



Upcoming Events

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12

Staff development meeting - students dismissed @ 11:45

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17

Exams begin

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

Elementary Christmas musical

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20

Students dismissed @ 11:00 for winter break

DECEMBER



MONDAY, JANUARY 6

Staff development workshop

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7

Students return from break - classes resume @ 8:00

MONDAY, JANUARY 20

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22

ASVAB testing for juniors and seniors

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30

JAAIS counselor meeting

JANUARY

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Freshman and sophomore class meeting

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Teacher Appreciation Day

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

PLAN testing for freshmen and sophomores

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20 - SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Model United Nations Conference

FEBRUARY



ACT News

The holidays are a busy time of year. Once everything winds down again in January, it's time for more ACT prep!

The next free Get2College Center ACT workshop is **Saturday, February 1, 2014**. This workshop is great preparation for the **February 8, 2014**, ACT test date!

This workshop includes:

A review of each subject covered on the ACT

Actual practice testing

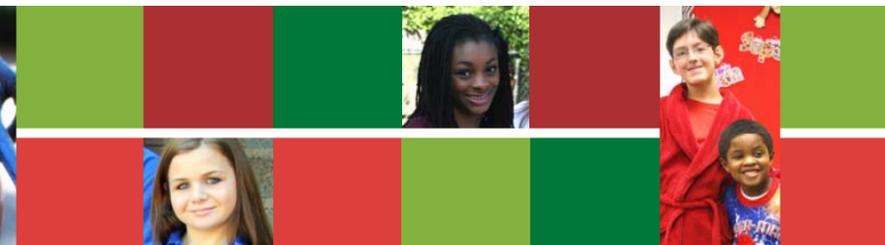
Test-taking strategies

Information on how the ACT is scored

Tips on achieving your perfect score

The Get2College Center provides many free services for high schoolers interested in college! They are the experts on financial aid, test prep, and more!

Call them today at **(601) 321-5533** or visit them online at get2college.org!



DECEMBER ■ 2013

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE EDUCATION CENTER

ECS Grad in Elite Music Program

CLASS OF 2010'S CALLAWAY COSPER ENROLLED IN THE BLACKBIRD ACADEMY

Class of 2010 graduate Callaway Cosper has been singing for as long as she can remember. As a teenager her powerful yet soulful voice caught the attention of legendary R&B singer Sam Moore, and since then the two have performed together all over the country. Now Callaway is taking her career even further as a member of The Blackbird Academy's inaugural studio engineering class.



The Blackbird Academy is a new professional audio school founded by recording industry veteran John McBride and his wife, multi-platinum country star Martina McBride. The school is built on the foundation of Blackbird Studios in Nashville, one of the hottest production spots in the country and the choice studio for artists including Sheryl Crow, Tim McGraw, Faith Hill, and Kings of Leon.

Callaway is one of only 30 elite students in the six-month studio engineering program. This incredible 5:1 student to studio ratio fosters personalized, hands-on instruction from top industry professionals, one of the tenets of the academy.

So far Callaway is loving the experience: "My classmates, the studios, all the gear - it's like being a kid in a candy store. Excelling is essential. John McBride is all about the heart. Kevin Becka and Mark Rubel have been amazing teachers with the best insight." Outside the studio, Callaway still performs with Sam Moore. Their most recent gig was the George Jones tribute on November 22nd at Nashville's Bridgestone Arena. We wish Callaway continued success and can't wait to hear what she has in store for us next!



Above: Callaway Cosper, ECS Class of 2010

Left: Callaway (fourth from left, front row) with fellow Blackbird Academy classmates and instructors. Guest mentor Tim McGraw is in the bottom center of the photo.



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CHECK IT OUT:

Class of 2013 graduate Lindsay Dawson is a featured model in *VIP Jackson* magazine's December 2013 issue! Congratulations!

Spreading Our Wings: School Events & News

2013-2014 STUDENT COUNCIL

Congratulations to our newly elected student council officers! They are pictured below:
Back row: Parker Winford, senior rep.; Julia Smith, senior rep.; Lily Lollar, co-vice president; Katie Snyder, co-president; Savannah Walker, junior rep.; and Ethan Dildine, senior rep.
Front row: Chris Hillhouse, freshman rep.; Kemaje Granderson, sophomore rep.; Mallory Risinger, member at large/student ambassador; Caitlyn Brown, co-president; Kailyn Austin, junior rep.; Cody Culbertson, co-vice president; and Jacob Johnson, junior high rep.
Not pictured: Symphonia Harris, secretary/treasurer, and Britney Breithaupt, reporter



SEE YOU AT THE POLE

Students gathered around our flag pole on September 25th for See You at the Pole, a national day of student-led prayer. This year's theme was "If Then," referencing 2 Chronicles 7:14: "If we pray, seek, turn; then God hears, forgives, heals." Right: Student council officers Caitlyn Brown, Lily Lollar, Mallory Risinger, and Cody Culbertson lead their classmates in prayer.



