



Panache Playmakers cast of *Mary Poppins* begins performances on February 22 at the Moomaw Center.

THE NEWSLETTER OF
NEW COVENANT SCHOOLS

QUID NOVI

FEBRUARY 5, 2024
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PANACHE TAKES FLIGHT THIS SPRING

by John Heaton, Headmaster

The New Covenant Schools drama troupe, Panache, is reaching for new heights this spring with two productions with “flight” themes. Under the direction of **Ethan Roberts**, who is in his second year as our full-time drama director, our thespians will stage two enchanting productions. The School of Rhetoric will stage *Mary Poppins* at the end of February, and the Middle School will follow later in the spring with *Peter Pan*.

Drama production at New Covenant is nearly as old as the school itself. Our commitment to the arts is evident with band, orchestra and art media, but

few may know that our students were performing on stage long before our orchestra program began! Before we ever acquired the campus on Fleetwood Drive, we were staging plays, often in off-beat venues, or in small auditoriums such as Lynchburg Parks and Recreation. If you take a stroll down the 200 hallway toward the Moomaw Center, you’ll see a complete history with all the playbills displayed on the wall above our students’ lockers.

Drama is one of those things in which humans across cultures participate, the oldest of which are Greek plays from ancient world. Regardless of

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WHAT’S NEW?

Flight!



This issue of QUID NOVI spotlights New Covenant Schools’ drama program and two upcoming productions by Panache. Your children will love both of them. For the first time Panache will be staging eight showings of *Mary Poppins*, specially targeted and priced for different groups of students (see the full list in the box on page 3). After the matinee shows on Saturday (2/24 and

3/2), students 12 and under will be invited to join the cast members to fly kites on the school sports fields. In addition, for \$5 students can participate in a raffle for a 30-minute kite-flying lesson with kite pilot and enthusiast **Bruno Andrade**, and a new Prism Zenith 5 Kite. That’s not all. A “Mary Poppins” umbrella will be offered as door prize at every evening show, courtesy of Allegro Music

School. Moreover, GS/MS will enjoy a *Mary Poppins* Dress-up Day on **Friday, February 23**. Watch your child’s Monday letter for specific directions. Purchasing tickets has never been easier. This year for the first time, you can buy your tickets directly online from the link on the school’s home page at www.newcovenantschools.org.

H O N O R A R I A

WALKER SHOOTS PAST 1,000PTS



Senior **Brielle Walker**, eclipsed the 1,000-point milestone for Varsity Basketball at New Covenant on Thursday, February 1 in a game against Kenston Forest.

Brielle becomes the first-ever women's player and the third player overall in school history to achieve this mark.

This season, she is averaging over 19 points per game and has averaged over 14 points per game in her four-year career. She now stands at 1,042 career points.



SPORTS SCORES

Monday, January 29

MS GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Temple.....	20
New Covenant.....	25

MS BOYS' BASKETBALL

Temple.....	21
New Covenant.....	20

Tuesday, January 30

JV BOYS' BASKETBALL

New Covenant.....	81
Carlisle.....	36

VARSITY WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

New Covenant.....	39
Carlisle.....	72

VARSITY MEN'S BASKETBALL

New Covenant.....	70
Carlisle.....	81

Thursday, February 1

MS GIRLS' BASKETBALL

New Covenant.....	W
James River Day.....	L

MS BOYS' BASKETBALL

New Covenant.....	L
James River Day.....	W

JV BOYS' BASKETBALL

Kenston Forest.....	24
New Covenant.....	58

VARSITY WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Kenston Forest.....	21
New Covenant.....	54

VARSITY MEN'S BASKETBALL

Kenston Forest.....	60
New Covenant.....	69

Friday, February 2

JV GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Lynchburg Homeschool.....	19
New Covenant.....	25

VARSITY WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Southwest Virginia.....	38
New Covenant.....	45

FUNDRAISING REPORT

	GOAL	RECEIVED
Annual Fund/Permanent Things	\$100,000	\$64,378
General Scholarship	\$10,000	\$54,836
Scholarship Foundation	\$300,000	<i>Pledged</i> \$432,600 <i>Received</i> \$407,970

Thank you for considering New Covenant Schools in your giving. All gifts are tax-deductible to the extent that the law provides. Donations may be given through cash, check, stock transfers, or IRA distributions. Contact **Dayna Renalds** in the Development Office for more information.

