TJ’s Class of 2018
These 19 students received more than $5,000,000 in merit-based scholarship offers.
The average ACT score for these students is 29.

Elisa Sharmann
Truman State University
Kirksville, Mo.

Hallie Butcher
Washington University
St. Louis, Mo.

Andrew Corle
Baylor University
Waco, Texas

Hayden Dillard
Missouri Southern State University
Joplin, Mo.

Raphael Dehmen
United States Naval Academy (Prop School)
Newport, R.I.

Imogen Kada
Tufts University
Waltham, Mass.

Jacob Echendrennu
Missouri Southern State University
Joplin, Mo.

Austie Flake
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas

Riley Heusan
University of Tulsa
Tulsa, Okla.

Catherine Last
North Greenville University
Tigerville, S.C.

Andrew Lown
University of Notre Dame
Notre Dame, Ind.

Aaron McDonald
University of Tulsa
Tulsa, Okla.

Hayley Neighmond
University of Tulsa
Tulsa, Okla.

Haana Hoffman
Saint Louis University
Medallion Scholars Program
St. Louis, Mo.

Jacob Eschenbrenner
Baylor University
Waco, Texas

Catlin Mossler
Truman State University
Kirksville, Mo.

John Brown
University of Tulsa
Tulsa, Okla.

Caitlin Mueller
Saint Louis University
Conservatory of Music
St. Louis, Mo.

Hannah Triplett
Grinnell College
Grinnell, Iowa

Dustin Turnbow
Rocky Mountain College
Billings, Mont.

Henry White
Undecided

HIGH SCHOOL
25 YEARS

A Quarter Century of Excellence

Tj’s Class of 2018
These 19 Students Received More Than $5,000,000 in Merit-Based Scholarship Offers.
The Average ACT Score for These Students is 29.
THE SCHOOL’S MISSION

Through a dedication to academic excellence, Thomas Jefferson Independent Day School stands accountable for educating students to make the most of their abilities. The School educates students to acquire and refine essential academic knowledge and skills; cultivate an appreciation of the arts; develop lifelong fitness skills; assume responsibility for their behavior; seek out challenge; welcome criticism; test new capacities; practice self-discipline; and find joy in learning. The School brings students together with teachers who exemplify intellectual curiosity, a dedication to truth, and the advantages of living the examined life.

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Dear TJ Parents, Students, Faculty, Staff, and Friends,

TJ’s 25th anniversary brought extraordinary programming and events to our students – from the Remnant Trust’s remarkable collection of rare books to the visit from Dr. Niall Ferguson, legendary historian and award-winning journalist. For more than 25 years, TJ has remained committed to its mission and honor code, to a classical liberal arts education, and to educating each and every student to make the most of their abilities. As the clear leader in education and the only non-sectarian independent college preparatory school in our area – TJ has a long track record of successfully preparing students for college, to meet life’s challenges, and to be engaged citizens guided by a strong moral compass.

As our annual report shows, TJ students outperform all other area schools: academically, in the arts and athletics, and in the wider community because of TJ’s world-class program, its faculty, and strong school community. A TJ education is transformative and will be the most meaningful gift you can give to any child.

As you will see on Page 10 of this report, tuition alone does not cover the cost to educate the students. TJ needs your charitable support from the Annual Giving Campaign, Escapade, and privately-funded, scholarships. Without your support TJ could not exist.

Your gift makes it possible for TJ to have top notch faculty, to enhance academic programs, and to hold tuition at affordable levels. Please make your gift to help support TJ financially. We need you to help TJ continue its commitment to excellence. Your gift will make a difference and every child will benefit from your generosity. Please make a contribution to the TJ Annual Giving Campaign today.

Sincerely,

Debra Humphreys
Chairman of TJ’s Board of Trustees

Seniors Receive Accolades

TJ Senior Named National Merit Scholarship Program Finalist - Scored in top 1% in the nation on PSAT

Congratulations to Senior Hallah Butcher for earning distinction as a National Merit Scholarship Program finalist. The National Merit Scholarship Corporation made the announcement in May. Hallah was named a semifinalist in September, and subsequently advanced to finalist standing. The semifinalists were students who scored in the Top 1% in the nation on the PSAT, and finalists are selected based on “academic performance that is consistently very high in all of grades 9 through 12.” The National Merit Scholarship Program is an academic competition for scholarships, and high school students enter the by taking the PSAT — a test which serves as an initial screen of entrants each year — and by meeting published program entry/ participation academic requirements. Hallah joins an elite group of people recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Program including Chief Justice of the United States John Roberts, Bill Gates, Jeff Bezos, Ben Bernanke, and Joseph Stiglitz.

