

Alumni Spotlight

Nik and Sydney Cable (Class of '12 and '13, respectively) are enjoying married life in the heart of San Francisco, sometimes playing “I-spy” as they view the vast cityscape from their tenth-story apartment. On a typical weekday, they walk the steep streets to their respective destinations as Nik works in strategy consulting at Bain & Company, a global management consultancy, and Sydney takes classes right across the street from Bain to pursue her Master’s Degree in Accounting. Nik brags that Sydney is saving the world “one new friend, one shared meal, and one journal entry at a time.” They have met so many fun, diverse individuals and have found their fellow San Franciscans to be thirsty for knowledge. “It is not uncommon to randomly meet people who have started their own



businesses, who have PhD’s, or are just very passionate about something,” says Sydney. They are very thankful for their church, Christ Church San Francisco, and especially for the believers there who desire to make every part of their lives ministry, no matter their occupation or neighborhood. Cables, may God continue to bless you as you shine the light of Christ, the source of all knowledge, to your many neighbors.

Land Purchase Update

The Public Comment Period has now closed in the parcel segregation process, putting The Oaks one step closer to closing on the land purchase from Valley Fourth. The Oaks is grateful for the way God has provided through the many supporters who have invested in the land purchase. With the property purchase comes a generous, twelve-year lease of the Multi-Purpose Building and parking lots. The Oaks aims to break ground on a new building by June 2021.



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To: Family and Friends of The Oaks
From: The Oaks Classical Christian Academy
Issue: April 2019

What concerns you about the future? On the other hand, do you ever think about what the future holds and become excited to see what will happen next? I do. Regularly.

I recently had the privilege of sitting in on a conversation between an Oaks dad and the Association of Classical Christian School accreditation committee. He explained to them through joyful tears the impact The Oaks has had on his son’s spiritual, mental, physical, and relational maturity. God, in His grace, used the partnership of parents and teachers to grow the young man in godliness. This story is not unique at The Oaks as God has blessed the partnership of parents and teachers here many times over. The fruit of such a partnership is seen in two hundred fourteen Oaks alumni, nearly three-quarters of whom are faithfully following the Lord in a variety of callings.

Parent partnership is vital to carrying out the mission of The Oaks, which is why parent-teacher conferences are at the center of what we do. Conferences open space to build trust and share insight. Conferences are a way of giving our hearts to the next generation in love, the same type

LOVE | THINK | HONOR

of love that God our Father has for us. His love is about giving us true joy, not mere pleasure, as He remakes us into His image. And right now, there are three hundred thirty young disciples being remade. They are learning from their parents what it means to live in a family. They are learning from their teachers grammar, logic, and rhetoric. They are learning from a whole community of adults the deep blessings of having godly authorities in their lives who guide and shape them.

Because of that shaping process and the grace of God, there is bright hope for tomorrow. Here in little ol’ Spokane Valley, young men and women are being prepared to face whatever God has in store for the future in a spirit of power and of love. May God give us, those entrusted to shape this generation, a spirit of eagerness and urgency to give our time, our treasure, our talents, or, in other words, our hearts to the generation to come. May the Lord give us the joy of seeing our role in a much bigger work, a generational joy. In so doing, may He stir in us bright hope for tomorrow through the works of His hand in the generations to come.

- Charlie Dowers, Headmaster

Student Life

Kindergarteners and sixth graders treated the faculty and staff at The Oaks to a special Valentine's Day treat. After working together to frost heart-shaped sugar cookies, the kindergarteners and sixth graders delivered the sweet treats to staff all around campus, complete with a hand-written note that expressed gratitude for each member. Kindergartener Soren Chun was especially excited to deliver a cookie to his mother, Lisa, who assists in the fourth grade classroom. "I put extra sprinkles on, just for her," he said in anticipation of the gift. It was a picture of thoughtful gratitude as the students made their special deliveries, the kind of thankfulness the parents, staff, and faculty pray characterizes students at The Oaks.



