

Outreach

THE ACADEMY OF ARTS NEWSLETTER



IN THIS ISSUE

FEATURE: *Facing the Unpredictable*

3-4 *Highlights*

5 *Upcoming Events and more*



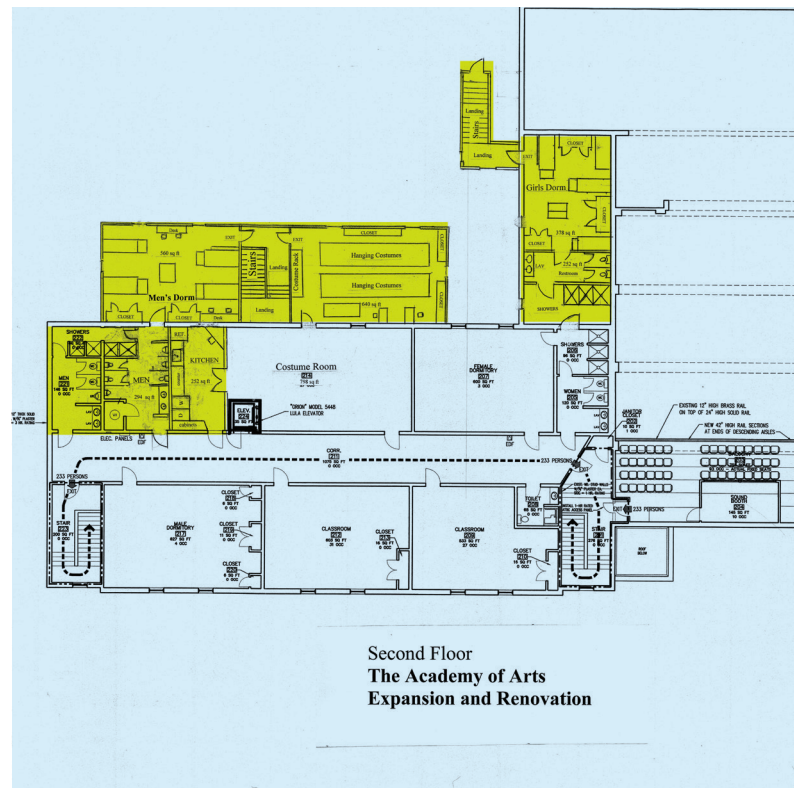
LETTER FROM THE DIRECTORS

As we look forward to celebrating our 50th year of ministry in January 2021, we are overwhelmed and thankful at what God has done through the years as souls have been saved, lives have been transformed, and thousands have received training and inspiration to be better communicators for the cause of Christ. Only the grace of God, a focus on God's glory alone, and an immense amount of prayer and sacrificial service have kept this ministry going strong for 50 years of service.

One of the distinguishing parts of our ministry is that we give young people a transformational experience, and do not simply ask them to conform to a set of rules while they are involved with us. God always calls us to transformation in our lives, not simply conforming for a time with no heart change. This is the foundation of our ministry as we teach and inspire young people with truth, and then ask them to give out the truth themselves. We have seen wonderful transformation happen over and over again as young people are challenged to engage their hearts, minds, and wills, and transform because of the truth!

Obviously, this year has brought unique and challenging circumstances to all of us. But as you read this newsletter and see the exciting updates and information, we ask for your prayers as we move joyfully into the next 50 years of service. By the grace of God, we will continue to see lives transformed through the power of hearing and then applying truth!

