

The Advanced Academy of Georgia “Fast Facts” on the Fifteenth Year Class: Fall 2009

- √ Eighty-five academically talented high school students were enrolled, including 56 new students. Twenty-nine young scholars who entered in fall 2008 as high school juniors are continuing as high school seniors/college sophomores. All students were selected through a rigorous admissions process that included student essays, family interviews, teacher recommendations, test scores, and high school GPA. Academy students come from locations throughout Georgia and beyond and include international students.
- √ Class composition: 53 seniors, 32 juniors; 55 females, and 30 males. Average SAT Scores are Verbal, 646; Math, 631; and Composite, 1277. GPA's range from 3.50 to 4.0 and the average GPA is 3.91 (all non-weighted). Students received AP credit in Statistics, World History, English, United States History, Chemistry, and Geography.
- √ Academy students were recognized at the University's annual academic Honors Convocation. Current Academy students were recognized as Outstanding Honors College Freshmen and Sophomores.
- √ Academy students reside together in Gunn Hall, the University's academic residence hall, with men on one wing and women on another. The Academy residence hall coordinator, the senior resident assistant and nine upper-division student resident assistants (RAs) reside with Academy students. Study groups and programs to foster successful campus living, community service, good citizenship, and a healthy balance between academic and personal growth are arranged each week by the residence hall staff.
- √ Gunn Hall students, staff, and programs have won University awards for consecutive years, including: Homecoming Grand Champions (Residence Hall Division), RA Programmer of the Year, and RA of the Year.
- √ The Resident Assistants plan educational, social, and community service programs for our students. Our RAs also supervise other opportunities for student involvement that include Residence Hall Council, yearbook staff, intramural committee, newsletter staff, community service committee, poetry club and annual traditions such as St Patty's Day Café and Decathlon.
- √ As in past years, Academy scholars demonstrate keen interest and talent in the fine arts. Academy musicians play the cello, clarinet, drums, flute, French horn, guitar, oboe, piano, saxophone, trombone, trumpet, viola, and violin as well as write poetry, dance, act, and sing. They perform individually and as part of various West Georgia musical ensembles. Students demonstrate their talent, or in some cases, their hilarious extreme lack of talent, during our annual Academy's Got Talent program. In addition, the Academy yearbook is created and edited entirely by students. Academy students are responsible for writing the monthly *Gunn Gazette*, the Advanced Academy newsletter.
- √ Academy students were active in both Academy and university-wide activities: Intramural sports (flag football, soccer, ultimate Frisbee), Residence Hall Council, NAACP, American Chemical Society, Black Student Alliance, Gunn Tennis League, UWG Wind Symphony, Flute Choir, UWG Concert Band, UWG Chorus, Catholic Life (theology/prayer leader), The Greens, Physics Club, Circle K, Latino Cultural Society, Muslim Student Association (secretary), Math Club, Young Republicans, Philosophy Club, International Student Club, National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Yearbook Staff, Debate Team, Academy Ambassadors, Political Science Club, Green Campus Initiative (president), UWG College Democrats (treasurer), Women's Interest Group, Judo Club, UWG Student Government Association (Judicial Council Chair), and American Medical Student Association.
- √ For the eighth time in the past twelve years, UWG had more research proposals accepted for presentation at the National Collegiate Honors Council annual conference than any other institution in the country. Of the nine UWG students attending, one is a former Academy student and two are current Academy students.

- ✓ Academy scholars completed research projects in Business, Chemistry, Astronomy, English, Computer Science, Biology, Global Studies, Psychology, and Physics and presented at NSSA, NCHC, NCUR, GCHC, English Undergraduate Conference, Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Technology conference, Georgia Academy of Science Conference, and Business Research Day. Academic awards include 2nd and 3rd place in UWG's Math Competition, 1st and 2nd place in the Kiwanis Music Bowl, Honors Convocation Awards, induction to Alpha Lambda Delta freshman honor society, National Society of Collegiate Scholars, and semi-finalist in an essay contest.
- ✓ Academy students teach chemistry workshop sections for the first-year chemistry classes. One student is the robotics lab leader and a teaching assistant in computer science. Another is president of the regional People to People student chapter. Students attended various summer programs including academic enrichment, community service, leadership conferences, and political conferences.
- ✓ Academy students are eligible for University-wide merit-based scholarships, including the prestigious UWG Presidential Scholarships. Eleven current and four former Academy students were awarded Presidentials for this academic year. In addition, five students were awarded the Foundation Freshman Scholarships, awarded each year on a competitive basis to incoming freshmen.
- ✓ The Advanced Academy is able to offer a limited number of need-based scholarships to students accepted into the program.
- ✓ 2009 graduates were awarded a number of prestigious scholarships and awards from many of the nation's finest institutions including: STAR Student; National Merit Scholarship; Presidential Scholarships from Ithaca College, College of Charleston, and the University of West Georgia; merit awards from New York University, University of Georgia, Agnes Scott College, Georgia State University, St. John's College, LaGrange College; and a full four-year Questbridge Scholarship to Stanford University.
- ✓ An important component of Academy life is community service. Students participated in a variety of activities including Rivers Alive, recycling programs, Learning Buddies at a local elementary school, volunteering at nursing/assisted living homes, the LIFT program, Relay for Life, the REACH program, the local Soup Kitchen, Alice's House, Habitat for Humanity, Hosea Feed the Hungry, Project Downtown, Operation Iraqi Children, Hands On Atlanta, and many more. In addition, Gunn Hall held its eleventh annual St. Patty's Day Café, a fundraiser that this year raised approximately \$900 that was donated to Seeds of Knowledge to build classrooms for schools in Africa.
- ✓ Academy students and staff gather on most Thursday evenings for dinner followed by a presentation by a UWG professor or visiting lecturer. Presenters this year included Dr. Marjorie Snipes from UWG's Anthropology Department, Dr. Beheruz Sethna, President of UWG, and Dr. Elizabeth Kiss, President of Agnes Scott College. In lieu of dinner and a presentation, students attend events such as UWG theatre productions, Honors College social and educational gatherings, and other university events. The students also take part in Academy events such as talent shows and dances.

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