



Church Hill Activities and Tutoring

Opening Homes, Transforming Lives, Rebuilding

Church Hill Academy– A Year in Review



Exploring the national mall on a chilly D.C. evening

Thanks to your support, Church Hill Academy is ending our fourth year. Did you know that nation-wide, only 53% of urban youth earn a high school diploma?* This statistic is frightening! Overall, we have three goals at Church Hill Academy. The first is **to develop each student academically**. Students come to us at varying levels in their reading and math skills, and we hope to work with them to move forward from that point. **One junior expressed, “I didn’t think I could learn before I came here. You all have shown me that I can.”**

Our second goal is **to develop each student’s character**. Our students reach a point when they have to make a conscious choice to stay with us. This choice is not easy. **One freshmen stated, “I will not let anger win,..I have had to change the way I react to things, so I can grasp [new] opportunities.”** Wow! This kind of introspection and goal-setting is often harder for students than academics.

Our last goal is **to share love with each student**. What is “love”? For us, love means being in relationship with our students, honest assessment of strengths and weaknesses, and seeking to follow Christ’s command and example by teaching, being in relationships with each other, and our students.

No school is perfect. This year 21 youth started with us; only 15 ended the year. However, all 15 youth exhibit signs of growing maturity, patience and self-awareness. My heart grieves for students who left us. CHAT staff continue to believe we are called to this ministry of transforming lives through education. Thank you for supporting us.

Rev. Gina Maio, *Head of School*

*From the report *Cities in Crisis*, 2009



Posing for a photo on our third annual college tour

This year we utilized the NWEA nation-wide test (www.nwea.org) to chart student progress throughout the year

Reading and Language Usage: 53% of student scores indicate above typical growth gains, but when compared nation-wide, their scores are still below grade level. Importantly, 23% showed great growth and tested above grade level.

Mathematics: 44% of students tested scored above typical growth, leaving 56% that tested below typical growth levels. And, all our students currently test below comparative nationwide scores in math. In response, we are currently looking at new curriculum and class organization to help us improve.

Dive In to Summer With CHAT—Be A Sponsor!

CHAT's 3rd annual summer day camp serves 80 area youth and hires nine high school participants to work as counselors at the camp. Camp includes a full day of fun, lunch, life skills activities, Bible study, field trips, and more. Summer Interns are also hired for a 10-week internship to serve as shepherds over the youth and camps.

Sponsor a day camper

1 child for \$180

2 for \$360

5 for \$900

Sponsor a summer intern

\$100 for a week

\$500 for a month

\$1500 for the summer



Interested in being a summer sponsor? Send checks to 601 N. 31st St. Richmond, VA 23223 with "Summer Sponsor" in the memo line or contact chris.whiting@chatrichmond.org

SUMMER INTERNS 2011



Sixteen interns from ten different universities, six different states, and even multiple countries (Ruth Fergie, not pictured, arrives from Ireland mid-week) have moved into the neighborhood and are ready to serve! These interns will spend ten weeks living in the community, helping run a summer day camp, small businesses, and learning about the realities of inner city life and their call to urban ministry.

SUMMER CALENDAR

- Sat. June 11th – Yard Sale @ 1108 N 20th St
- Sat & Sun June 18th & 19th – Kerr Lake Camping Trip
- June 22nd through July 29th Summer Day Camp
- Thu. July 14th – King's Dominion Trip
- Thu. July 28th – VA Beach Trip
- July 31st - Aug 6th – SB2Dub / CHAT & EEF VBS Week

Our true hope at CHAT is to see indigenous leaders rise up from the youth of Church Hill. We are proud to have former CHAT participant and Church Hill Academy graduate Essence Brown lead as a college intern this summer. Essence shares,

"CHAT is the reason that I was able to stay on the right track and not give in to the temptations of inner-city life. I am excited to be able to mentor and guide younger CHAT kids this summer just as others have done for me in the past."



CHAT

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CHAT