Gratefully,
Noah and Nicole

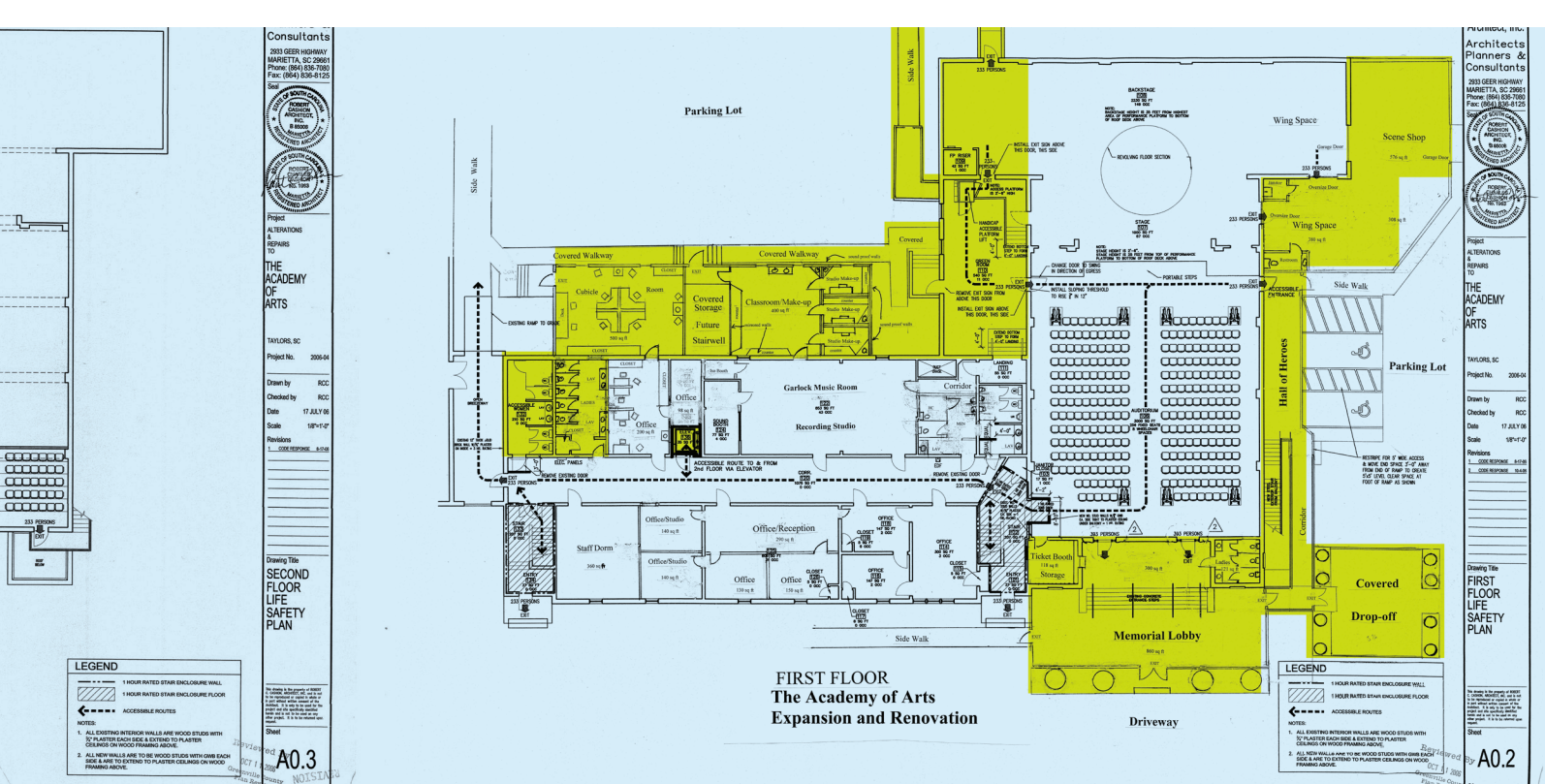


FACING THE UNPREDICTABLE

The most predictable part about change is that it is unpredictable. If we could have seen in advance what the year 2020 would hold for the ministry, it would almost seem unbelievable. But praise the Lord, in the midst of all the happenings thus far, we serve and are led by a God who is working His master plan through each moment of each day we face.

Last year, we were excited to announce our plans to move forward with the expansion of The Logos Theatre on a development of land the ministry had been gifted in Mauldin, SC. We began fundraising and excitedly watched and prayed as the funds began to trickle in.