TJ Students Top Local ACT Score Averages

With an average composite score of 29 on the ACT, the TJ Class of 2018 once again tops the list of average composite scores for schools in the Four State region. The TJ average composite score is also significantly higher than the average for independent schools that are part of TJ’s accrediting body, the Independent Schools Association of the Central States (ISACS).

Two TJ seniors named to the highly-selective 2018 All-Area Academic Excellence Team

Congratulations to TJ Seniors Hallah Butcher and Andrew Lown on their selection as two of the students on the 20-member Joplin Globe All-Area Academic Excellence Team. Based on a selection pool that includes dozens of high schools across area conferences and districts, the All-Area Academic Excellence Team includes the top achieving students from schools in several cities. Students are selected using a formula that includes grade point average and performance on either the ACT or SAT. These seniors were honored during an awards banquet, and the entire team was featured in the Joplin Globe on May 6, 2018.

Class of 2018 Graduation

The 19 members of TJ’s Class of 2018 celebrated commencement on May 27, 2018, in the TJ Concert Hall. Almost all graduates will attend a four-year college or university, and they earned more than $5 million in merit-based scholarship offers. The class has an average ACT score of 29. Mary McDonald (TJ Class of 2006) was the commencement speaker, and she received the TJ Distinguished Alumnus Award. Ms. McDonald is a math teacher and academic coordinator at Lawrence Gardner High School at Kansas Juvenile Correctional Complex. A memorable commencement ended with a reception hosted by parents of the junior class. Caitlin Mueller delivered the valedictory address, and Raphael Dohmen presented the senior class gift – an inlaid tile school seal at the entrance.
Letter from the
HEAD OF SCHOOL

It is with great appreciation that we present the 2017-2018 Annual Report. Through the generosity of parents, trustees, alumni, alumni parents, grandparents, and friends of the school, we are able to continue our tradition of academic excellence and provide support to the programs and experiences that are hallmark of a TJ education.

Philanthropy enables us to expand the opportunities we provide with regard to programming, and it also allows us to expand our reach and provide the benefits of a TJ education to a greater number of students from the four-state area.

Creating opportunities for a diverse group of students to embrace challenge, make the most of their abilities, and become engaged citizens fulfills the mission of the school.

The 2017-2018 school year brought with it a milestone in the life of Thomas Jefferson Independent Day School. As the community celebrated the 25th anniversary of the school, we paused to reflect upon the growth and success of the programs and students. Our celebration also provided an opportunity to look ahead to the next chapter in the life of the school to discover ways to continue to prepare students for college and life, but in the context of the 21st century skills they will require and jobs they will encounter.

Our meaningful and purposeful work each year builds upon the dedication of many students, teachers, trustees, and families that helped build the school that exists today. We are unable to continue this work without the financial support that we acquire through philanthropy.

Most parents join the TJ community because of their strong belief in their children and their potential for success. Once families become engrained in the community, they begin to believe wholeheartedly in the school and its mission.

What we have seen over the past 25 year is a continued belief in TJ's programs, students, and success on a national scale, so much so that the school has garnered a strong reputation among selective colleges and universities. Colleges want TJ students, incentivizing them with millions of scholarship dollars in an attempt to recruit them. There is a strong belief in the types of individuals and students that TJ produces.

A strong belief in the education that Thomas Jefferson Independent Day School provides has led to generous support from all of our constituent groups and the community at large. The school has proven its value and purpose over the last 25 years, and it has provided opportunities for countless students whose lives were forever changed by the mission of the school.

We offer our sincere appreciation for your generous gifts to the school. With the continued support of so many amazing individuals who believe in TJ and its mission, the school will continue to embrace students and provide opportunities that they cannot find anywhere else.

