

GREENHOUSE

Nurturing Home Education in North Carolina and Beyond



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The Battle Begins (1985-1987)

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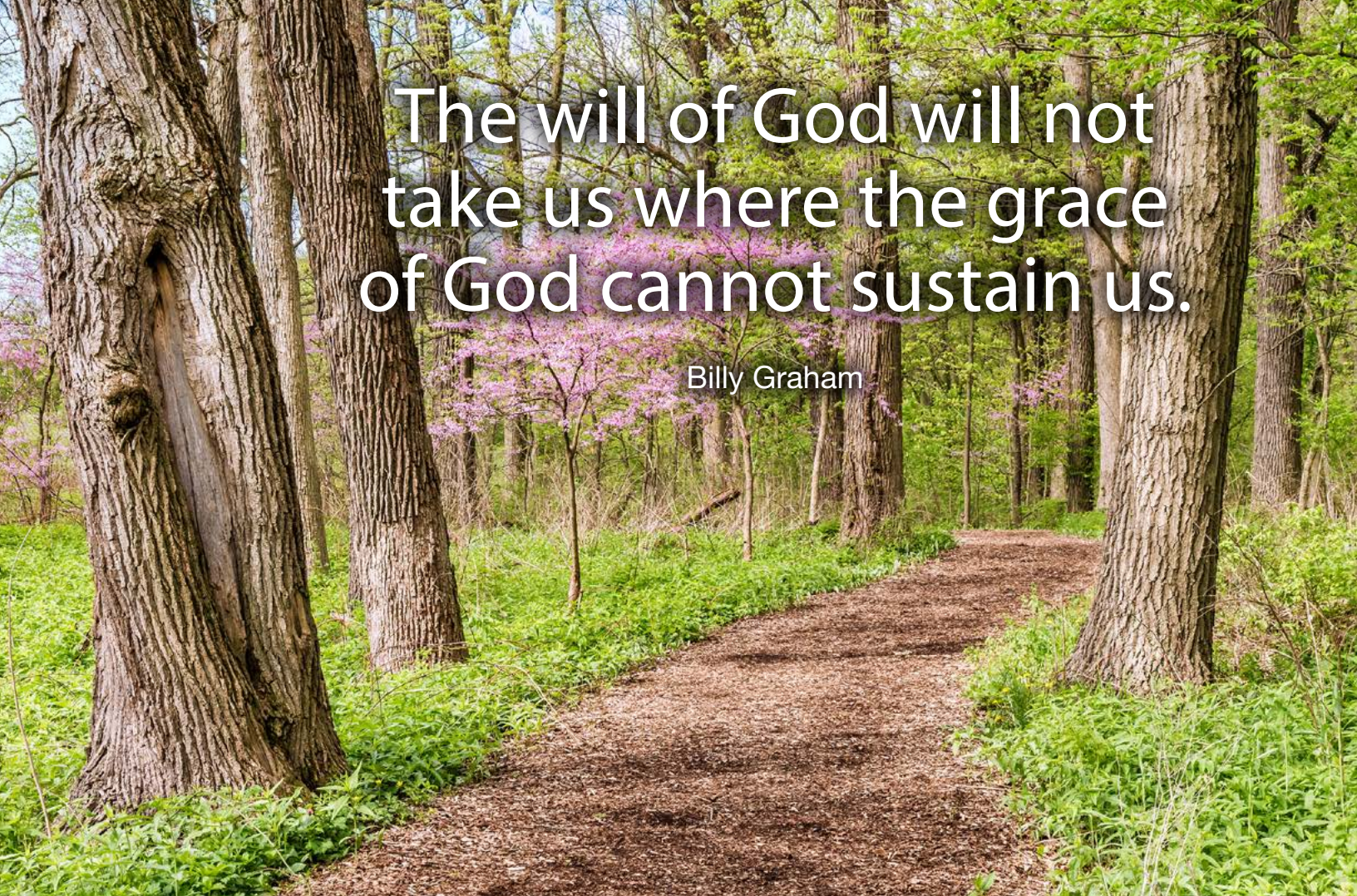


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The will of God will not
take us where the grace
of God cannot sustain us.

Billy Graham

DEADLINES

ISSUE DATE	ARTICLES	ADS
Fall – <i>September</i>	July 20	July 31
Spring – <i>March</i>	January 20	January 31
Graduate – <i>May</i>	March 20	March 31

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1997 Capital Day



1998 Conference

40th nche

NORTH CAROLINIANS FOR HOME EDUCATION
ANNIVERSARY

Greenhouse Report

ISSUE # 2
MARCH/APRIL 1985
N.C. SUPREME COURT DECISION
On May 7, 1985, the N.C. Supreme Court rendered a unanimous, landmark decision in favor of parental choice in education. Now North Carolinians, along with families of 38 other states, may choose home education as well as the public or private education alternatives. The Supreme Court ruled that parents may register home instruction programs as private home instruction. The court ruled on the case of Delconte v. State of North Carolina. We are grateful for the Delconte's pioneering spirit, which they have displayed during their costly four-year ordeal. The court also indebted to the North Carolina Association of Christian Schools for their support.



The Moores and the Masons

NCHE Celebrates Forty Years: The Battle Begins (1985-1987)

by Matthew McDill

North Carolinians for Home Education is celebrating our fortieth anniversary this year! This article is part two in a series that recounts the history of the modern homeschool movement in NC (see the first article in the spring issue of GREENHOUSE). We continue to express our gratitude for the hard work of NCHE leaders to support homeschool parents and to make NC a wonderful place to homeschool. It is time to remember, celebrate, and be grateful.

I'd like to continue to share portions of the series of Facebook posts that Debbie Mason wrote outlining the history of NCHE and homeschooling in NC. Debbie, our events director and media director, and her husband Spencer, our law and policy director and office administrator, have been serving on the NCHE board since the 1980s.

First Attacks on Homeschool Freedom

While the NCHE leadership was praising God for the Delconte decision, they knew they would soon be in a fight to keep the right to educate their children at home. In the March/April *Greenhouse Report* (mailed on May 24, 1985), they warned, "We must be more watchful than ever to protect our freedoms. Already the media, public educationists, and some legislators are saying, 'Now that it's legal, we need to regulate it.'" In the same issue, NCHE encouraged homeschoolers to work to keep the then-current law unchanged, to comply with the law, and to keep the quality of homeschool instruction high. They also advised, "Be ready to drop everything and go to Raleigh at a moment's notice. The battle is only beginning."

Senator Dennis J. Winner introduced a bill to set up a study commission on home education. It was tentatively approved and went to the appropriations committee. Members of NCHE went to see the appropriations committee chairman to tell him that homeschools fell under the private school law he had championed and that we did not want this study commission. The chairman promised that the study commission would not be funded, and it was not.

About that same time, the senior associate superintendent of public schools sent a document to all superintendents of North Carolina public schools asking them to support legislation that would give the state tight regulation over homeschools. The document said that legislation should be passed to add the following changes to the existing homeschool requirements:

- “1. Parent teachers must have a college education.
2. The state should set a required course of study.
3. Minimum standardized test scores should be established, and tests should be monitored by qualified personnel.
4. Parents should notify school officials of their intent to homeschool.
5. Nonpublic school legislation should be amended to require that each nonpublic school notify the appropriate local board of education of every enrollment and every dropout or dismissal that occurs during the school year. The nonpublic school should also notify authorities of anyone who does not graduate and does not return the following year.”

State officials branded home educators as fanatics who were imprisoning their children, not allowing them to come into contact with anyone whose views might be opposed to their own. They were depicted as people who had stepped out of the mainstream of America. Words such as “child neglect” and “child abuse” were used frequently by the press. State officials claimed that homeschools were poorly regulated and would stunt the educational and social growth of children. Editorial columns again carried the cry for the regulation of homeschools. One editorial suggested that a functionally illiterate parent could homeschool, and that this concern was not so far-fetched since “a distressingly high percentage of North Carolinians are functionally illiterate.” It was ironic that the accusations that so many North Carolina parents were functionally illiterate were a condemnation of the very educational system they were claiming to support.

After the Delconte case, NCHE focused on lobbying and teaching homeschoolers how to lobby. They knew that the time would come when they would have to fight in the General Assembly for their rights to homeschool. They encouraged homeschoolers to contact their legislators with these three messages:

1. North Carolina homeschoolers are committed, conscientious, law-abiding, intelligent, and friendly people.
2. Homeschools are an effective means of education.
3. Our desire is for our existing protection under the 1979 “Church School” law to be left untouched.

A Restrictive Bill

In April 1987, the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) proposed legislation entitled “An Act to Permit Home Instruction under Certain Conditions, as a Means of Complying with Compulsory School Attendance Requirements.” Under this proposed legislation, homeschools would be under the authority of DPI and local boards of education. Homeschool teachers would be required to have a college education and to teach a state-approved curriculum. This proposal also required a six-hour school day and gave the local school authorities the ability to deny permission for a family to homeschool based on a twice-a-year, subjective review of their homeschool.

As soon as NCHE heard of this potential bill, we responded immediately by asking homeschoolers to write, phone, and visit their legislators.

On April 17, 1987, Representative Tyndall introduced HB 837 for its first reading. This bill was identical to the DPI proposal. Immediately, NCHE members began to flood Raleigh with letters and calls. On April 30, Senator Marvin introduced SB 779, which was virtually identical to HB 837. Then on May 1, Senator Hardison introduced a substitute bill, SB 708, which was a proposal put forward by DNPE director Rod Helder. While SB 708 was less restrictive than HB 837 and SB 779, NCHE lobbied against it as well as the other two bills.

On May 14, both Senate bills came before the Senate Education Committee, and they were both sent to a subcommittee for additional study. By May 18, SB 779 had received an unfavorable report, and there had been no action on SB 708. From May 19 through August 11, HB 837 went through several subcommittee and committee meetings, was revised five times, and finally passed its third reading in the House. During this time, it became apparent that DPI was orchestrating the entire process.

The House passed HB 837. Because money was requested for the 1987-1988 fiscal year, it was sent to the Senate Appropriations Committee for approval. When the 1987 legislative session came to an end, HB 837 was still waiting for Appropriations Committee approval. With the State Board of Education backing these bills and HB 837 having already been passed by the House, it seemed inevitable that both bills would pass in the 1988 short legislative session.