E T C E T E R A

EVERYONE

WINTER BREAK

School will be closed for Winter Break from **Thursday, February 15 through Monday, February 19**. Students return on **Tuesday, February 20**.

VALENTINE'S DAY FREE DRESS

Students and faculty/staff are invited to celebrate by wearing a red, white and/or pink shirt with jeans or regular uniform bottoms next **Wednesday, February 14**. (As always, shoes must be closed-toed and jeans must be free of rips and tears.)

PANACHE PRESENTS

The School of Rhetoric is proud to present *Mary Poppins*. Tickets are on sale now and may be purchased online at www.newcovenantschools.org/ncs-tickets or on the NCS app under Forms.

ART FAIR

New Covenant's annual Art Fair will be held on **Monday, March 11** with the submission deadline next **Wednesday, February 14**. See flyer for details.

LUNCH ORDERING

Lunch ordering for March is now open and runs through **Friday, February 16** which is during Winter Break, so please plan accordingly. Direct any questions to **Debbie Williamson** at dwilliamson@newcovenantschools.org.

PROGRESS REPORTS

Parents may be on the lookout for an email with a link to view their student's progress report next **Wednesday, February 14**.

GRYPHON OUTFITTERS

As a community service, our school store is open each Thursday school is in session from 2:30-3:30pm, a time chosen to overlap dismissal pickup time. If possible, please utilize open hours to shop for

your student's uniform needs. If you are unable to visit during that time, you may contact **Lara Haupricht** at gryphonstore@newcovenantschools.org with your order for **new items** and she will fill your order as her schedule allows.

GENERATIONS DAY

On the morning of **Friday, March 15**, grandparents and other special guests are invited to join students in class for Generations Day. There will be an 11am dismissal on this day.

ILLNESS POLICIES

During cold and flu season help New Covenant stop the spread of illness by practicing the following policies. Keep your student at home for:

- A fever greater than 100 degrees. The student may return to school when they are fever-free for 24 hours without medication.
- Vomiting or diarrhea.
- Wet, congested or croupy cough.

Consider keeping your child home if they have a mild sore throat, headache, stomachache, or a very runny or stuffy nose and/or cough that could disrupt class. Thank you for your help with this. At this time NCS is not requiring you to follow the CDC recommendations with regard to COVID—students need to be fever-free for 24 hours without the use of an antipyretic medication and symptoms are resolved or greatly improved to return to school.

SAVE THE DATE FOR HANDS & HEARTS

Our schoolwide service day will be **Wednesday, April 17**. Parents are welcome to work alongside students completing tasks for area nonprofit groups. Watch for more information in the next few weeks.

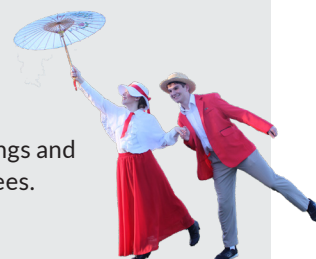
mary poppins



- **Thursday, February 22 – 7:00pm**
Special Pricing—Middle School Team Points Night.
- **Friday, February 23 – 7:00pm**
- **Saturday, February 24 – 2:00pm**
Special Pricing—Flying High with the Cast! Students 12 and under are invited to mingle and fly kites with the cast after the show (adult supervision required).
RAFFLE—Purchase a \$5 ticket to win a 30-minute individual kite-flying lesson from kite pilot and enthusiast Bruno Andrade, and a new kite.
- **Saturday, February 24 – 7:00pm**
- **Thursday, February 29 – 7:00pm**
Special Pricing—SOR House Points Night.
- **Friday, March 1 – 7:00pm**
- **Saturday, March 2 – 2:00pm**
Special Pricing—Flying High with the Cast! Students 12 and under are invited to mingle and fly kites with the cast after the show (adult supervision required).
RAFFLE—Purchase a \$5 ticket for a 30-minute individual kite-flying lesson from kite pilot and enthusiast Bruno Andrade, and a new kite.

• **Saturday, March 2 – 7:00pm**
Door prize courtesy of Allegro Music School at every evening performance.
Purchase tickets on our website. Find the purchase button on the homepage.

Special pricing for faculty, students, and alumni on Thursday evenings and Saturday matinees.



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ethnicity, human beings like stories. We intuitively know that our own lives are part of a larger story, and telling stories, especially epic tales like the *Odyssey*, *Iliad* or the *Aeneid*, are ways that we display and explain human behavior. We use stories in the search for meaning, and the stories we tell are ways that we place ourselves in a narrative in which we play a part. Thus, our stories have a beginning, a middle and an end, with a plot that explains our heritage, our culture, and our effort to make sense out of our world.

