp>. We thought you might want to know about this achievement by one of your graduates.

Founded in 1848, Rhodes is a private, coeducational college of liberal arts and sciences located in Memphis. It aspires to graduate students with a lifelong passion for learning, a compassion for others, and the ability to translate academic study and personal concern into effective leadership and action in their communities and the world.

### **Guests and Speakers**

ASO member Ken Wagner will be our guest artist and will give a master class clinic to all orchestra students; First and last period.

<https://www.atlantasymphony.org/About/Artists/ASO-Musicians/Kenn-Wagner.aspx>

Grady High School has been selected to host the Ultimate Peace (UP) Friendship Tour on Friday March 27, 2015. A dynamic multicultural group of 20 youth leaders from the Middle East visited Grady. Arab Israelis, Jewish Israelis, and Palestinians from the West Bank shared their experiences and insights as emerging leaders within Ultimate Peace programs and in their communities. The Friendship Tour offers the rare opportunity for US audiences to meet and interact with exceptional and diverse teenagers from the Middle East.