But the story was not over. NCHE continued our efforts to defeat this bill during the off-season, and it made a difference. Several NCHE leaders volunteered countless hours lobbying the legislators, attending meetings, and keeping NCHE members informed. The sacrificial giving of their time and efforts in rallying homeschoolers from across the state saved us from having to live with an onerous homeschool law.

Debbie reflects on this time: “I remember this time of intense lobbying. It was a ton of work—letters written, phone calls made (long-distance), and trips to Raleigh. Today, we take for granted how easy communication is, but back then, there were no email or cell phones. Long distance phone calls cost money, and to get the word out, we used phone chains. Much of the work was done late at night when long distance calls were cheaper.

Look for the final installment of our history series in the next edition of the GREENHOUSE this fall. We will tell how NCHE defeated this restrictive bill and initiated the homeschool law that we live with today.



Matthew McDill and his wife, Dana, homeschool their nine children in Clemmons. Matthew is the executive director for North Carolinians for Home Education and continues to serve as president of the board. Matthew holds a bachelor's degree in communication, along with two master's degrees and a doctorate in biblical studies.



The Ever-Changing Nest

by Amanda Garner

Isn't it funny that we use the same analogy to describe both ends of our primary parenting years? This irony struck me several weeks ago as I tackled a small stack of dishes waiting patiently for me on the counter. I walked by with a sigh and thought, "Why not? I have plenty of time and nothing else to do." Plenty of time. Too much time, as a matter of fact. Suddenly, my mind wandered back over the years to the time I was expecting my first child. As I busied myself preparing for the baby's arrival, someone explained I was in the nesting phase. I was nesting because I wouldn't have time after the baby came. Now, I find myself precariously close to the other side, the empty-nest side, and I seem to have nothing *but* time.

Now that barren landscapes and frigid temperatures have given way to the blooming colors and warmth of spring, many families will be celebrating graduation. For those who are graduating a student for the first time, the changing shape of the nest is just beginning. As pride and joy mingle with the aching reality of letting go, the shift is subtle. Other families are just beginning their homeschool journey and are managing the challenges and changes that come with a growing nest. Every reshaping of our nest brings its own unique set of challenges and joys. Let's consider three basic phases of the ever-changing nest that encompass the primary years of parenting.

The First: The Growing Nest

This season holds all the sweetness of spring as new life breathes with the scent of newborn babes, and the anticipation of waiting is fulfilled. Some families have already decided to homeschool their children before any arrive in the nest,

while others sense that calling later. I was the latter of the two. When all my girlfriends chattered excitedly about homeschooling a large brood of children, I secretly thought they were a little strange. That was until I held my newborn son, and the word *responsibility* took on a weight and meaning I had never understood. Five years and two siblings later, Garner Christian Academy opened its elementary doors to my little flock of three. With each birth came the challenges of sleep deprivation, postpartum depression, and the general struggles of life with lots of little people. Even those early days held a lot of lessons for my chickadees: patience, obedience, the order of routine, and being a good helper. Those may seem like lofty goals to those who are continually adding to their nest, but they are achievable and worthy of the time and energy it takes to train little hearts. Probably the most challenging part of this phase is when your oldest ones need to “do school” while their toddler and infant siblings compete for time and attention as well. One of the joys of this phase is watching your young child encounter the world with a fresh innocence of fascination. I remember strolling through the park when our oldest son was around three years old and experiencing the enthusiasm he had as he ran over to the brightly colored pansies lining the walk, jabbering with words that only he understood. Although this is an exhausting phase, words I heard long ago have proven true: the days are long, but the years are short.

The Next: The Molding Nest

At some point, families stop adding new arrivals. For some, this happens sooner rather than later, and there is a clear delineation between the first two phases of nesting. For other, larger families, the two may overlap for quite some time. But the commonality is this: your nest starts to mold around the people and personalities in your family. Things become a little less physically taxing but more emotionally exhausting. Suddenly, your sweet little fledglings start having strong opinions and even stronger attitudes. Emotions run high, and hormones surge as puberty hits. Academically, the workload increases, and so does the level of resistance. I had one child who, at fourteen, could rival the most experienced lawyer when it came to arguments. It always started with the words, “Well technically. . .” Then there was the child who learned to fly below the radar and lived the motto “out of sight, out of mind” to avoid doing school as much as possible. About the time you’re tempted to throw in the towel, they do something amazing that warms your heart as hope blossoms. An older child reads tenderly to a younger sibling. Someone does a chore without being asked. The math lesson *finally* clicks. The middle school years seem to hold both ends of the bittersweet spectrum.

The Last: The Emptying Nest

By the time your brood reaches their high school years, life finds a certain sweetness. There is joy in watching as each one develops more fully into who they are created to be as they discover their talents and skills. Some thrive in academic realms, while others hit their stride in athletics, music, or hobbies. My oldest son was a developed chess player and discovered computer programming, which is his current profession. My daughter loved playing basketball and working at summer camps. The next son was active in civil service and learned automotive skills as a hobby. My youngest daughter is currently involved in speech and debate, loves ballroom dance, and is a serious weightlifter. I am amazed to see how the Lord is using their gifts and desires to ready them for kingdom work, both directly and indirectly. When it comes to high school academics, parents should move their students to greater levels of independence and give them the freedom and room to thrive and, ultimately, to fly. Letting go after holding them close for so long is hard, but that is our goal and aim: to shoot our arrows into the world and watch the Lord unfold his faithful plan in their lives.

Currently, I stand painfully close to the outer edges of an empty nest. I only have two years left with my youngest. She’s straining to flap her wings of independence, and I know from experience that the next couple of years will pass in a blur. Just last summer, she worked part-time, and for the first time in nearly twenty-five years, I came home to an empty house. The coming void weighs heavy on my heart, and I am savoring the last of tournaments and dance drop-offs and late-night chats. So, to all the young mommas out there, hold them close, read that bedtime story one more time, and snuggle just a minute longer. To those navigating the middle years, hold your temper and your tongue and hug them tightly; they secretly want you to. And to my fellow moms out there who are watching your heart walk out the door to their next chapter in life, remember the wise words of King Solomon: “For everything there is a season. . .” (Ecclesiastes 1:1)



Amanda and her husband, Wes, have been married for thirty years and have home educated all four of their children. With three homeschool graduates and only one more to go, Amanda's heart is to encourage and equip families to stay in the homeschool race for the long haul. She is a regular conference speaker, contributing writer to GREENHOUSE, occasional blogger, and most often, a regular homeschool mom and wife. In her free time, she can be found binge-reading historical fiction and frequenting local cafes for a good espresso. Amanda and her family live and serve in Franklinton, North Carolina.



Omega to Alpha

by Diane Helfrich

Your last child is in his senior year. Graduation is coming, and you are frantically wrapping up your school year, getting senior photos and invitations ready, party planning, and starting to accumulate what your student needs for life beyond homeschooling. For your student, it may be a job, college, or continuing at home through the local community college. Nevertheless, your life is about to change. Think of it as omega to alpha—ending to beginning.

To understand the beginning, first think about what is changing. If this is your last child to graduate, you will no longer attend co-op classroom days, do any lesson planning, shop for curricula, or schedule field trips. There won't be any more debate trips or sports competitions. Your friendship circle will change because your friends may still be homeschooling, or they, too, will be finding new pastures. If your child leaves home, you'll be downsizing your grocery budget, and meal prep will change for the remaining one or two of you. In short, everything about your life is about to change because your central focus has been your family and homeschooling, and it no longer will be. So, what about your continued involvement with homeschooling?

My last child graduated high school in 2014, so I'm now a ten-year retiree. But I haven't stopped caring about homeschoolers. As I watch our country and schools change, my resolve to support the homeschooling movement has never been stronger. I could have dropped my membership with NCHC and stopped going to the Thrive! Conference. I could have sold all of my books. I could have turned the corner and never really looked back, with the exception of treasured homeschooling memories. That wasn't my choice then, and it isn't now. The homeschooling movement is more important to me than ever because I see it as the answer to failures elsewhere in our society, especially in our school systems, which is the supposed training ground for our future employees and leaders!

We need strong students who think critically and can analyze situations to develop new solutions. We need leaders for the future who are well-grounded in our country's founding principles, understand the importance of our constitutional freedoms, and know how to protect them. We need strong families with solid core principles. We need adults who are willing to be civically involved in communities. Read the research from Dr. Brian Ray at the National Home Education Research Institute (NHERI.org). You'll find statistics showing homeschoolers excel in these areas. I believe homeschooled students will be the leaders of the not-too-distant future because we train them to think, evaluate, research deeply, write well, and know history.

Who has more time and resources to invest in the future of homeschooling? Retired homeschoolers do! We know the ropes and the pressures. We understand the successes and failures in homeschooling from the rear-view mirror of experience. We are the experts who can be the shoulders to stand on for the next generation. It isn't that we were perfect—no one ever is. But, together, we can make the homeschooling movement even more robust.

I encourage you to stay involved. Teach a class at your local co-op. Start a group of retired homeschoolers to bridge the gap of lost relationships. Mentor homeschoolers in your area. Volunteer with NCHC (<https://www.nche.com/partner/serve/>) and help us keep the homeschooling movement strong. Come to the Thrive! Conference, either as a volunteer or to soak in talks on communication and family relationships. Trust me! Your family communications and relationships will change as your kids become adults. Give financial support as you feel led to continue the work NCHC does. If you believe strongly in homeschooling like me, your journey there is not over yet. Perhaps the omega-to-alpha means ending your schooling and starting to give what you know to the next homeschooling generation in the hopes that we are making a difference for families, communities, and our nation. Here's to new beginnings!



Diane Helfrich is a retired fourteen-year veteran of homeschooling. She is married to David, and they have two children who have flown the nest. In addition to her passion for helping homeschoolers and volunteering as the development director for NCHC, she enjoys reading, card-making, and being part of a ukulele club.

For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

(Ephesians 2:10)



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Easy Summer Writing Ideas for the Family

by Dr. Janice Broyles

Summer is often a time of relaxation and family travel. Many of us take several weeks off of our homeschooling adventures to enjoy the warm season. Learning, however, can take place anywhere and anytime. There are numerous reasons to incorporate learning into summer activities. It prevents skill regression or at least limits it. It keeps curiosity for new things, and it reminds us that learning can be an everyday activity without the formality of structure.