Christians do this in the largest way possible. The book we call our “Bible” can be understood as long story—an epic—and a comprehensive one at that! It tells us how we came into existence, how we came to be at odds with our Creator, and how out of his love for us the Creator rescued us from eternal catastrophe. He began with a man through whom he created a nation, a people that he used to “steer” human history toward the manifestation of himself in the historical narrative he himself created. As Christians, when we read the Old Testament, we are reading the script of a story that absorbed us into its plot. The ancients we meet in this book thus become our forebears, and their story becomes our story. The New Testament brings that story to a climax in the Gospels and then provides an entire interpretive commentary that helps us understand our place in the grand scheme of things.

So, back to drama. When students stage a story production, they have to enter into the character of persons who are removed from them. They accomplish what the Greeks called *ethopoeia*, the act of performing within the ethos of



another character.

The act of *ethopoeia* was part of a series of exercises the Greeks developed for the rhetorical arts, involving the work of “impersonation” or “personification.” This exercise required the student to enter into the character’s thoughts, feelings and emotions, the very thing which lies at the heart of great acting. When students perform a play, they learn intensely the nature of their characters and how they participate in the overall story. A good play is able to discover the enduring “constants” in the human experience, and good actors make them real to us. Drama therefore becomes a way of knowing, a pathway to knowledge. It is most powerful and most effective when it moves beyond mere entertainment, when it compels us to aspire to wisdom and virtue.

This year for the first time, New

Covenant will present *Mary Poppins* in multiple showings, some of which are specifically targeted to age groups so that our children can enjoy it better. There will be four showings each on two successive weekends in February with a show specifically for Grammar School students, another for Middle School students, and others for all ages, with special pricing for each group. More than that, we’re making the whole production a total experience, especially at our matinees, after which students 12 and under will be invited to fly kites with the cast! All evening shows will also include a door prize of a *Mary Poppins* umbrella. In addition, the youngest students will join in a *Mary Poppins* Dress-up Day. See What’s New and the box in *Et Cetera* for details on how your family can enjoy the show most fully!

QUID NOVI

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Class of 2024 • Mike Lovell • Class of 2025
Neil Bohnert • Leslie Moeller • Bob Price
Leland Seckman • Dan Vollmer
Class of 2026 • John Gauger • Nancy Hall
Chris Misiano • Sam Mizener • Tom Rogers
Anne Umberger

EX OFFICIO

John Heaton—Headmaster
Eric Parker—School Warden

OUR MISSION

New Covenant Schools is an educational community serving families of Central Virginia, providing an exceptional education in a classical curriculum within the framework of historic Christianity, furnishing the student with the tools of education and the inspiration to be a lifelong learner.

NEW COVENANT schools



matky poppins

February 22 – 7:00pm
February 23 – 7:00pm
February 24 – 2:00pm & 7:00pm
February 29 – 7:00pm
March 1 – 7:00pm
March 2 – 2:00pm & 7:00pm



Moomaw Center
Scan here for ticket info
or go to newcovenantschools.org



flight

NEW COVENANT SCHOOLS | 2023-24 DRAMA SEASON

ART FAIR

PAINTING | MIXED MEDIA | SCULPTURE | PHOTOGRAPHY | FILM

Monday,
March 11

IMPORTANT TIPS FOR ART FAIR SUBMISSIONS:

- Students in K-12th grade may submit TWO PIECES of art in each of the five named categories.
- Student work grades 4-12 will be in the JUDGED art show.
- All submissions should be given directly to Miss Eshleman or Mr. Dunaway.
- Flat (2D) submissions should NOT be folded or on lined paper.
- Submissions MUST be unframed.
- All photography should be printed on photo quality paper (preferably 8 ½ x 11 or larger).
- Sculpture (3D) submissions should stand upright OR student should provide a base on which to stand the piece.
- Lego submissions will NOT be accepted.
- ALL pieces should be the CREATION of the student(s).
- Multiple students may collaborate on a single submission.



William Marotta (4th Grade), 2023 Submission

ALL submissions due Wednesday, February 14th

Parents who would like to volunteer to mat/hang work, please contact Hattie Eshleman at heshleman@newcovenantschools.org or Michael Dunaway at mdunaway@newcovenantschools.org.