Sincerely,

Laura McDonald
Head of School

“The school has proven its value and purpose over the last 25 years, and it has provided opportunities for countless students whose lives were forever changed by the mission of the school.”
Thomas Jefferson Independent Day School
Statement of Financial Position — June 30, 2018

**Revenue:** $4,795,000

**Expenses:** $5,074,000

**Deficit:** $1,879,000

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### ASSETS

- Cash and cash equivalents: $2,539,136
- Investments: 113,811
- Prepaid expenses: 34,092
- Accounts receivable: 1,001,643
- Property and equipment: 12,033,920
- **TOTAL ASSETS:** $15,722,602

### LIABILITIES

- Accounts payable and accrued liabilities: 1,161,557
- **TOTAL LIABILITIES:** $3,695,717

### NET ASSETS

- Unrestricted and restricted: $12,026,885
- **TOTAL NET ASSETS:** $12,026,885

---

### REVENUE: 2017-2018

- Tuition and fees: $3,113,921 (97%)
- Other Income: $86,240 (3%)
- **TOTAL REVENUE:** $3,200,161

### EXPENSES 2017-2018

- Salaries and Benefits: $3,007,792 (94%)
- Plant Costs: $1,118,438 (35%)
- Supporting Expenses: $947,802 (30%)
- **TOTAL EXPENSES:** $5,074,032

---

**Plants and Support Expenses Subtotal:** $2,066,240

**Salaries and Benefits Subtotal:** $3,007,792

**Total Philanthropy:** $1,594,178

*Depreciation is a non-cash item. Revenues in excess of expenses are being placed in a sinking fund which currently contains $462,151.

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**Scholarships include those funded by Debra and David Humphreys (J.P. Humphreys and E.L. Craig), Missouri Walnut, & others. See the complete list on page 29."
The TJ community gathered for several events throughout the school year to celebrate a Quarter Century of Excellence. The celebration kicked off October 20 with a Family Fun Night that included a barbecue dinner, bubble soccer and bounce houses, and a 25th Anniversary cake-cutting ceremony featuring students from Pre-K and 12th grade.

On December 21, the school community gathered for a banquet in the Fieldhouse to induct the inaugural class of coaches, athletes, and teams into the Cavalier Hall of Fame, recognizing greatness in athletics during the first quarter century of the school’s life. Our alumni holiday reception welcomed dozens more graduates back to the campus.

On January 10, the community celebrated the arrival of the Remnant Trust collection, and the Upper School orchestra and choir performed the world-premiere of A Song of Liberty, a new piece of music commissioned by Mr. Alteberry specifically for the 25th anniversary celebration.

On April 11, students and faculty gathered in the Hershewe Family Courtyard for an all-school ice cream party, and to pose for a portrait in their 25th Anniversary t-shirts.

On April 12, alumni parents, graduates, faculty, trustees, and students gathered for a reception in the Commons, and then the entire community came together in the Concert Hall for a celebration which included a presentation by Dr. Niall Ferguson, world-renowned historian, college professor, award-winning filmmaker, and bestselling author, who discussed the importance of independent schools, a classical liberal arts education, and the study of Western civilization. Dr. Ferguson also met with Upper School students earlier in the day, and talked with them about history, specifically about what makes great civilizations great.

During these events, Heads of School Dr. Leonard Kupersmith, Bill Carter, and Laura McDonald remarked on the school’s impact on the community — and the children who attended TJ. Debra Humphreys, Chair of TJ’s Board of Trustees, talked about the ways TJ set the standard for academic excellence, and raised the bar for other public and private schools in the area. In his remarks, Dr. Kupersmith described some examples of what he called the “collateral benefits” for children outside the TJ community when TJ opened, including air-conditioned classrooms, Advanced Placement courses, foreign language classes, and more.

Each of the 25th Anniversary events were opportunities to reflect on the success of the school during its first quarter century. We celebrated the school’s mission and educational philosophy, and highlighted how Thomas Jefferson made a difference in the lives of all children in the area.

The inaugural class of the Cavalier Hall of Fame was inducted on December 21, 2017. These first inductees created the momentum in the school’s early years to grow the athletic programs, and they earned some of the school’s first significant recognition on the conference, district, regional, and state athletic stages.