In March, current events came to light and we were quickly faced with the decision of which ministry facets would remain open to the public. We were able to continue for two weekends with the current production "A Peep Behind the Scenes," but soon after began to see the effects of society closing, specifically on our drama seminar teams and scheduled performances. We brought our teams home from their tour and closed the doors to the Logos Theatre, leaving a single light burning on the stage until we could be reunited again.



DAYS OF CHANGE

While it was difficult to see the change happening so quickly around us, we turned to Christ, knowing that He would lead and guide us. This leading began with a new project for Venture Films, the 5th facet of The Academy of Arts Ministries. With many children suddenly bound to stay indoors, the need was evident and plans began to form for the filming of "Nicole's Attic," an endearing children's series that teaches the fundamentals of speech and communication using entertaining storytelling and interactive participation.

While the Drama Seminar teams came off the road, we began to collaborate about how to provide teachers and administrators with the opportunity to still give their students a life-changing experience amidst all the guidelines and state regulations. We were able to launch several opportunities, such as "A Play in a Box" and Virtual Seminars, that we pray will allow us to keep investing into the lives of young people, and reach more than we ever could before!

WHAT LIES AHEAD

As we near the end of our summer season and look to the days ahead, it is our goal to move forward as best we can and adapt to turn each challenge into an opportunity for ministry. While we still plan to continue the Mauldin project in the future, it is clear

that the "expansion" we had originally envisioned must progress in a different direction.

The Academy of Arts Christian Conservatory has been steadily growing over the last 5 years and dormitory space for our students has reached capacity. We see this timing as extremely providential, as the Conservatory is a means of a large portion of income for the ministry. The more students we can facilitate, the more projects can be fully funded and sustained for the years to come.

Plans for the first phase of the expansion will include an additional wing of dormitory space that will allow us to nearly triple the amount of students we can serve. The second phase would include a lobby area and additional restrooms and storage rooms for the existing Logos Theatre. These expansion plans are absolutely vital for the overall growth of The Academy of Arts Ministries and we are excited to see how God provides for these changes in the days ahead.

If you would like to join us in this journey or receive more detailed information on the progress of this project, **please contact Jennifer Swain at jswain@theAcademyofArts.org or by calling (864) 268-9342, ext. 011.**



- 17** CONSERVATORY STUDENTS
- 9** GAP STUDENTS
- 45** COURSES OFFERED
- 8** 2020 GRADUATES
 - 4** FILM AND MEDIA
 - 3** DRAMATIC PRODUCTIONS
 - 1** MASTER'S DEGREE

SPOTLIGHT

2014 Graduate, Mary Beth Lamas (Smith), and her husband, Christian ('15 Graduate), are now using the training and expertise they received through the Conservatory program in the fine arts program at Mary Beth's alma mater, Greenville Christian Academy in Greenville, North Carolina. Mary Beth works daily with students, instilling principles from God's Word and training up the next generation of powerful communicators for Christ. Christian also helps the school's "behind-the-scenes" functions carry on each day. Mary Beth and Christian have a 7-month baby boy named Ezra and plan to continue in ministry at GCA for the foreseeable future.



- 2** ONE-WEEK JUNIOR FILM CAMPS, SUMMER 2020
- 1** TWO-WEEK HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE AGE FILM CAMP, SUMMER 2020
- 50** STUDENTS REACHED WITH HANDS-ON TRAINING
- 5** SHORT FILMS PRODUCED
- \$30,000** WORTH OF PROFESSIONAL EQUIPMENT DONATED

SPOTLIGHT

Normally a "Behind-the-Scenes" facet of ministry, Venture Films became the sole operation of production during the spring months. After years of envisioning filming a children's series, the closing of the public facets of the ministry enabled staff to rally together to film the first season of this inspiring series. It can be viewed at <https://theacademyofarts.org/nicoles-attic/>

THE LOGOS THEATRE

- 14** PRODUCTIONS (4 SUMMER CAMPS)
- 274** CAST MEMBERS
- 9,582** AUDIENCE MEMBERS

- 38** FINANCIAL PARTNERS OF THE LOGOS
- 314** SEASON PASS HOLDERS
- 283** POSITIVE IMPACT TESTIMONIES RECEIVED

"The Logos Theatre is a great way to connect to the community through the arts. I praise God for the wonderful opportunities I had there to attend, volunteer for, and participate in productions! They have programs for all ages and interests and their commitment to excellence shines through in every one." – Stephanie Kanoun ★★★★★