ADVANCED ART CLASS GOES WILD

Students in advanced art are working on individual sections of a totem pole. They have been studying the works of Emily Carr, a Canadian artist and writer inspired by the indigenous peoples of the Pacific Northwest coast. Each student has chosen a different animal to sculpt and then paint. A whole menagerie is represented, including an owl, bear, wolf, tiger, and even a pink dog named Prada! One student is sculpting an octopus whose tentacles will wrap around the base of the completed totem, while another is working on a snake that will wrap around the entire totem. You can find out more about Emily Carr and her works here: www.emilycarr.org/totems
Below: (left) Savannah Walker and her tiger totem; (right) Avery Eaton, James Wolfe, Nathan Clark, and Kemaje Granderson sculpt their totems



HOMECOMING 2013

As Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr., once said, "Where we love is home – home that our feet may leave, but not our hearts." Many feet have passed through our doors over the past forty-nine years, and every year we invite our extended ECS family back for a homecoming reception, held this year on October 25th. After signing the guest registry, visitors viewed scrapbooks in our recently expanded conference room. Also on display were plans for our new multipurpose room, the Keystone Room.
Pictured above: Andrew Bryant, Class of 2013; Debbie Stamper, principal; Desmond Davis, Class of 2011; and Varah Potter, Class of 2013. Andrew, Desmond, and Varah are all former student council presidents.

FIRST QUARTER HONOR ROLL

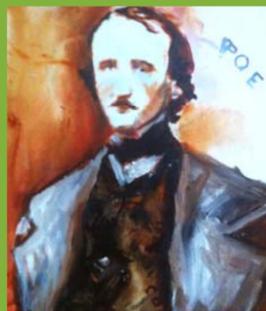
Congratulations to our first quarter honor roll students! These budding scholars had a combined average of at least 90 in all of their classes, with no individual grade below 85. They are:
Megan Ashmore, Kailyn Austin, Jacey Caudill, Nathan Clark, Tanner Dollar, Jacob Fredricks, Symphonia Harris, Ashlyn Harvell, Zachary Hoggatt, Mark Macke, Anna McGuffee, Julia McMillon, Karah Potter, Justin Reed, Dalys Smith, Dyson Smith, Cody Thomas, Savannah Walker, Hayes Williams, and James Wolfe



Faculty Spotlight: Grace Orsulak, Artist

From colorful collages to clay totem poles, there's always something interesting going on in ECS art teacher Grace Orsulak's classroom. But when she's not working with our students, she's creating art of her own in her home studio here in Jackson.

Ms. Orsulak recently held her first art show in seven years. "Unstable Structures" ran from September 7th – 30th at the Greater Jackson Arts Council and featured over 90 pieces done in oil paint, charcoal, and India ink. The show's concept was "how absolutely temporary things are" and focused mostly on old buildings and people Ms. Orsulak knows. One of her favorite pieces, called *Crime Scene*, was a painting of an old church with bars and locks on the doors. *John Lennon* was another favorite; this mixed media piece featured a centuries-old Irish building in which her daughter, Mary Kathryn, attended a Nobel women's peace conference (a figure of John Lennon stands on the building's balcony).



Currently Ms. Orsulak is working on artwork for a smaller show to be held in the near future. She describes her new pieces as white and black paintings scratched into canvas with a "ghostly, psychological, and mysterious" feeling. Ms. Orsulak is also involved in the new pop-up art community Heartalot, a Fondren nonprofit that offers free art classes to everyone in the community. Ms. Orsulak teaches a painting class for Heartalot on Wednesday nights. For more information and a calendar of classes, please visit www.heartalot.com.



Crafting & Cooking Corner: Hot Curried Fruit

Our counselor Michele Ogburn recently discovered this recipe and absolutely had to make it for our faculty Christmas luncheon. This delightful, festive dish is perfect for any holiday gathering!

Ingredients:

- 1 stick of butter, melted
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon curry powder (a little more to "taste" if necessary)
- 1 lemon, juiced
- 1 cup fresh pineapple chunks, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 6 small apricot halves, pitted and peeled
- 2 pears, peeled, cored, and quartered
- 2 peaches, peeled, cored, and quartered
- 1 can pitted cherries
- 1 cup chopped pecans

Directions:

Preheat oven to 325°F. Stir the butter, brown sugar, curry powder, and lemon juice together in a small bowl. Combine all of the fruit in a large baking dish. Stir in the chopped pecans. Sprinkle the butter mixture over the fruit and pecans. Bake in preheated oven for 1 to 1 1/2 hours, basting often.

*All canned fruit can be used in place of fresh fruit.

