

Upper Columbia Academy

Alumni Echoes

December 2016



Featuring Steve Green with UCA Choraliers

On Sunday, April 23, 2017, Upper Columbia Academy will host its 1st annual Spring Gala. The gymnasium will be transformed into an elegant banquet hall where guests will be treated to an amazing dinner along with a wonderful concert featuring four-time Grammy nominee and seven-time Dove Award winner, Steve Green. As a special treat just for our UCA family, our very own Choraliers will join him on a number of songs.

Tables are limited and available for sponsorship levels of Gold - \$5,000; Silver - \$2,500; and Bronze - \$1,500. Each table will seat eight people. The individual or business sponsoring the table will be given eight tickets to share with family, friends and associates.

Some families may choose to partner with friends and sponsor a table together. Table sponsorships may also be divided and paid monthly. In order to be credited for this school year, sponsorships should be paid before our fiscal year ends, June 30, 2017.

This is an exciting time for our students and our school; and several tables have already been sponsored. If you would like to sponsor a table or need more information, please contact Eric Johnson at eric.johnson@ucca.org or (509) 245-3692.

Please keep this event in your prayers. Our goal is to raise \$150,000. With your help and God's blessing, we can do it. At the end of the evening, guests will be given the opportunity to give to UCA through a pledge or gift. All proceeds will help students attend Upper Columbia Academy.

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Dear Alumni and Friends,

It was great to meet so many of you during Alumni Homecoming Weekend this year. Everyone has been so welcoming, and I truly feel part of the UCA family!

I want to take a few minutes to share some unique opportunities for you to be a blessing to our campus this year. On the next page, you will notice a Christmas Wish Tree with many different needs hanging from its branches. Our faculty and staff have identified some things that would be helpful for them in their particular areas. Please take a look at the different areas of need that are listed on the tree. After prayerful consideration, if God impresses you to financially assist with one or more of these items, we would be deeply grateful. Simply use the enclosed envelope and write on it where you would like your gift to bless. The following is a detailed list of what is printed on the tree:

- ✓ Care Fund: This is for items such as toothpaste and shoes that students may need from time to time when their family is unable to provide. \$1,000
- ✓ Wire Feed Welders: We currently do not have enough for all the students in the class. We need three more. The cost is \$793 each.
- ✓ Graphing Calculators: The math class could use 10 graphing calculators. The cost is \$110 per calculator.
- ✓ Tripod: This is needed for the videography class. Cost is \$150.
- ✓ Camera for yearbook class: \$600
- ✓ Scripture/blessing cards for students: \$50
- ✓ Small sofa to be used in counseling office: \$400
- ✓ Smartboard for English classroom: \$1,800
- ✓ Room darkening blinds: \$150
- ✓ Refurbish piano in Olin Peach Power House: \$2,000
- ✓ New carpet in dorm room: \$750
- ✓ New shower heads/faucets in dorm bathroom: \$800
- ✓ Document reader attachment for microscope in Biology class: \$250
- ✓ Tool storage container for maintenance: \$600
- ✓ New desk for girls' dorm office: \$400
- ✓ New carpet in girls' dorm lobby: \$1,000
- ✓ Basketball backboards for outdoor goals: \$1,800

Even more than a financial gift, I would ask you to give UCA the gift of prayer. The last thing Satan wants is for there to be a school that equips and trains youth to be bold disciples for Christ. We need individuals who will commit to being prayer warriors for both the students and faculty here at Upper Columbia Academy.

I pray that God will richly bless you during this Christmas season.

Blessings,

Eric Johnson, Vice Principal
Development & Alumni Relations



Desk
\$400

Calculators
\$110

Reader
\$250

CareFund
\$1,000

SmartBoard
\$1800

Welders
\$793

Tripod
\$150

Blinds
\$150

Storage
\$600

Carpet
\$1,000

Cards
\$50

Backboards
\$1800

Small sofa
\$400

Bath items
\$800

Carpet
\$750

Piano
\$2000

Camera
\$600



Yaneli Alcantara

"I am so blessed and happy for all the people that are helping me to be here at UCA. It is not easy for me to be away from home, but having God here by my side along with the amazing teachers and students makes it much easier. Coming to UCA this year has been a huge step for me, but I will be blessed and closer to God because of it."

William Frohne

"Coming to UCA completely changed my life. The positive atmosphere and loving school family has helped me grow in so many ways. I love to play soccer and there is always a chance to play here. Whether it is the varsity team, intramurals or just a pick-up game, I can get at least one good game a week. Coach Gettys has done a wonderful job with the athletic program, making sure there is always another athletic event to enjoy. Coming to UCA was the best choice I have ever made. I wouldn't trade my experiences here for anything."



Kaitlyn Kramer

"Being at UCA has blessed me so much by giving me a safe and nurturing environment to grow in my relationship with Christ. I also have loved getting the opportunity to return that blessing by getting involved in the worship services to help others grow in their spiritual lives and keep our campus God-centered."