If your child needs to work on their writing, then taking off the summer months may not be your best option. There is good news! Writing activities do not have to be formal or graded. They can be easy and impromptu and short and sweet. Take the headache out of summer writing with these fun ideas:

1. **Nature Journal:** Summer is a time of walks along the beach or hikes on the trail or even morning strolls at the park. Grab a small, flip notebook from the dollar store that can work as an *investigative* notebook, and have your child write out what they *spy* on their nature walks. What can they uncover? What clues in nature can they report?
2. **How-To Picture Book:** Is your child a *master* at a certain skill (even if they are a *master* in their own mind)? Do they enjoy cooking or playing games? Do they enjoy a sport or a favorite daily activity? Take plain white paper and fold it in half to make a *How-To* book. For each section, they write simple directions to help a “novice” learn the skill. Make sure there are drawings to go along with the directions! At the end, they will have a small *How-To* picture book.
3. **Before and After Q and A:** Summertime often includes trips to museums, national parks, or visits to important monuments. Before the visit, discuss with your child questions they have about the place. Come up with

your own questions, and together, write them down. These questions can be silly (Do they serve ice cream?) to more content-rich (Will the museum have authentic artifacts to view?). After the visit, go back to the list of questions and answer them based on the experience.

4. A Night at the Movies: This activity can work for movies or books or even vacation destinations. Have your children (and yourself) write reviews after watching the movie (or after reading the book or after the vacation). First, start with a five-star rating. Would your child rate the movie five stars for excellent, one star for not enjoying it, or somewhere in between? They then jot down a couple of reasons why they gave it that rating. Once everyone is done, share it with each other and see if everyone agrees.
5. Devotional Time: Many parents like to encourage their children to spend some time learning about God and His Word. There are children's devotions that also incorporate a writing portion. At Late November Literary, we offer *Journaling through Scriptures* to help tweens and teens blend devotion time with writing. No journal or devotional is necessarily needed though. Consider a small notebook for a gratitude journal. Make it a partner activity where you work on it together. No matter what you decide, this type of activity is a blessing year-round.

There are a lot of ways to incorporate easy summer writing activities in your child's daily or weekly routine. This article provided some fun ideas for you to try this season! When connected to family activities, writing can be simple and streamlined while still teaching critical thinking and communication skills. Don't let the summer slip away without trying to grow some writing! You'll be glad you did.



Dr. Janice Broyles is an English professor, author, and publisher at Late November Literary and Late November Learning Tree. She is a speaker at the 2024 Thrive! Conference



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NCHE's 2024 Graduates



Sarah Akers, daughter of Anthony and Donna Akers of Thomasville, graduates with honors after twelve years of homeschooling. She is active in her church youth

group and volunteers with the children's ministry. Sarah plans to take a gap year to explore her interest in physical therapy by volunteering before she attends college in 2025.



Riley Grace Allen, daughter of Michael and Karen Allen of Garner, graduates after homeschooling twelve years. An AHG Stars and Stripes Award candidate,

She loves Jesus, family, dance, and art. She has completed dual enrollment classes at Wake Tech CC and Arizona State University and works as a dance teacher assistant with Graceful Expressions in Cary. She will be attending Lee University and pursuing degrees in intercultural studies and teaching.



Benjamin Appleton, son of Brian and Jennifer Appleton of Clayton, graduates after homeschooling for thirteen years. Ben loves hiking, camping, and being

outdoors. He actively serves in his church and at his youth camp. He plans to continue his studies at Johnston CC. We are so proud of you, Ben, and look forward to seeing what the Lord has for you!



Michael Coleman Allen, son of Michael and Karen Allen of Garner, graduates after homeschooling thirteen years. He is an Eagle Scout and enjoys family, church,

sporting events, and gaming. Coleman has completed dual enrollment classes at Wake Tech Community College and Arizona State University and works as an intern with HagerSmith Design in downtown Raleigh. He will be attending NC State this fall and pursuing a degree in computer science.



Vanessa Allen (Vee), daughter of Stephanie Allen-Rosen of Shawboro, graduates after homeschooling for five years. She enjoys teaching herself how to

play multiple instruments and writing stories. She is proficient in ASL and enjoys spending time with her brother and a few friends. She also enjoys crocheting items for friends and family members.



Sean Edward Locke Ashdown, son of Jason and Emmy Ashdown, graduates with honors from Blue Ridge Academy after eight years of homeschool. Sean

enthusiastically volunteers as a guitarist, vocalist, and tech member, and serves at various church events. He has enjoyed many hours playing with the Idaho Junior Jammers and a local NC fiddle camp. His work ethic shows honesty, dependability, and gracious consideration. He believes in working respectfully from the bottom up with diplomacy. Sean's passion for life mostly involves his music and the outdoors. For continuing education, Sean's beginning plans include starting out as an apprentice lineman with intentions of progressing within the trade. In addition,

Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

(Philippians 3:13-14)

Sean would also love to assist in mission trips to help where he can. We are truly excited to watch how and where God leads him as He has prepared Sean for this time. Ephesians 2:10



Gary Alexander Balliet, son of Andy and Candi Balliet, graduates with honors after ten years of homeschooling. His hobbies are playing guitar, creative writing, creating content for YouTube, collecting rare albums, antiquing, and camping with his family. He works at his local cable office testing and repairing equipment. He plans to continue working at his current job while honing his writing and video editing skills and building his audience.

*Commit to the Lord whatever you do,
and your plans will succeed.*

(Proverbs 16:3)



Layla Faith Batts, daughter of Chris and Heather Batts of Wilmington, graduates with honors after homeschooling for thirteen years. She has been a lifelong student of Classical Conversations and has completed her associate in arts from CFCC. She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and has served as the VP of membership and fellowship. She is passionate about dance and has studied various techniques and genres for fourteen years at Glory Academy of Fine Arts. She enjoys singing and playing piano, guitar, and violin, and serves in her church's youth band. Layla Faith is loyal, conscientious, and motivated. Her love for learning and desire to try new things is inspiring. She plans to study international business at NCSU, Baylor University, UNC CH, USC Columbia or Clemson University. We are beyond proud and thankful for her. May she continue to strive after the Lord's leading. John 3:30



Raelee Rebekah Boren, daughter of Joshua and DeAna Boren, graduates after ten years of homeschooling. She is involved in her church youth program and numerous outreach and community service activities. As an active participant in 4-H and FIRST Robotics Competition, she was inducted into the NC 4-H Honor Club and was a FRC dean's list semifinalist. Raelee will attend ECU as a biomedical engineering student and member of the Honors College.



Brigman Garson Boyd, son of Stephen and Katie Boyd of Youngsville, graduates after homeschooling for nine years. He has a heart for animals and is gifted in technology. He plans to attend Wake Tech to begin a degree in information technology with a concentration on game development.




Congratulations!



Taylor,
Congrats on your graduation! You are a blessing, a joy, and we're so excited to see where God's going to lead you. We love you, God bless you!

Love,
Dad, Mom, & Joshua

Proverbs 3:6

Taylor Aguilar

Class of 2024



Samantha Braman, daughter of Andrew and Nikki from Richlands, is now graduating after eleven years of homeschooling. After graduation, Samantha plans on becoming an

historical costumer and seamstress, mostly specializing in the eighteenth century. She has been working toward her goals by volunteering at Tryon Palace Historic Site in New Bern for two years as a costumed interpreter, demonstrating historical crafts such as spinning yarn.



Gabrielle Elizabeth Brown, daughter of Christina and Richard Brown, graduates in May after homeschooling her entire life. Gabrielle has served as an officer in BSA

and ZOE Teens youth group. She has a love of the outdoors and began her third year working as a lifeguard in Charlotte. Currently enrolled at SCC in dual enrollment, she is pursuing a degree in cosmetology and business administration and plans to open her own business. Luke 6:27



Leiani Bush, daughter of Conrad and Christie Bush of Sanford, graduates after homeschooling eleven years. She has completed forty-eight hours of dual enrollment at Central

Carolina CC and will attend Liberty University to pursue a degree in psychology. Leiani is a competitive gymnast and works coaching children in recreational gymnastics. She is active in her youth group at the Summit Church Apex and loves spending time with family and friends.



Isabella Verity Cancro, daughter of Amanda Cooper of Wilmington, is graduating with honors from Coastal Performing Arts Academy after ten years of homeschooling.

Isabella is a ray of sunshine who spreads kindness wherever she goes. She has a passion for music, dance, and travel. She has been dancing for fourteen years and has won numerous awards. She currently works as a dance instructor. We look forward to all her future adventures in life!



Aria Carter, daughter of Daniel and Alexa Carter, has explored every facet of homeschooling. A violinist and violist in Duke University String School, she is also a black belt in

Tang Soo Do and National Merit Scholar. She pursues her passions in choir, Science Olympiad, heritage crafts, and charcoal artwork. Aria enjoys tutoring her ten violin and piano students and is excited to continue her studies at college in violin performance and French.



Jakob Cassidy, son of the Cassidy family of Denver, graduates after homeschooling twelve years. He had the privilege of participating in archery, swim team, I Govern, and

produced a short film. He was an extra in "The Same Battle," director, Jack Zaliagiris and "Unsung Hero," directors Richard L. Ramsey and Joel Smallbone of "For King & Country." He desires to pursue game designing. He enjoys building and collecting Legos and exploring the outdoors. Jakob is a blessing and encouragement to many! Love you bunches and bunches to the infinity and beyond! Proud of you! Congrats Son! Jeremiah 29:11



Tayree Josiah Cassidy, son of Audrey Luther and Travis Cassidy of Asheboro, graduates after homeschooling two years. He excels at basketball and baseball for the Warriors. He

is active in his church youth group and plays the drums for church as well. Josiah is exploring his career options and plans to pursue diesel and heavy equipment technology at GTCC.



Jackson Chaney, son of Mike and Cheryl Chaney of Roxboro, graduates with honors after being homeschooled his entire life. Some of Jackson's many accomplishments

include achieving the rank of Eagle Scout and being inducted into the Order of the Arrow honor society in which he received the rank of brotherhood. He is currently a volunteer fireman with the Allensville F.D. and will pursue this as a full-time career as well as being a diesel mechanic.



Hannah Marion Cheek, daughter of Shawn and Julie Cheek of Hamptonville, will be graduating in June with her high school diploma and AG business degree from WCC. She is a member of

the Phi Theta Kappa Society and is on the dean's list at WCC. She has played softball for the FHE Hawks for five years. She is an active member of her church. She is a major asset on the family farm and plans to continue and pursue owning her own farm in the future.