Sights and rhythms of the African Savanna delighted this year's protocol attendees as they took in the spectacle of *The Lion King*. "The music and choreography was incredible," said Grace McEachran, remarking specifically about the way the



producers of the show utilized optical illusions. Before sitting down to enjoy the show, students were treated to an elegant dinner at the Davenport Grand Hotel, where they had the opportunity to put into practice all that they had learned in Protocol class regarding proper etiquette in different social settings. Tools of etiquette are part of the process of raising up more generations of young men and women who are equipped to show Christ's grace and love to those around them.

Cast members of *Cinderella* are waltzing their way through rehearsals in preparation for this year's spring musical production, which will take place May 16th-18th at University High School. Students of all ages will be featured in this year's play, and fourth grader Jonathan Rickert can hardly wait. "The music and the dancing is taking a little while to learn," he said, "but it's going to be really fun on stage!" Colorful characters and brilliant musical scores will keep your whole family riveted from start to finish. Tickets are now available online!

Resources

Latin teachers Ross Tasche and Eric Indgerd teamed up as sommeliers for a Mystery Wine Pull, an event at this year's auction that proved to be both educational and entertaining. Gonzaga basketball tickets and an overnight stay in Coeur d'Alene were also listed among items up for bid, along with a host of other items from generous donors. Proceeds from the auction reached a record total of \$84,645, every part of which will directly benefit The Oaks. Special thanks to the many student volunteers for their service on the night of the auction, to Shelley Moss and Olivia Grauke for their planning efforts, and to the corporate and table sponsors who made the event possible.



Enrollment for new families began Monday, April 1st. If your family has been blessed by The Oaks in some way, consider sharing information about open enrollment with your friends and neighbors. The Oaks is eager to partner with parents who value a Christ-centered, classical education for the purpose of raising men and women who shine the light of Christ's truth in their every endeavor. Those interested in applying to The Oaks should contact Registrar Anya Schnell at anya.schnell@theoakscca.org.

Campus

The Oaks welcomed the ACCS accreditation committee as they spent a few days on campus to observe the school for reaccreditation. After the committee observed classes, interviewed the board, and reviewed curriculum, they extended the maximum reaccreditation status to The Oaks, a commendation that will last five years before reaccreditation is necessary. The Oaks is grateful for this partnership with the Association of Classical Christian Schools and for the insight and encouragement the committee offered through the whole process.

Joy radiated from the performers in this year's Talent Show as they shared a variety of vocal and instrumental performances in front of the entire school. Individuals and groups blessed the audience by sharing the talents God gave them in a manner that was true, good, and beautiful, demonstrating the purpose of the talent show. "It's not about any one person shining brighter than others; it's not a competition," commented seventh grader Courtney Nelson, who partnered with classmate Grace King in song. Seeing students join together to share their gifts with that attitude of selflessness was an encouragement and blessing to the audience.

Academics

The seniors have had their heads bent over books and laptops in preparation for this year's theses presentations. Among this year's topics were fairtrade coffee, the rights of unborn children, and the biblical view of family. The last of these was presented by Grace Cvancara in front of the entire school, and she was eager to share what she learned. "I really wanted to solidify my understanding of how God defines the family before heading off to college," said Grace. "I've learned through this research process that doing things God's way in the family requires sacrifice, but it's for our joy that He designed it this way." Grace has been given the opportunity to practice this sacrificial love as she serves on the Spokane Lilac Court, where she joins six other senior ladies from around Spokane in community service. "My time at The Oaks has taught me how to view these service opportunities as a way to love God by loving others, rather than loving myself or making much of myself," commented Grace. It is the prayer of The Oaks that as the seniors make their way to graduation and beyond, God would use each of them to shine the light of Christ's truth in their every endeavor.



Dressed in costumes fit for a Pharaoh or Jewish servant, the second graders invited parents and grandparents into ancient history with a special presentation. In addition to singing their history song, the class also gave individual presentations about different figures and events from the history they've been studying, including Abraham, Isaac, and the plagues God visited on the people of Egypt for the oppression of His people. Well done, second grade!