Sheyanne Dubyna

"Hey ya'll (as we say in Canada). I'm Sheyanne Dubyna and I am from Canada. Being able to come to UCA this year has blessed me in more ways than I can count. The friendly and spiritually encouraging atmosphere has been a real blessing for me. Everyone has welcomed me with open arms!"

**Ian Nesteruk**

"I am really blessed by the atmosphere here at UCA. Everyone is just very welcoming and accepting. There's always someone holding the door for someone and there is always someone that is willing to pray for you if you are having a bad day. Earlier this week, there were two girls in the hallway studying for a test when another student came and asked if she could pray for them. I don't think there is an academy as loving as this one. God is really working on the hearts of the students here at UCA."

Suzy Barbosa

"I am happy to be at UCA primarily because of the way students interact with each other and with God. It has created a loving community in a way that I have never experienced before. UCA has a type of community that is overflowing with joy and love for God and each other. Never before have I felt as accepted and appreciated as I do here."



UCA Welcomes Alumni & Friends Home

By Timothy Kosaka

Alumni Homecoming Weekend 2016 welcomed Yakima Valley Academy and Upper Columbia Academy alumni to the UCA campus this past October. Former students from the academies fellowshiped together at the annual reunion where the classes ending in 1 and 6 were honored.

The weekend included stories from various alumni. The keynote speaker was Kerry Heinrich, CEO of Loma Linda University Medical Center, and a UCA alumnus from the class of 1976.

An offering was taken for the worthy student fund. "We truly appreciate the generosity of everyone who gives to allow so many of our students to be here," John Winslow, UCA principal, stated. "This school would not be possible without you."

This year, there were some unique features for the weekend. Friday evening, the digital senior composites were unveiled and dedicated. Linnea Torkelsen, former UCA alumni director, shared how the senior composites were once displayed in a case attached to the wall almost like a book. "Over the years, the collection was moved

through different buildings as it became larger and more difficult to display in book form. Finally, decades later, one can wander through the halls and enjoy the entire collection!" The digital senior composites can be viewed on the UCA website: www.ucaa.org under the Alumni tab.

On Sabbath, Kaelyn Plata, from the class of 2016, shared a Revelation-themed canvas oil painting that she created to hang in Pastor Fred Riffel's Bible classroom. "Something that makes this gift so remarkable," Eric Johnson, vice principal of development and alumni relations, shared, "is that this was her first oil painting ever. God has given Kaelyn a great gift and we're thrilled that she's chosen to share this gift with our school."

UCA's band and orchestra shared a number of selections under the direction of Dean Kravig. Curtis Anderson, UCA music department chair, directed a reunion choir that included both past and present Choraliers members.

The final Alumni Homecoming Weekend event happened Sunday morning with an alumni vs current students flag football game. "It was nice seeing everyone playing together and having a good time," said Joe Hess, mens' dean and vice principal for student life.

Alumni Homecoming Weekend 2017 is scheduled for September 29 to October 1. The honor classes will end in 2 and 7.

For more information about UCA or alumni programs, visit www.ucaa.org.

*Timothy Kosaka is serving as a communication taskforce worker at Upper Columbia Academy for the 2016-2017 school year.
Photos by Timothy Kosaka*



Don Casebolt, from the class of 1944, and his wife, Donna, view his digital senior composite now hanging on the wall of the Campbell Administration Building.



John Winslow, UCA principal, enjoys a laugh with former principal, Eugene Rau.



Kerry Heinrich, CEO of Loma Linda University Medical Center, and a UCA alumnus from the class of 1976, was the keynote speaker.



UCA alumni from the class of 1966 pose for a picture in front of the Campbell Administration Building.

FoundationONE Elects New President

On September 29, 2016, the board of FoundationONE elected Mindy Weber to serve as their new president. Mindy replaces Doug Wells, who served as president for the past six years. Doug has done a tremendous job but felt it was time for someone new to step into leadership. Both Doug and Mindy are graduates of UCA. Mindy is excited about leading FoundationONE as they continue raising funds to assist students who otherwise would not be able to attend UCA.

UCA is very blessed to have such a dedicated group of individuals who donate their time to serve on the board of FoundationONE. For the past several years, FoundationONE has been able to give scholarships totaling \$100,000 per year to assist students in attending UCA.

The only reason FoundationONE exists is to help students with their educational experience at UCA.

UCA is deeply grateful for the work that FoundationONE does to provide opportunities for our students. Please keep Mindy and the entire board in your prayers as they continue to help advance Adventist education at Upper Columbia Academy.



Doug Wells presents the key to FoundationONE to Mindy Weber.