Abigail Cochran, daughter of Jeremy and Kylie Cochran of Saluda, graduates from lifelong homeschooling. Abigail is an active member of Hendersonville Church of

Christ. She has also been an American Heritage Girl for seven and a half years and is working toward the highest award, Stars and Stripes. Her heart of service has been evident in her volunteer activities and job positions. She will be pursuing her goals by attending Harding University in Arkansas and majoring in event management. We are so proud of the Christian woman that Abigail has become and are excited about her journey ahead!

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, . . .

(Colossians 3:23)



Nathan Davis Connelly, son of Chad and Jennifer Connelly of Concord, graduates in June. In addition to twelve years of homeschooling, he earned a certificate in AC,

heating and refrigeration tech from RCCC where he received President's Circle recognition for academic achievement. His activities have included: KIC soccer, rock climbing, Cabarrus Stallions football, and Gavel Club. Nathan will enter the workforce and continue coursework at RCCC.



Faith Conner, daughter of Bud and Marie Conner of Wilmington, graduates as an honor student and dancer for thirteen years. She has been a competitive dancer for eight years and

a dance teacher for four years. She enjoys reading mysteries and classical literature, collecting and



Grant Conner, son of Bud and Marie Conner of Wilmington, graduates as an honor student and a varsity athlete in cross-country and tennis. He ran cross-country for four

seasons and played tennis during his junior year. He is a co-founder of the Wilmington Lululemon Run Club, a member of the Wilmington Roadrunners, and an avid motorsports fan. He plans to attend Regent University as a sports management major and a member of the Honors College.



Stephen F. Cwik, son of Paul and Heidi Cwik of Garner, graduates from Saint Bystrick Academy after twelve years of homeschooling. Stephen

loves art and writing, and is an honors student with a strong interest in German and biochemistry. He plans to attend an out-of-state university, focusing on an authentic Catholic education which will develop his mind and also form him into the honorable, upright man he wishes to become.



Isabella C. Dartu, daughter of Ovidiu and Tara Dartu of Salisbury, graduates from RCPA Magna Cum Laude. Isabella was awarded her varsity letter, showing her honor

and commitment to the US EIAP and her dedication to both USEF and USHJA. Through the FFA program, she has shown her love for animals and agriculture, skills that will serve her well into her adult life. Through FBLA's leadership, Isabella plans to continue her path of owning and operating her own business, leading the way as a young entrepreneur who is passionate about business and finance. Isabella loves her friends, family, playing the piano, making art, and is a dedicated

Joshua A. Diaz

As you prepare to spread your wings and embark on this new chapter in your life, know that we couldn't be prouder of the person you've become.

Your strength, determination, resilience, and your unique perspective of life inspires us all.

As you step into the next chapter of your life, remember that you have the power to achieve anything you set your mind to.

We can't wait to see where your journey takes you.

Congratulations, and may your future be filled with endless possibilities and happiness.

We love you so much papi!



member of her church and community, where she hopes to continue to serve in this next chapter of her life. We are excited to watch as she carves out her place in this world and congratulate her on all of her achievements.



Preston A. Dartu, son of Ovidiu and Tara Dartu of Salisbury, graduates from RCPA Magna Cum Laude. Preston was awarded his varsity letter in tennis, showing his commitment

to the RRC student athletics program and receiving several accolades for his dedication to the sport. Through the FFA program, Preston has shown his commitment to land management and preserving our agricultural lands for future generations. Through FBLA's leadership, Preston plans to continue his path of partnering with his father in owning and operating the family business, along with furthering his education in business and finance. Preston loves his friends, family, playing the drums, and is a dedicated member of his

church and community, where he hopes to continue to serve in this next chapter of his life. We are excited to watch as he carves out his place in this world and congratulate him on all his successes.



Megan Davis, daughter of Nick and Krista Davis of Pleasant Garden, graduates with highest honors after five years of homeschool education. Megan will receive her

associate of science degree through dual enrollment at DDCC where she was involved in debate, intercultural club, global scholars, and studied abroad in Japan. She enjoys art, horseback riding, costuming, and aquariums. She will attend Sweet Briar College. Congrats and good luck!



Summer Joy DeLuca, daughter of Jim and Janna DeLuca of Winston Salem, graduates after homeschooling for thirteen years. Summer is active in her church, choir, and youth

group. She enjoys horses, reading, and loves being an aunt. Summer is currently working at an after-school camp. She is seeking the Lord's guidance on plans to pursue a career in technology. We love you and are so proud of you, Summer! Matthew 6:33



Joshua Alberto Diaz, son of Alberto and Jency Diaz of Garner, graduates with honors after being homeschooled for four years. Joshua is more than ready to take on the world!

With his sights set on a business degree from NCSU, he's already proven his incredible dedication and determination as a dual-enrolled student at WTCC.

Hanna Fatanthony

 *Class of 2024*



Hanna is the beautiful daughter of Mr. William Fatanthony, Melissa & Bryte Appasu. Hanna is graduating from Rising Scholar Homeschool after four years of study with honors. Hanna also studied abroad for one year in East Africa, Tanzania, at F.K. International School. Hanna is a shining star who loves art and design, playing piano and cooking. She also volunteered working at the YMCA as a camp leader and Wake Forest library. During her homeschool studies she took courses at Boston Architectural College. Her future plans is to become an architect and own her own consulting company.

Joshua's future is as bright as his smile, and we can't wait to see him achieve great things!



Anna Joy Dillon, daughter of Adam and Wendy Dillon of Concord, graduates after homeschooling thirteen years. Anna serves with Child Evangelism

Fellowship leading Good News Clubs for children, works part-time babysitting, and is a member of Gavel Club. She enjoys reading, writing poetry, public speaking, hiking, and camping. Anna will be pursuing a degree to prepare for missions in closed nations. We are so proud of you and will always love you!



Zavior Christian Dulaney, son of Rev. Glenn and Charisse Dulaney, graduates from Apostolic Academy after twelve years of homeschooling. He attended SCC for his

senior year and will continue pursuing a trade in HVAC. Zavior enjoys basketball, outdoor activities, and being active with his youth group. He willingly serves at his church, and his favorite verse is Jer. 29:11. We celebrate with Zave and look forward to watching God unfold his future.

*Many are the plans in a man's heart,
but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails.*

(Proverbs 19:21)



Anthony Dominick Duliepre—Congrats to our star, future director, actor, singer, entrepreneur, and superhero, Nikko! We are so proud of you!—from your king, your queen, your

cat and your guy (Daddy, Mommy, Nisey and Nick) and the rest of the family, your grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, teachers, friends, and church families—Our Lady of Consolation (NC) and Our Lady of Charity (NY). We wish you a bright future! God bless you! We love you!



Parker Michelle Emmart, daughter of Billy and Misty Emmart of Wilmington, graduates with honors from Aqua Vista Academy. Parker is currently dual enrolled at

Cape Fear Community College where she plans to complete her associate in science degree. Parker is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and is on the president's list at CFCC. Parker enjoys spending time with her friends, loves animals, and volunteering with ACCESS of Wilmington Miracle League. She is compassionate, determined, dependable, genuine, and loving. Parker plans to pursue a career in occupational therapy. We are so proud of what she has accomplished and what she will continue to do. "She is clothed with strength and dignity and laughs without fear of the future." Proverbs 31:25



Joshua Erdman, son of Chris and Becki Erdman of Chapel Hill, graduates after homeschooling for eleven years. Joshua enjoys geology, writing, music, and gaming with friends. He has been an

outstanding student, working hard, and maintaining excellent grades. Joshua has a sharp, witty humor and a big heart. His family is extremely proud of the amazing young man that he has become. Congratulations, and we love you! Isaiah 41:10, Jeremiah 29:11



Don Tolbert Evans III is the son of Don and Sally Evans of Wilmington, NC, and older brother to Joseph and Isaac. Don is an Eagle Scout and member of the Order of the Arrow honor

society. Don played tennis, football, and qualified for the NC Junior Olympics as a saber fencer in 2021. He is a classical pianist and plays the drums in his own band. He is also fluent in Spanish. He helps with the children's program at church and spends time weekly at a senior center facility. Don will graduate from high school through the dual enrollment program at Cape Fear CC, where he is on the dean's list and is a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. He will receive his associate of arts degree in August and has been accepted into UNC Chapel Hill and into the honors programs of a number of universities. His career interests are international business, criminal justice, psychology, and law.



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Aiden James Ferguson, son of Eryck and Lisa Ferguson of Goldsboro, graduates after homeschooling for five years. He has completed dual enrollment courses at

Wayne Community College. Aiden has participated in theater productions from both Stagestruck Youth Theater and Center Stage Theater, with his favorite role being Billy Bibbit from "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest." He also enjoys voice and piano lessons, plays guitar, and dabbles in various languages. Aiden plans to continue to pursue his passion on stage and behind the lens as he works towards a degree in film and drama.



Andrew B. Fisher, son of Bret and Michelle Fisher of Charlotte, graduates after homeschooling his entire life. He has served as vice president of Queen City Gavel Club, a junior club of

Toastmasters International. He volunteers as video director at Forest Hill Church where he coordinates cameras and graphics. He loves to create and repair electronics, is a general class amateur radio operator, and plans to major in electrical engineering.



Alyssa Victoria Forbes, daughter of Rodney and Tami Forbes of Statesville, graduates after six years of homeschooling. She was a dedicated student of Abeka and

Classical Conversations. She enjoys art and has a love for animals. Congratulations, Alyssa! Remember to always put God first, and He will direct your paths. We love you!



Amaiya Michelle Gaines, daughter of Dawn Gaines and Bruce Agard, graduates after homeschooling for three years. She is a devoted sister, friend, and avid

animal lover. She is also passionate about helping others. Amaiya will attend the Carolina College of Health Sciences to pursue a medical career. Congratulations to our beautiful daughter and always remember this scripture Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."



Cody Mark Gosart is the second of four children of Todd and Renee Gosart. He was born and raised in Oxford, Connecticut, until 2016. Cody has been homeschooled at AdoroTe

Academy for his entire academic career. He is a member of three honor societies: ZENHS, PTKIHS, and NHSHS. Cody's passion is baseball. He plays for a varsity travel team that competes regionally. Cody has earned his AS degree at CPCC and will attend High Point University, majoring in exercise science-athletic training. Cody's faith in God has made him the man he is today. Being part of Cody's life brings about happiness.

