

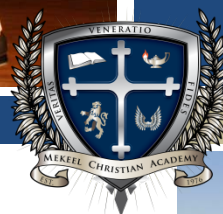


# The Paw Print

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Spring 2013

MEKEEL CHRISTIAN ACADEMY Exceptional Education...Distinctively Christian, est. 1976



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## “You Got Trouble!”

The Spring Production of *The Music Man* Was a Big Hit

Once again the arts department put on a spectacular show, as over 50 cast and crew members of the 2013 Stage Light performed the classic comedy, *The Music Man*, this March. All four shows sold out for star performances by Freshman Margaret Ketchen & Junior Tyler Guido. The director of this year’s production was MCA’s third grade teacher, Mrs. Erin Durrant. She was able to coordinate more than fifteen elementary students who had roles in the play as well as the stage crew, costumes, and even the orchestra for the evening. Her thanks go out to all the volunteers and their commitment to making it all possible!

Annual Event Reflects on School’s Rich Heritage

MCA’s Annual Spring Banquet to benefit Tuition Assistance has become one of the most cherished events at the school. This March, nearly 100 people attended the special evening. The banquet was held at Mekeel Hall in First Presbyterian Church (Mekeel Hall was once used for physical education and other instruction for the early years of the school) and the keynote speaker was Reverend Michael Alford (Pastor Emeritus at First Pres.). This evening celebrated the history of MCA and raised money for tuition assistance. A special occurrence happened this year as a new scholarship fund was created to honor the memory of Yetta Relyea who was a former teacher at MCA for thirty years. Yetta and her husband Barry have been involved with the school since the inaugural year in 1976 and had two daughters who graduated from MCA (SCS). This scholarship will continue to support a generation of students and families with financial needs. What a wonderful blessing and tradition of generosity!

ACSI Accreditation Team Commends Mekeel

Mekeel Christian Academy is an independent school governed by a board of directors. We are members of, and accredited by, the Association for Christian Schools International (ACSI) and the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools (MSACS). Every seven years a reaccreditation process takes place and recommendations are made for the school. This group reviews everything from curriculum development, to organization policies, development, admissions, and it also includes parent and student input. This year MCA went through the reaccreditation process and received the highest possible approval for a full reaccreditation. We feel so blessed to see all the ways God is continuing to bless our school as we strive for excellence in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Please continue to pray for our students, teachers, and the future of our school.

Teacher/Musician Terry Gordon Performs in Egypt

MCA’s Music Teacher and Band Director, Terry Gordon (20<sup>th</sup> year teaching at MCA), performed in Cairo, Egypt this March. From the Daily Gazette, “The trip was anchored by two performances at the fifth annual Cairo International Jazz Festival. American nonprofit organization AMIDEAST in Egypt, the U.S. Embassy in Egypt and the American University in Cairo funded the band’s tour, in the tradition of the U.S. State Department’s jazz diplomacy tours in the ’50s and ’60s with artists such as Dave Brubeck and Louis Armstrong.” We are so proud of his accomplishments and his representation of our school within the music and arts community! If you would like to see pictures from his trip, check out our web posting on the Mekeel website!



## Alumni Spotlight

Private First Class Khristian Collins '05 is proudly serving in the US Army. Pictured above in Afghanistan, Khristian is finishing out his final deployment before he returns to the United States to finish his commitment. Khristian entered the Army after attending Baptist Bible College where he played basketball and studied Adolescent Education.



## Athletics

The Boys Basketball Team won their 10<sup>th</sup> Straight League Championship and 2<sup>nd</sup> straight Conference Championship this year. The Lions’ Caleb Stewart was named league MVP for the WAC. Start up Club Wrestling was a huge success this winter. Varsity wrestling will now be offered at MCA next year!

## Mekeel Christian Academy

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Terry Gordon of the Jazz Group Arch Stanton

### Up Coming Events:

Open House – 5/23

Grandparent/VIP Day - 5/17

MCA Yard Sale – 5/25

Graduation – 6/15

Summer Camp – 7/8 – 8/16



### Student Profile

**GPA:** 4.0

**SAT:** 2260

**Class Rank:** 1

**Intended Major:**

Bio-Medical Engineering

**College Choice:**

Rochester Institute of  
Technology

### National Merit Finalist

A Look Inside the Top 1% of Students in the Nation

Natalie Nold has moved on to the final stage for the National Merit Scholar recognition. She is now a finalist which places her among the top 1% of all students in the United States.

Natalie is a member of the National Honor Society, Tri-M, Students for Life Club, and has also participated on the volleyball team. Natalie has been a student at MCA since Kindergarten. We are so proud of her accomplishments and thrilled for the recognition she is receiving.

### Accepted!

MCA Seniors Getting into Top Schools

RIT, West Point, Marist, Siena, Union, and many other schools have been accepting seniors for admissions next fall! Tai & Kenny Aderounmu will attend The College of Saint Rose with scholarships for men's soccer. Please pray for our seniors as they plan for their futures.

### Mekeel Administrative Team

Meet Our Central Administration  
for 2012-2013



**Chad Bowman, Head of School**  
Years at MCA: 17  
Graduates: Dillon '11, Jacob '08  
Enrolled Students: 1



**Yvonne Gormley, Principal**  
Years at MCA: 31  
Graduates: Nancy '92, Terri '94,  
Margaret '96  
Enrolled (Grandchildren): 4



**Michelle Kelly, Director of Development**  
Years at MCA: 4  
Graduates: Meghan '11  
Enrolled Students: 3



**Cathy Kahler, Office Administrator**  
Years at MCA: 11  
Graduates: Courtney '03,  
Ashley '06, Joshua '09  
Enrolled Students: 1



**Denise Johnston, Business Manager**  
Years at MCA: 3  
Enrolled Students: 2