"The Logos Theatre's plays are the best I've ever seen. The sheer size of the stage is amazing. The ministry in general is a great experience. You will always learn something new. I highly recommend getting involved in some way, either by coming to the college, coming to see a play, coming to film camp or whatever it may be, you will be blessed by it. You will be challenged to grow in your walk with God." - Buck Brothers Projects ★★★★★



DRAMA SEMINAR

5 MONTHS TRAVELING

7 STATES VISITED

5 CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS VISITED

7 HOMESCHOOL GROUPS VISITED

700 YOUTH ENGAGED

8,000 MILES TRAVELED

SPOTLIGHT

The seminar team toured with the productions of *The Boy Who Cried Wolf* for elementary students and *Jane: the Nine Day Queen* for high school students. Over 700 students received hands-on training and mentorship through their interaction with the seminar team before their tour was interrupted by Covid-19.



DRAMA MINISTRY PROGRAM

24 KIDS TRAVELING ON 2 TEAMS

16 STATES VISITED

63 CHURCHES VISITED

5,000+ PEOPLE IMPACTED WITHIN 8 WEEKS.

SPOTLIGHT

Both teams traveled with the production of "By the Will of God," a recounting of the Apostle Paul's missionary journeys from the book of Acts. Both teams ministered through the presentations each night and ministered personally in the lives of church members and host families that they met.



TOTAL MINISTRY IMPACT: 16,147

Individuals Reached this year alone!

Each of these opportunities took time, preparation, resources, and prayer. Monthly support from churches and individuals helped our staff to continue impacting the next generation! Would you consider giving to a staff member or to a staff family today to help them carry on in the work of sharing the Gospel and making disciples for Christ?

BEGIN GIVING MONTHLY TODAY

Visit us at THEACADEMYOFARTS.ORG/PLEDGE-DRIVE/

or mail the form on the back to

THE ACADEMY OF ARTS

P.O. Box 782,

Taylors, SC, 29687

LOCAL EVENTS

UPCOMING 2020-2021 PRODUCTIONS



OCTOBER 2-10



DECEMBER 4-19



JANUARY 8-9



APRIL 2-17



MAY 2020



FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 20

This year marks the 70th Anniversary of C.S. Lewis writing the first book of his **Chronicles of Narnia series**. In honor of this, we are excited to bring **Prince Caspian** back to the Logos Theatre stage!

NATIONAL EVENTS

DRAMA SEMINARS

SC JAN 4-9 | Rock Hill, SC
Greenville Christian Academy

MARCH 15-20 | Evansville
E-Team

PA OCT 26-31 | Pottstown, PA
Tri-County HS Group

APRIL 19-24 | Elkhart
Elkhart County HS Group

IN SEP. 14-19 & APRIL 26-MAY 1
Fort Wayne | Fort Wayne East

NC JAN 18-23 & JAN 25-30 | Greenville
Greenville Christian Academy

SEP 28-OCT 3 & MARCH 22-27
Kokomo | KASH

NJ FEB 22-27 | Allenwood
Ambassador Christian School

MARCH 1-6 | Southbend
South Bend HS Group

MD APRIL 12-17 | Hagerstown
Maryland HS Group

MARCH 8-13 | Angola
Fort Wayne Area HS Group

TN MAY 3-8 | Shelbyville
Victory Christian Academy

NEW 2021

BOOK RELEASE

THE NICKY CHAVERS STORY: God's Hand on a Boy is an inspiring and gripping testimony of God's great work in the life of our founder, Dr. Nicky Chavers. Many have shared with us how captivating and encouraging the book was to their hearts! Call our office today to purchase your very own copy!