AIDEN JAMES FERGUSON

We are
so proud
of you!

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2024!





Benjamin Gouch, son of Harvey and Kristi Gouch, Jr. of Mooresville, graduates after homeschooling for thirteen years. He played basketball for the GCAA Stallions for four years. He is

active in his church and has served in various capacities. He is a hard worker. He plans to attend Liberty University and major in business administration real estate management and continue working in the family business. His life verse is Deuteronomy 33:12.



Nicholas James Grimes, the son of Lee and Kim Grimes of Raleigh, has graduated with honors after seven years of homeschooling. He has a passion for history, enjoys

reading the Bible, drawing, and creating. Nicholas is an active member and volunteer at his church. Also, he has dedicated four years to training at Rock Solid Warrior Gym. Nicholas is intelligent, hard-working, determined, and has a fantastic sense of humor. He is filled with potential and is currently exploring his future career and college options. Congratulations, Nick! We love you and are incredibly proud of you! Psalm 91:4



Emma Gunter, daughter of Matt and Tracy Gunter, is completing her homeschool journey. Homeschooling has allowed Emma to explore her passion to serve Christ and execute ministry in her

creative bent. She loves to travel, play video games, paint, and make memories with her family. Her favorite quote is "Sometimes you will never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory." (Dr. Seuss) Emma serves in her local church choir, praise team, and is pursuing her ministry call to lead people in worship. She leans on scripture as a compass for her life. Emma plans to further her education and equip herself to be the best possible Christian woman in this ever changing world.



Faith Haven, daughter of Scott and Theresa Haven, is graduating with honors from Haven Christian Academy. She is a very bright and hardworking student who plans on

furthering her education with a bachelor's degree in exercise science. Faith is passionate about serving the Lord and desires to help people all around the world with health and well-being by becoming a health and wellness coach. She enjoys many different activities including Bible study, basketball, Muay Thai, figure skating, weightlifting, Pilates, and spending time with friends and family. She is very active in her community, workplace, and college ministry at church and hopes to be a light for Christ wherever she goes. Congratulations to Faith on her achievements!



Adela Havlen, daughter of Leo and Amy Havlen of Jamestown, graduates after thirteen years of homeschooling. Adela loves the Lord and looks forward to serving

Him in all she does. She has studied violin for the last eleven years and enjoys playing in two local orchestras, as well as singing and leading worship in churches and at youth events. She will attend Pensacola Christian College where she plans to pursue degrees in accounting and music.



Emma Rose Haynes, daughter of Jody and Tara Haynes of Youngsville, graduates with honors after seven years of homeschooling and dual enrollment classes at

Vance-Granville CC. Emma has been a member of NC 4-H for thirteen years and is serving as the 2023-2024 NC 4-H Council Member Engagement officer. She is an accomplished pianist and singer. Emma will attend the University of Mount Olive to major in animal science with a minor in music.



Rachel Jolene Henry, daughter of Dominick and Sarah Henry of Gastonia, graduates with honors after eleven years of homeschooling. Some of her achievements include

excelling in Civil Air Patrol, karate, and multiple languages. Rachel enjoys flying Cessna aircraft, traveling, and reading. Rachel began her college education this past year through dual enrollment at Gaston College and plans to continue her education at UNC. Congrats!



Katheryn Hunt, daughter of Tim and Sue Hunt of Townsville, graduates from Salt and Light Academy after thirteen years of homeschooling. Since age

five, Katie has trained and performed in dance, singing, and many musical theater productions throughout her NC and VA region. She achieved the highest level award in American Heritage Girl after twelve years of membership, was an active member in the NCFCA, a national speech and debate association. She shares her faith through Spiritual Twist Productions, a Christian musical theater. Her free time is filled with pets, rescuing wildlife, walking in the woods, jigsaw puzzles, horseback riding, and spending quality time with friends and family. Katie plans to pursue training and licensure in a yet to be determined construction trade while working towards establishing an equine therapy center on her family farm. 1 Corinthians 16:13



Seth Andrew Jackson, son of Odell and Karen Jackson of Mount Airy, is graduating with honors from Riverside Christian School after homeschooling thirteen years. Seth is a

talented guitarist, playing for worship services and leading the youth praise team. He also enjoys camping, fishing, reading, and working on anything mechanical. He has a heart for the Lord and loves to help others. Seth plans to attend Surry Community College to pursue a degree in electrical systems technology and/ or HVAC. We cannot wait to see where God leads!



Noah Powers James, son of Brian and Wendy James of Wilmington, graduates after homeschooling since kindergarten. Noah is an Eagle Scout and plays

drums with his church's worship team. He played soccer for the Southeastern Cardinals Home School Sports League for five years. He has completed his associates of science in the dual enrollment program at Cape Fear Community College (CFCC). Noah enjoys weightlifting and started the CFCC Weightlifting Club. Noah loves animals and has worked at Needham Animal Hospital for two years. Noah is a natural problem solver with an appreciation for thorough analysis and a penchant towards optimism. He has received invitations to attend both UNC Chapel Hill and NC State University in the fall and will be making his decision in late spring. We pray that he will continue to love the Lord with all his heart, soul, and mind.



Yesenia G Jeffrey, daughter of Elvis Jeffrey and Jessica Vasquez of Asheville, graduates after five years of homeschooling. She is a nature lover who enjoys gardening, exploring, and

DIY projects. Her dream is to own land and build a homestead of her own, as the one she currently maintains—a job she loves. She is working to make that dream come true. She has a big heart for animals and is a strong, smart, and sweet young lady who loves the Lord.



Anna Johnson, daughter of Scott and Karen Johnson, has homeschooled since 2011. Graduating with twenty-seven college credits and honors, Anna plans to attend App State

or UNC Chapel Hill to pursue a bachelor's in exercise science and a master's in occupational therapy. During her senior year, Anna earned American Heritage Girl's highest honor, the Stars and Stripes Award. Anna also enjoys riding horses. She is excited for God's good plans!



Rachel Johnson, daughter of Scott and Karen Johnson, graduates with honors after homeschooling since 2011. She enjoys riding horses, attending American

Heritage Girls (AHG), and participating in the National Homeschool Honor Society. She earned twenty-seven dual enrollment credits, received the President's Volunteer Service Award, and earned AHG's highest honor, the Stars and Stripes Award. She will study biology at UNC Chapel Hill or App State.



Samaria M. Johnson, daughter of Shasta Johnson of Kannapolis, graduates after homeschooling for four years. Samaria is the oldest out of eight children and is very smart. She was

valedictorian in her eighth grade class. She is motivated; she loves cooking, teaching, and is very interested in learning about God and Christ Jesus and has a growing relationship with Him. The Holy Spirit helps her a lot. Samaria plans to attend CPCC for accounting and finance. She will be attending a STEM program during the summer before starting school in the fall. Deuteronomy 10:12



AshLynn Jenelle Jones, the eldest daughter of Lynn and Duwana Jones, is celebrated by her parents as she concludes her education at Rivers of Water Homeschool. It has

been an incomparable journey along with her four siblings and a phenomenal homeschool community in the Charlotte area. She plans to continue serving in ministry and missions. We pray that her life will be full of worship, family, and fun as God's goodness and mercy follows her.

So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.

(1 Corinthians 10:31)



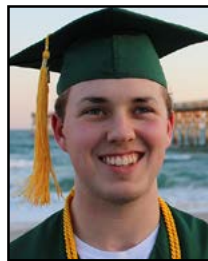
Mikhail Karnaukh is a passionate and conservative American patriot with a strong moral character. He plans to become a missionary pilot, get an airframe and

powerplant license, and complete his degree in criminal justice. He is excited to escape the matrix and work to build a multi-million dollar business. Seeking God first, he desires to minister to the neediest, rescue the most vulnerable, and stand up for freedom, liberty, and justice for all.



Madison Klipstine, daughter of Aaron and Beth Klipstine of Brown Summit, graduates after homeschooling for ten years. She has been dual-enrolled at Rockingham

County Community College for the past two years and graduates with honors. Madison's passions include art, guitar, travel, music and her Australian shepherd, Captain. Madison was active in Rockingham County 4-H and loves animals. She plans to major in biology in the fall.



Adam Knosky, son of Jared and Sharon Knosky of Holly Ridge, graduates with honors after homeschooling for eleven years. Adam is a member of the Red Cross Club where he served as

co-president his senior year. He served as a VolunTeen at OMH for two summers. He has volunteered over 834 hours and won several community awards for service. He was a member of the Southeastern Cardinals Fencing team. He has been accepted to PHC and will be majoring in environmental science and stewardship. Following PHC, he plans to attend medical school and ultimately become a pediatrician. Adam has earned the Academic Scholarship, the Presidential Opportunity Scholarship and the Pursuit of Excellence Scholarship from PHC as well as the NC Elks scholarship.



Elijah Christopher Lee, son of Chris and Media' Lee of Mt. Olive, graduates from Lee Christian Academy after thirteen years of homeschooling. Elijah enjoys playing the bass

and spending time with family and friends. He loves photography and videography. He started his own business, Elijah Lee Productions. He is active in church ministries and 4-H. He plans to continue attending community college. We love you and are proud of you! Proverbs 3:5-6



Rachel Airrelle Lee, daughter of Frank and Hannah Lee of Statesville, graduates with honors after homeschooling for twelve years. She enjoys fishing, hiking, training dogs, studying the Bible, and spending time with family and friends. One of her favorite verses is, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your

good works, and glorify your Father who is in Heaven." Matthew 5:16

good works, and glorify your Father who is in Heaven." Matthew 5:16



John "Caleb" Lewis, son of John and Regina Lewis of Moravian Falls, graduates with honors after homeschooling for thirteen years. Caleb is the second child and only son

of five children. He is both an accomplished artist and drummer. He has served as a drummer on the worship team at Day3 Church in Granite Falls and on the road with his father's music ministry. He has also done commission work with his art. He loves airsoft, camping, drawing, 3D printing, cats, and playing and listening to a wide variety of music genres. Caleb plans on attending Liberty University to major in studio arts.



Lyric Jadamone Lewis, daughter of Jamison B. and Youlanda V. Lewis of Mount Holly, graduates after four years of homeschooling. Faithful employee of Chick-fil-A for

four years, Lyric enjoys at, cooking, and shopping. She has completed dual enrollment at Gaston College and will continue pursuing a teaching degree with hopes of becoming a history teacher who exemplifies discipleship, impacting the lives of young people for Christ.