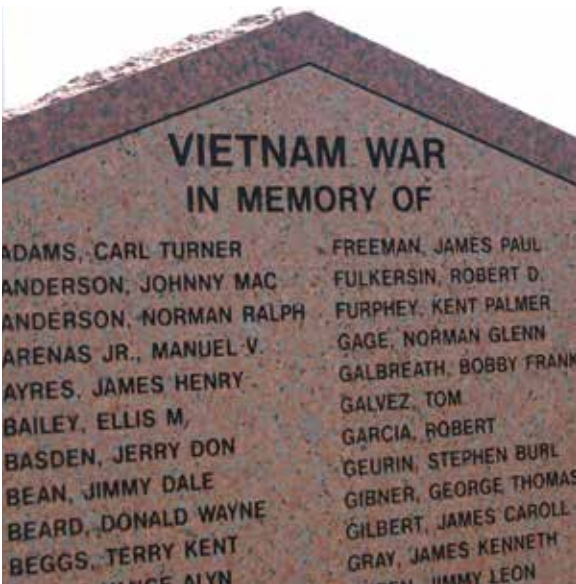
UCA to Establish Monument for Alumni who Served During Vietnam Era

UCA is working to identify any alumni who served our country during the Vietnam era. Dr. Michael Walter, a retired Brigadier General in the United States Army, has offered to assist the school in this endeavor. The cost of the monument will come entirely from donated funds. Dr. Walter will meet with the school's administration to help identify the best place on campus for the monument.

We need your help! The school does not keep any record of military service. If you have any information regarding UCA alumni who served during the Vietnam era, please

contact Eric Johnson at eric.johnson@ucaa.org. Once we have exhausted our search for alumni who have served, we will begin construction on the monument. It is our goal to have this in place before Alumni Homecoming Weekend next year.

The school is deeply grateful to Dr. Walter for his leadership in this project.



Where Are They Now?

Margi Dagleish Roth, '76, has lived in Gaston, Oregon, for 36 years with her husband, Gordon. He is retired, but she is still working full-time as a respiratory therapist. They have two grown children, Ben, '02, and Sally, '04 (married to Brandon Lehman). Margi's hobbies include hiking, kayaking, bicycling, gardening and traveling. She is active in their local church, playing organ and piano and editing the church newsletter. Her favorite thing is going to UCA Class of '76 reunions!



Dr. Michael Walter, '66, served in the Army as a Brigadier General, during which time he was deployed twice to the Middle East. He is a gastroenterologist, currently working two days a week at the Loma Linda, California, VA, part-time at Loma Linda University where he is a professor of medicine, and part-time in private practice in San Bernardino. He is a member of the Walla Walla University Alumni Board.



Val Smith Mellor, '76, has been married to Ron Mellor for 31 years. Ron has been a pastor in the Northern California Conference for 40 years. They are currently at the Arcata-McKinleyville church. They appreciate the beauty of the Redwood coastal area and live about a mile from the beach, which their Lab dog especially enjoys. They have two boys: Justin age 29, who works in the Placerville, California, area and Landon, age 24, who will finish mechanical engineering at Walla Walla University in March and get married in April. Val has worked in a variety of jobs, mostly part-time, while her sons were young. Most recently, she was a field rep for nearly 20 years with a data processing company based in Sacramento. Now she teaches piano lessons and volunteers at her church and serves their church family and community.



Reduce Your Taxable Income

Are you concerned that your IRA Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) will put you into a higher tax bracket? If you are 70 ½ or older, and do not currently need the money for living expenses, you can donate the RMD from your IRA to Upper Columbia Academy (up to \$100,000 annually) and not have it included in your taxable income.

Simply contact your IRA administrator and let him or her know you wish to make a direct charitable distribution ***before December 31, 2016***, from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA), to Upper Columbia Academy. The check should be made payable to Upper Columbia Academy; 3025 E Spangle-Waverly Rd; Spangle, WA 99031. Please make sure they indicate your name and address as the donor of record and copy you on the transmittal.

Upper Columbia Academy is a qualified charitable recipient for this transfer. UCA's tax ID number is 91-0651420.

If you have questions or would like assistance, please contact Eric Johnson at (509) 245-3692 or email eric.johnson@ucca.org.

Thank you for remembering UCA in your charitable giving.




3025 E Spangle-Waverly Road
Spangle, WA 99031

Return Service Requested

UCA ALUMNI, FAMILY & FRIENDS

Let's Eat

2017 Alumni Chapter Meetings




Join John Winslow, principal, and Eric Johnson, vice principal for development and alumni relations, to hear UCA updates, connect with fellow alumni from the area, and enjoy a meal together (on us) at one of the following alumni chapter meetings. For more information or to RSVP, email alumni@ucca.org or call (509) 245-3692.

Seattle—January 23—6:00 PM (Dinner)

Portland—January 24—6:00 PM (Dinner)

Walla Walla—January 29—10:00 AM (Brunch)

Loma Linda—March 12—6:00 PM (Dinner)



WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!