VIRTUAL SEMINARS

Students can now enjoy the excitement of a dramatic seminar from their own homes! Participants will receive 5 days of coaching online with Logos Theatre Directors culminating in a video production by the end of the week.

VIRTUAL LOGOS THEATRE

The Logos Theatre productions are now ON DEMAND! This special experience allows you to watch some of our outstanding Logos stage productions – right from your home! Visit <https://theacademyofarts.org/virtual-logos-theatre-2/>

NICOLE'S ATTIC CHILDREN'S TV SERIES

Join Nicole Stratton, the Artistic Director of The Academy of Arts Logos Theatre, and her furry sidekick, Fidget, as she teaches the fundamentals of speech and communication using entertaining storytelling and interactive participation. Visit <https://theacademyofarts.org/nicoles-attic/>

THE ACADEMY OF ARTS

VIRTUAL PLEDGE DRIVE>>

PAY IT FORWARD

50/50 CAMPAIGN

This January, The Academy of Arts will celebrate 50 Years of ministry! As we look towards the future, we want to humbly but boldly pledge our commitment to you and your family that we will continue to “make the Bible come alive” through life-changing instruction and professional, God-honoring productions. Our ministry has continued and grown through the years because of the prayers and support of God’s people, and in these challenging times, we need that support now more than ever.

In celebration of our 50th year of ministry, would you consider joining our “50/50” Campaign where a portion of every gift received over the course of this year will be invested into our sacrificial staff, without whom, we could not do the work God has called us to do. Then, the other portion will be put into some desperately needed modifications and expansion plans for our current theatre to meet the needs of our expanding ministry, as well as some of the changing regulations for crowds to be able to gather. These plans include a beautiful lobby, a 2-story extension that will nearly triple the number of Conservatory students we can take, and expanding our bathrooms. Our goal for the year is \$1.25M and we are so grateful for those that have already given to the campaign!

Please consider investing into us so that we can continue to invest into others! God bless you for your prayers and support!

Phase 1
45%

Phase 2
0%

Phase 3
0%

Phase 4
0%

Phase 5
0%

JOIN THE 50/50 CAMPAIGN TODAY AT

<https://theacademyofarts.org/pledge-drive/>



STAFF UPDATE 2019-PRESENT

NEW STAFF

Joe Gatas

Director of Development

Chandler Goodrich

Film and Media Assistant

Emily Yoder

Seminar Team

Zak and Amy (Reno) Minor

Seminar Team

PROMOTIONS

Allison James

*Marketing & Fundraising
Coordinator*

Jennifer Swain

*Seminar Coordinator &
Scriptwriting Staff*

Olivia Singleton

*Resident Composer,
Arranger, & Mixer*

NEW BABIES

Samuel William Singleton, Jr.

September 2019

Lila Esther Renee Maciejack

December 2019

Sam & Olivia Singleton

Baby due December 2020

NOTE FROM STAFF:

THANK YOU all for your continued prayers and support throughout this year. It has been a year of growth and change for all of us and it so encourages our hearts to know you are walking beside us through this journey! We are excited to see God’s plan for both our ministry and our families unfold this year.



THE ACADEMY OF ARTS MINISTRIES

80 SCHOOL STREET, TAYLORS, SC 29687

NON-PROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE
PAID
TAYLORS, SC
PERMIT NO. 98



I WOULD LIKE TO INVEST IN THE NEXT GENERATION BY BECOMING A MONTHLY SUPPORTER!

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____ CITY _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____
PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____
SELECT THE AMOUNT YOU WOULD LIKE TO GIVE MONTHLY: **\$25** **\$50** **\$100** **\$200** OTHER: _____
CREDIT/DEBIT NUMBER: _____ EXP: _____
CVV CODE: _____ DATE YOU WOULD PREFER TRANSACTION TO OCCUR MONTHLY: _____

YOU MAY ALSO MAIL A CHECK TO THE PO BOX LISTED ABOVE WITH THE AMOUNT DESIGNATED YOU WISH TO GIVE MONTHLY.
A REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE IN CONTACT TO CONFIRM INFORMATION WHEN IT IS RECEIVED.