Gideon Bob Linton, son of AJ and Suzanne Linton of Grantham, graduates with honors from Countryview Academy after homeschooling for thirteen years. As a dual enrollment

student, Gideon earned his private pilot essentials certificate and was inducted into Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. He has excelled in many areas of 4-H

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline.

(Proverbs 1:7)

Adam Knosky



Class of 2024

"Always keep GOD first and the hard times will be easier to get through"

Grandma

"Adam, stay focused and motivated.

Always praying for God to lead and guide you." Nana & Papa



"I am so proud of you. Follow your dream. Love you!" Grandad



"Remember to seek God first, He has plans for you and will use you when you allow Him to lead your life! Remember the safest, most blessed place, is directly in the center of the will of God!" ~ Love Dad and Mom

"As ye therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: Rooted and built up in him and established in the faith as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving." Colossians 2:6,7



"You go bro! Praying for you!" Anna



"Don't slip on those beans!" ~ Bluey Your brothers



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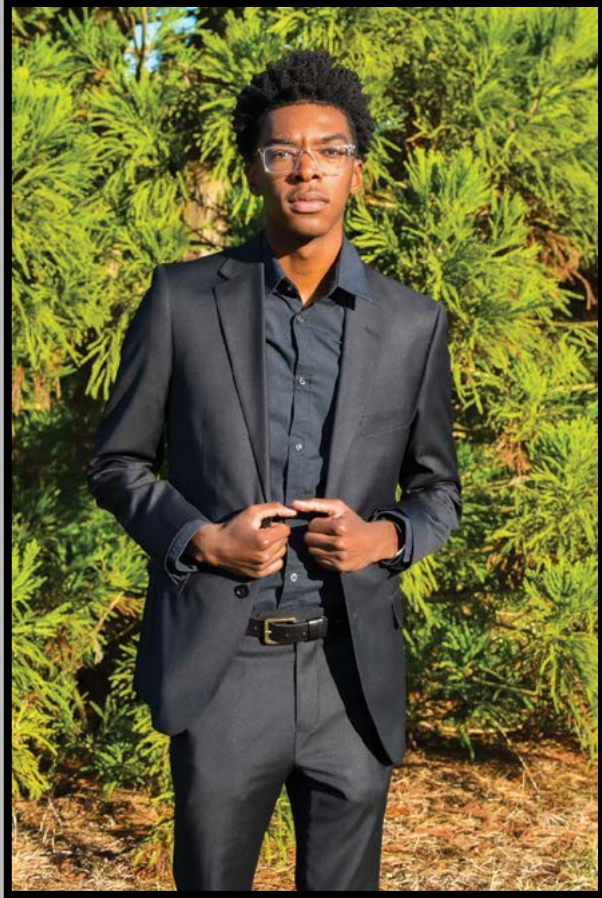


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Noah Mlingo

Class of 2024



Noah, Congratulations on graduating high school and earning your Associate of Arts degree from CPCC! This is an amazing achievement and well-deserved success. We are extremely proud of you for reaching this milestone and seeing your hard work pay off. Never stop growing, exploring, learning, and challenging yourself. Above all, keep soaring, and keep shining. With God nothing is impossible!

Love,
Mom, Dad & Hannah



"Being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Christ Jesus" Phil. 1:6

as the National Chicken BBQ Champion, 4-H Honor Club member, 4-H Silver Ambassador, and a member of the NC Air Pistol Team. Gideon enjoys leather work, camping, boating, golfing, playing violin, artwork, and being with family and friends. He plans to attend Wayne Community College in the fall and then transfer to the University of Mount Olive for a degree in agribusiness. All our love to you, son! We are so proud of you!



George Long, son of Ray Long of Virgilina, VA, and Emma Wells of Durham, NC, graduates from Womack Christian Academy. George has a love for all people and will

always help out when needed. He enjoys grilling, cooking, and riding his SxS. He is always tinkering with any mechanic project. He will be pursuing a career in mechanics.



Sarah Marie McAmis of Fayetteville proudly graduates after nine years of homeschooling. She secured her first job at fifteen, displaying remarkable drive. She is

known for her loving disposition, dedication, kindness, and being a role model to her peers and six siblings. Her passions include family, pets, human rights, learning, debate, tech, gaming, relaxing, and music. Sarah earned an IT/computer transfer certificate from FTCC and plans to pursue a bachelor's in computer science after completing an associate degree. We are deeply proud of her character and achievements. We love you, Sarah!



Julia Claire Metzger, daughter of Mark and Lisa Metzger of Oakboro, graduates in May. She is a second-generation

homeschooler and sidewalk counselor with the pro-life ministry, Love Life. Her love for politics led her to serve as a county leader and social media team manager in two state-level political races. Currently a certified doula, she is enrolled as a midwifery student with the goal of becoming a certified professional midwife.



Noah Scott Miller, son of Scott and Karen Miller of Moravian Falls, graduates with honors after homeschooling for thirteen years. He plans to continue pursuing a systems security

degree from WCC. Noah loves playing online video games, especially traditional fighting games, as well as collecting action figures and exercising. He also loves our four pet budgies. Noah is a loving son, brother, and friend, and we pray God will lead his life always.



ZAIRE PERKINS

We are so proud of you and excited to see how the Lord is directing your paths. Remember He is with you wherever you go! Keep Him 1st!

We love you always - Dad, Mom & Z - Nation

Joshua 1:9



CONGRATULATIONS!

Class of 2024



Asher Moonen, son of Scott and Lisa Moonen of Fuquay-Varina, graduates after homeschooling for twelve years. Asher loves music, working with his hands, running, and time with family and friends. Asher participated in the Cary Fire homeschool cross-country team, Tongues of Fire homeschool speech club, and volunteered at church and Military Missions in Action. Asher apprenticed in construction contracting and plans to work in this field full-time.



Caoilfhinn Mae Morrison, daughter of Mark and Joy of Goldsboro, graduates after homeschooling K-twelve. She started dancing at age two and is attending college to pursue a degree in dance. Her love for Christ has been her guide in decisions and daily choices. She



also enjoys crocheting, baking, and has immeasurable determination in everything she does. I love you and am so proud of the young woman you have grown to be! Jeremiah 29:11

Christopher "Nathaniel" Mowry, son of Chris and Larissa Mowry of Fuquay-Varina, graduates with honors from Victory Leadership Academy after homeschooling since first grade. He dual enrolled at CVCC, dedicated eleven years to the violin, and volunteers with Donate Life. Nathaniel is a student advisory council member of the National Christian Forensics and Communications Association, where he is proficient in speech and debate. Nathaniel is nationally ranked in the National Association of Moot Court. Nathaniel is a member of the Torch and Laurel Society, and the National Society of High School Scholars. He plans to pursue an undergraduate in biochemistry, aspiring to become an anesthesiologist. He is cherished by his family and cat, Aslan.



Adrianna Faith Neal, daughter of Freddie and Jerri of Otto, graduates after homeschooling her entire life. Adrianna has a heart for children and has spent her high school years babysitting and serving at church caring for and loving little ones. Her other interests include reading, painting, and piano. She has also taken dual enrollment classes at Southwestern Community College. We look forward to what God has planned for her future! Job 11:13-15



Christian Robert Nelson, son of Robert and Dana Nelson of Troy, is graduating with honors from Veritas Christian Academy and has been homeschooled since birth. Christian has enjoyed playing numerous sports and excelled in baseball as a pitcher and second baseman. His passion is football analysis and is an avid Carolina

Panthers fan. He is an active member of his church with a strong moral compass and work ethic. Christian has completed the business pathway while dual enrolled at Stanly CC. He is set to attain his AA degree and plans to transfer to Liberty University, WCU, or Pfeiffer to pursue a BA degree in business or business law with a minor in sports management. Christian seeks to utilize the gifts and abilities that the Lord has bestowed upon him. May the Lord place His hand of blessing upon his life and may Christian glorify his Creator and Savior in the path he takes. Prov. 9:10



Autumn Joy Norman, daughter of Rick and Melissa Norman of Stony Point, graduates after homeschooling for nine years. She completed dual enrollment classes and the NC certified nursing assistant course. She is an active member of the Stony Point Fire Department Auxiliary and works part-time. Autumn enjoys traveling, the beach, and painting. She plans to attend Liberty University and major in nursing. Her favorite Bible verse is Isaiah 41:10!



Reganne O'Daniel, daughter of Robyn Hudson of Charlotte and Ransey O'Daniel, graduates after seven years of homeschooling. She is an asset to her family and

has excelled academically while also participating in various extracurricular activities, including: singing and traveling with the YVOTC, completing a certificate in a fashion design class through the Parson School of Design, performing as a cast member in Matilda the Musical at JCC, and working part-time at Carowinds. Reganne desires to grow in her relationship with God and to pursue a career in business. We are proud of her! Job 36:11



Zaire Kaleb Perkins, son of Terrell and Kenya of Greensboro, has been homeschooled his entire life along with his four siblings. Being introduced to coding at the early age of eight,

Zaire displayed a natural gift of understanding technology. He started making websites, 3D designs, and computer video games. Zaire was the founder of the very first homeschool esports team in NC. Besides playing video games competitively, Zaire also enjoys being on the varsity basketball team, coaching golf, teaching coding classes, and serving on the AV team at church. With his busy schedule, he maintained his 4.0+ GPA while being dual enrolled at GTCC. Zaire will attend NC State to pursue a path to become a video game designer. His life verse is Joshua 1:9.



Isaac William Perry, son of Kristina Perry and Leah Gragg of Mount Olive, graduates from Tennyson Hall after homeschooling for twelve years. Possessing a natural talent for comedy and storytelling, Isaac routinely keeps everyone laughing. His hobbies include listening to music and reading manga. Isaac plans to pursue a career in the medical field. We are proud of you and look forward to watching you excel in your future endeavors.

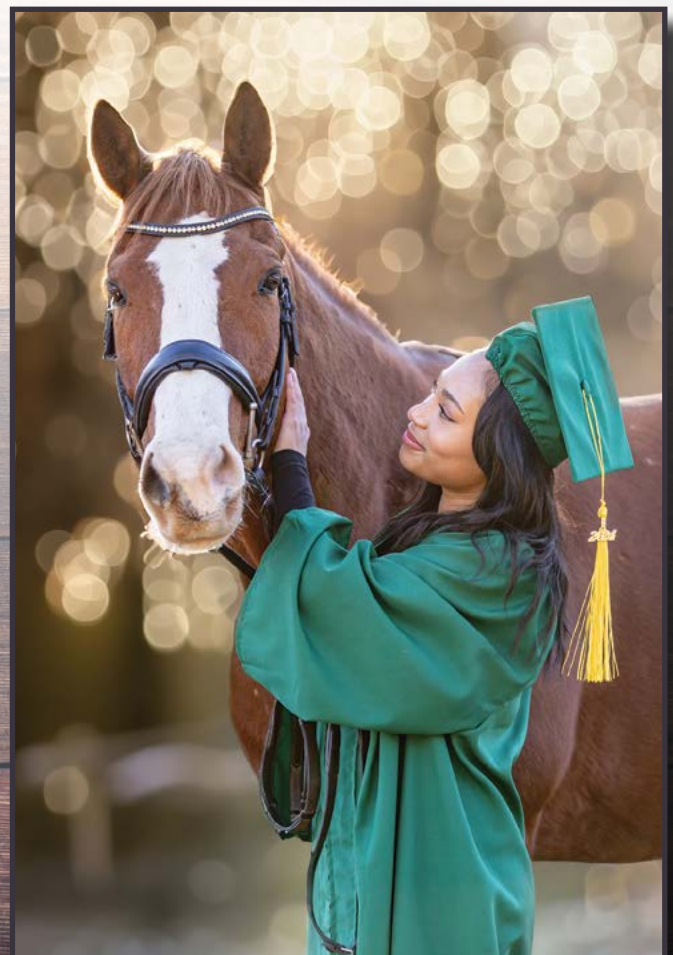


Neilly Quinones

Graduating with Honors for the Graduate

The most beautiful little human being I have ever laid eyes on was placed into my arms in 2006. That moment will always be encapsulated in my memory, as you simply took my breath away. "This precious baby girl will graduate in the year 2024," your nurse said as she giggled. At the time, it seemed like a lifetime away, but then...I blinked. Nielly, you have brought so much joy, hope, and happiness into my life and that of your entire family. We are immensely proud of you and the dynamic young lady you have become. May God continue to bless your every step.

Love,
Mommy, Daddy & your whole family





Nielly Ivette Quinones, daughter of Jennifer and Rene Quinones of Fayetteville, graduates after homeschooling for four years and completing two years of dual enrollment

at FTCC. She participated in mock trials and was a recipient of multiple awards for her performances as an expert witness; her team made it to States 2024! She is a nationally recognized equestrian by the USDF and has been awarded US Equestrian Interscholastic Athlete for all four years. Nielly is a member of the US Pony Club with a C rating with plans to continue moving up the ranks nationally and compete in the sport of eventing. Nielly is a profound lover of animals regardless of species and is pursuing exotic veterinary medicine. In her spare time, she volunteers at the Sandhills Spay and Neuter Clinic and enjoys the traditional sport of Foxhunting with her horse, Tigger. She will attend NC State for animal science.



Caroline Ray, daughter of Todd and Wendy Ray of Yanceyville, is graduating after homeschooling grades K-12th. She will be studying emergency medical programs and

firefighting. She has been dancing since the age of three and competing in dance since age eight. She's won many team championships and solo awards. She also rides horses and competes riding them as well. She is currently the First Place Grand Champion, level three, in adaptive riding. She is a very sweet, beautiful, and humble young lady, and we are so proud of her! May God bless you on all of your future plans! We love you!



Crystal Rebollar, daughter of Melissa DeSha and Tanis Rebollar, graduates after ten years of homeschooling. We are so proud of you! Finishing something is so much

harder than starting it, and you saw it through no matter what obstacles life gave you. Remember, life isn't about finding yourself; it is about creating

yourself! Wherever you go, go with your whole heart! We love you baby girl! May God bless you and guide you every day of your life.



Leah Cheyanne Renegar, daughter of Mark and Molly Renegar of Holden Beach, is graduating with honors from Carolina Shores Academy after nine years of homeschooling.

She enjoys the beach, reading, arts, and crafts. Leah plans to study art and computer science. She has a great work ethic and a giving spirit. We are simply overjoyed at your accomplishments. Proverbs 31:25



Colby Richard, son of Anthony and Cherie Richard of Butner, graduates after homeschooling for one year. His interests include landscaping design, building and rebuilding

small motors and machinery. He has maintained two jobs during high school and has a strong work ethic. He is an avid outdoorsman enjoying camping, boating, hunting, and doing all things outdoors with his friends. He is exploring career and college options for the fall.



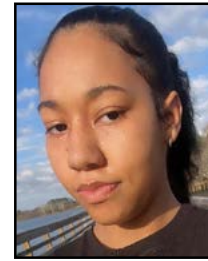
Nina Rodriguez, daughter of Angel and Nedra Rodriguez of Charlotte, graduates after thirteen years of homeschooling. She has completed DE classes at

CPC in simulation and game development with a concentration in 3D modeling and animation. She plans on completing her A.F.A. visual arts with CPC and getting her B.F.A. with a digital media concentration with UNCC, Lord willing. Nina is an amazing artist, works at CFA, and is such a hard worker.



Raymond Isaiah Rooks, son of Brandon and Randi Jo Rooks of Oak Island, graduates after homeschooling for ten years. He is a cadet first

lieutenant in the Civil Air Patrol, and at age seventeen, earned his private pilot license after training with High Tide Aviation. The last two years, he has been taking classes through dual enrollment with Liberty University. Raymond will attend Liberty University in person to pursue his degree in aeronautics with a commercial/corporate pilot concentration. He is a devoted follower of Christ and looks forward to seeing where the Lord calls him as a pilot.



Asia Ruffin, daughter of Mary and Bryan Dixon of Wilson, graduates after homeschooling for six years. Dancing is her passion along with traveling. She is currently working towards becoming an entrepreneur.



Bryson Sappington, son of Paul and Michelle Sappington of Clayton, graduates after homeschooling for eleven years. He started playing piano at seven,

taught himself guitar, has his own YouTube channel showcasing music that he has written and enhanced. He is c/captain in the Civil Air Patrol; he is c/executive officer, serves on the MAR Cadet Advisory Council, earned two Gold Level Presidential Volunteer Service Awards, and completed training for search and rescue, first-aid, and leadership. He completed certification in criminal justice at Wilson CC. Bryson plans to attend Liberty University.



Ruth Elizabeth Schroter, daughter of John and Kim Schroter, graduates after being homeschooled since birth. Ruth loves her family deeply, and she embodies

the meaning of her name, "friend." With a passion for the arts, she concentrates on drawing, dancing, and playing the piano. She also loves violin, painting, photography, cooking and Asian culture. Through much discipline, practice, and integrity, she earned a black belt in Taekwondo. Ruth is currently pursuing a

degree in fine arts. "For in Him we live and move and have our being." Acts 17:28 We love you and are so proud of you, Ruthie!



Graham Wade Sexton, son of Aaron and Sonya Sexton of Midland, graduates after twelve years of homeschool. He enjoys archery, soccer, hunting, fishing, and playing guitar.

Graham is active at church and volunteers with area special needs and children's ministries. Upon graduation he plans to attend a Spanish language and Bible program in Argentina before returning home to complete a business degree. Graham wants to follow where God leads him.



Brylee Nicole Shumack is the daughter of Brian and Tracy Shumack of Lewisville. Graduating early after nine years of homeschooling, Brylee obtained her black belt in

Tae Kwon Do, has been an avid soccer player, as well as an excellent artist in pyrography and special effects make-up. Brylee has a strong character, which has allowed her to overcome many obstacles and prevail. She plans to attend Wilkes Community College for cosmetology.



Breanna Crisxavier Simmons, daughter of Brandon and Tammie Simmons, graduates with honors from Simyah School after nine total years of homeschooling. Also an

honor graduate at RCCC, she completed dual-enrollment courses for an associate degree and a medical office administration receptionist certificate. Breanna balanced school with the hobbies of writing, cooking, crocheting/knitting, and gardening. She plans to study biology at ECSU.



Collin Gregory Smith, son of Eric and Crystal Smith of Beulaville, graduates after homeschooling for thirteen years. He is active in his church and his youth group. Collin enjoys working

on his truck, hiking, playing guitar, and spending time with family and friends. He attends James Sprunt Community College in the CCP program and plans to pursue a degree in land surveying. We are so proud of you, Collin!



Reagan Steele, daughter of Tim and Karen Steele of High Point, graduates with honors after being homeschooled her whole life. During three years of high school, Reagan

dual enrolled at FTCC and Messiah University. She is passionate about dancing, creative writing, baking, and teaching ballet to younger dancers. Reagan will be attending Messiah University in Pennsylvania and double majoring in dietetics/nutrition and dance.



Grayson Ray Still, amazing and beloved son of Ray and Judy Still, graduates with honors after homeschooling K-12! Grayson is smart, funny, and kind. He enjoys playing

games and spending time with family and friends. He loves wrestling, football, and has broken records in powerlifting! Above all, Grayson loves the Lord with all his heart and loves others. He is pursuing his passion and calling as an actor and business entrepreneur, bringing the love and light of Christ everywhere he goes! We are so very proud of you! Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, always! Matthew 6:33



Celita "CJ" Jade Vivian Summey, daughter of Mark and Valarie Summey of Thomasville, graduates after twelve years of homeschooling. CJ has worked hard to succeed in

her academics and also very hard to establish who she is in life. CJ is a free spirit with a huge heart for animals and mental health. CJ is an advocate of speaking out and speaking up; she understands the importance of truly listening to another human and the art of being present in the moment. CJ's passions include art, music, tech, and travel. We just want to say how much we love her and so proud of the person she has become!



Lydia Thompson, daughter of Garrett and Barbara Thompson of Lewisville, graduates with honors after homeschooling for thirteen years. She trained with

Enfinity Aquatic Club, swam competitively with the FHE Hawks, and served on the praise team for her church youth group. Lydia enjoys baking and spending time with her family and friends. She has completed dual enrollment classes at FTCC and plans to serve the Lord through a career in nursing.



Wesley Warren Thompson, of Hillsborough, is graduating early with full honors. He homeschooled at Orange Grove Academy. Wesley is charismatic, kind, and

always takes time to help others. He has always stood up for what he believes in and has never been one to follow a crowd. He loves Jesus, his family, and music. Wesley is already attending DTCC and plans to earn his degree in biology. We are excited to see all that God has planned for his life! We love you, Wesley, and we are so proud of you!



Holly Elizabeth Thomson, daughter of Mark and Jennifer Thomson of Tobaccoville, graduates with honors after homeschooling for thirteen years. Holly is a

member of the Triad Woodcarvers Club and her church's NA Southeast Area Seminary Council. Holly has volunteered with JustServe, the WFU Museum of Anthropology and as president and previously a counselor of her church Young Women's program. She

has sewn sleeping bags for the homeless, organized donation drives for domestic violence shelters, and led classes/activities to improve mental health and spiritual growth in our youth. Holly plans to complete her associate degree and transfer to Appalachian State University to complete her bachelor's degree in anthropology-archaeology concentration.



Alexis Nicole Threatt of Rockingham, daughter of Tony and April Threatt, graduates after completing her last year of high school being homeschooled. Alexis will attend college and pursue a degree in cosmetology. She has done well academically while also holding a part-time job. She has enjoyed cheerleading, football, and Girl Scouts through the years. Her hobbies are crafts, fishing, and beach, spending time with family and friends.



Samuel Lucas Tingler, son of Chris and Kim Tingler of Greensboro, graduates with honors after ten years of homeschooling. He has obtained some of his college classes at GTCC to transfer to a major university. Outside of studying, Luke enjoys history, spending time with family and friends, and traveling. He aspires to receive his doctorate in microbiology. He is a great blessing to us, and we look forward to what God has in store for him.



Nicholas Scott Toth, the oldest son of Scott and Julia, graduates with honors after lifelong homeschooling. Besides his at-home learning, he has excelled in co-op courses and has successfully completed the pathway to the associates of science at Guilford Tech CC. Nick has enjoyed playing soccer and basketball his whole life. He has also learned to play piano, guitar and bass and was the drummer for his church youth group praise

band. Nick enjoys music, cars, being outdoors and working out. He is excited for the next chapter of his life and for what the future holds for him at App State.



Emma Stacy Vazquetelles, daughter of Erik and Stacy Vazquetelles, is from coastal NC. During her years of homeschooling, she created mixed media works of art which have impacted her decision to pursue a degree in the visual arts. Currently dually enrolled at COA, she plans to transfer to ECU to explore career options in art as well as business. Despite still trying to find her way in the world, she trusts that God has a plan for her future.



Amira Velazquez is an excellent impressionist, jazz musician, actor, craftsman, writer, landscaper, and philanthropist. Amira plans to pursue a life of simplicity after service in the United States Navy.

Class of 2024 • Class of 2024

Roy Moses Tart III



Roy, the son of Roy and Karen Tart from Benson, NC, has a clear vision for his future. He intends to enroll in JCC for their Applied Engineering program, aiming to become a Certified Electrician. In addition to his homeschooling, he dedicates three days a week to working at Price Electrical Company. Roy showcases his musical talents by playing the piano and guitar at church and for his loved ones. Apart from his studies and work, he enjoys fishing, target shooting, skiing, snowboarding and spending time with friends.



Olivia Wacaster, daughter of Brian and Addie Wacaster of Connelly Springs, graduates after ten years of homeschool education. Olivia has been dual-enrolled at WPCCC and plans to pursue

a degree in the surgical technology program at CVCC to follow her passion in the medical field. She loves her dog, drawing in her spare time, and working at Chick-fil-A. We are so proud of you. Jeremiah 29:11



Elyse I. Wallace, daughter of Perry and Bridgette Wallace of Waxhaw, graduates after eleven years of homeschooling. She has completed dual enrollment

classes in communications at Central Piedmont CC. She helps in her church and serves in several local organizations. She enjoys dancing, baking, and personal development courses. Elyse is exploring career options in business consulting as she seeks the Lord for her future endeavors.



Makenzie Kay Webster, daughter of Crystal Webster of Walnut Cove, graduates after homeschooling for six years. She enjoys spending time

with family and friends, traveling, photography, music, and Grey's Anatomy. Makenzie loves her job as a pharmacy technician at Walmart and plans to continue her education in pharmacology. I love you so very much and can't wait to see all the amazing things you will accomplish. Congratulations!



Avery Maren Wells, daughter of Mark and Dana Wells of Reidsville, graduates after homeschooling for thirteen years. She has completed an AS degree at RCC and will be attending

UNCG, majoring in social media marketing. Avery has danced for fourteen years, competitively for nine. She has played piano for eleven years, plays in her home

church praise band and is pianist for another local church. Avery has enjoyed leading VBS in various capacities including music, dance, and assembly leader. Passions for baking, writing, and photography have led her to design and manage a food blog, averyskitchendance.com. Her future goals are grounded firmly in a desire to honor the Lord with her life.



Carrington Grace White, daughter of Rodney and Cynthia White of Mebane, graduates with honors after a lifetime of homeschooling. She enjoys reading good books, ballet,

and analyzing music videos, movies, and film scores. Carrington will complete her associate degree at ACC in the fall and is planning to obtain her bachelor's degree in film studies. We are so proud of you and excited to see the next chapter of your story unfold! Romans 5:3-4



Owen Campbell White, son of Jeff White and Tara Stollenmaier of Boone, will graduate with honors after eight years of homeschooling. Owen also took classes at the local

high school and community college, is a member of the NHS, and was recognized with the Pioneer Spotlight award for being self-motivated, resilient, and creative. Owen is kind, empathetic, and always willing to help others. He enjoys computer games and design as well as ceramics and had works displayed at the Shooting Stars Visual Arts Reception. He plans to attend ETSU for digital media and visualization/graphic design.



Xziya Williams, daughter of Jerry and Shanequa Campbell of Huntersville, graduates after homeschooling for three years. With dedication and hard work, she has

achieved academic excellence and is ready to embark on the next chapter of her educational journey. Xziya is excited to earn her bachelor's degree in nursing at UNC Charlotte. Congratulations, Xziya, on your remarkable achievement! May success continue to follow you wherever you go!



Brady Sigmon Willis, son of Dayne and Kim Willis of Vale, graduates after thirteen years of homeschooling. Brady enjoys hunting, fishing, and cooking. Brady regularly

volunteers at his church and is very active in his youth group. Brady plans to work in a restaurant for a few years before buying and operating a food truck. Eventually, he wants to open his own restaurant.



Rebecca Winslow, daughter of Chad and Lisa Winslow of Wendell, graduates at the age of sixteen with honors from Winslow Christian Academy. She participated

in theater productions for eleven years, played on several volleyball leagues, and has given countless hours volunteering to the community. She loves spending time with friends and family, listening to music, and most of all, being very involved in her church. Rebecca is currently taking classes at Wake Technical Community College and plans to study biochemistry at Campbell University in the fall.



Isabella Maria Young, daughter of Sean and Destiney Young of Jacksonville, graduates with honors after years of dedicated service, not only to her homeschooling

education and future but to the love and care of others, most especially her mother. Her family, and all who know her, are blessed by her seeing eyes and kind, serving heart. We pray God guides and guards her well as she walks in faith, living proof of His light and love to everyone she meets and comes to care for. God is within her; she will not fail. Psalm 46:5

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

(Proverbs 3:5-6)

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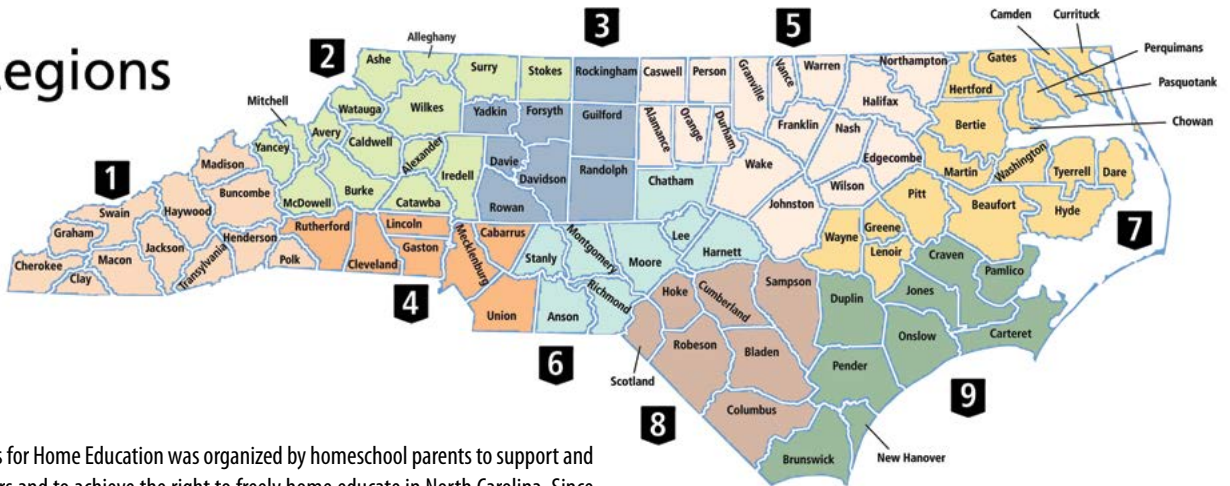
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About NCHE

In 1984, North Carolinians for Home Education was organized by homeschool parents to support and encourage home educators and to achieve the right to freely home educate in North Carolina. Since that time, NCHE has endeavored to serve the homeschoolers in NC. NCHE continues to work to promote the excellence of home education, provide support for those who choose to do so and protect the right to homeschool. Our name was selected so as to include all who are for home education, not just those who are currently homeschooling. NCHE is governed by a working board of directors who volunteer their time and efforts to serve homeschoolers. A non-profit organization, NCHE operates on the basis of biblical principles and welcomes members of all races and religions.

GREENHOUSE Information

The GREENHOUSE is the periodical of North Carolinians for Home Education. It is published twice a year, spring and fall. There is also a special graduate publication in May. It is mailed to all members and posted online. The name GREENHOUSE was chosen to represent the type of care homeschooling parents are able to give to their children. Children are lovingly “tended” in a protected and nurturing environment until they are sufficiently mature to go out and take a place of service in the world. Letters and articles addressed to the GREENHOUSE become property of NCHE with full right to publication without further permission required. Ideas and opinions expressed in articles do not necessarily represent those of NCHE.

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