Athletes:
- Mindy Schaffer (’98)
- Jonathan Pintado (’39)
- Grant Clemens (’00)
- Kelly Desmond (’00)
- Taylor Poling (’05)
- Sara McDonald (’01)
- Erin Oster (’01)
- Allison Scott (’01)
- Lauren Standley (’01)
- Brian Black (’03)
- Matthew Crossland (’05)
- Jacob Guthwillig (’05)
- Kaitlin Jackson (’05)
- Felicia Owen (’05)
- Joshua Porte (’05)
- Angela Scott (’05)
- Casey Jackson (’07)
- Sam Simpson (’07)
- Matthew Taylor (’07)
- Mark Silva (’07)
- Summer Davidson (’08)
- Allison Fraum (’08)
- William Humphreys (’08)
- Carly Luebber (’08)
- Joseph Newman (’08)
- David Evans (’10)
- Spencer Newman (’10)
- Jordan Stauffer (’10)
- Alex Oserowsky (’12)
- Chris Saladin (’13)

Coaches:
- Bill Carter
- Mike Grove
- Deborah Newkirk

Teams:
- 1999 & 2000 Upper School Volleyball Teams
  - Maya Ayotte (’02), Emily Bradley (’04), Donna Cobbert (’02), Anne Davies (’02), Kelly Desmond (’00), Elizabeth Flanigan (’04), Laura Frankowski (’03), Rachel McDonald (’04), Sara McDonald (’01), Amanda Neil, Erin Oster (’01), Taylor Poling (’05), Megan Reineke (’02), Laura Reinsvold (’04), Emily Riggs (’02), Allison Scott (’01), Lauren Standley (’01), Kate Walkenhorst, and Coach Bev Golf

2005 Upper School Girls Track 4x400m & 4x800m Relay Team
- Kaitlin Jackson (’05), Allison Fraum (’08), Casey Jackson (’07), and Summer Davidson (’08).

2006 Upper School Girls Track 4x400m & 4x800m Relay Teams
- Allison Fraum (’08), Casey Jackson (’07), Drew Tillis (’06), and Summer Davidson (’08)

2007 Upper School Girls Track 4x400m Relay Team
- Allison Fraum (’08), Ali Weil (’10), Casey Jackson (’07), Summer Davidson (’08)

2008 Upper School Boys Tennis Team
- Coleman Bandy (’10), David Evans (’10), William Humphreys (’08), Joseph Newman (’08), Spencer Newman (’10), Will Norton, Grant Oserovsky (’09), Andrew Prigmore (’10) and Coach Diego Camacho
Congratulations to the Upper School scholar bowl team on the 2nd place finish at the MSHSAA state tournament in Columbia, Mo., May 4. The team included senior Sadie Eschbacher, and freshmen Jaxon Miller, Laynie Solum, Sydney Stamps, and Olivia Stazo.

In the afternoon rounds, TJ won the first two matches, advancing to the overall top scorer in the state tournament. This is the fifth 2nd place finish in the state tournament.

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ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2017-18 ACADEMIC

50 area schools competed in individual and special prizes included cash awards for the Prize, and the Local History Prize. Each of the category, and advanced to the national contest.

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TJ students earned awards at state, advance to National History Day national contest in Columbia, Mo. Freshmen Sonia Carlson, and Contest in Columbia, Mo. Freshmen

TJ students earn top awards at national chinese speech contest Congratulations to the Middle and Upper School Chinese language students who earned top awards in the regional 2018 Year of the Dog Kansas City Chinese Speech Contest sponsored by the University of Kansas. The students qualified by writing, memorizing, and delivering their speeches in person in front of an audience at the regional contest. Of the 19 TJ finalists, 13 placed in the Top-3 in their divisions:

6th grade: 1st place: Emalie Roe; 3rd place: Alexis Stamps
5th grade: 2nd place: Emily Delman; 3rd place: Sydney Fluke
4th grade: 1st place: Olivia Stasco; 2nd place: India Robinson; Tie for 3rd: Edwine Hisebrot and Ally Jacobs
3rd grade: 1st place: Preston Johnson; 3rd place: Beth Patterson; 2nd grade: Hannah Triplett
2nd grade: Henry Hollen
1st grade: Scholarship middle school division; 1st place: Jiao Jiao Nelson; 3rd place: Chengle Qian

TJ 5th graders earn 1st, 2nd, & 3rd in essay contest Congratulations to the three TJ 5th graders who earned the top awards in the 2018 ELKS Essay Contest. Students from around the region entered the competition with essays addressing “Why Our Veterans Are America’s Heroes.” Maxine Shifford earned 1st place, and a cash prize of $50, Kiera Oynayo earned 2nd place and $37.50, and Emily Zhang earned 3rd place and $25.25.

Upper School students earn top writing awards Congratulations to the talented TJ Upper School students who earned awards in the regional Joplin Globe 2017-2018 High School Writing Contest. High School students from around the region competed in three categories: Personal Narrative, Poetry, and Short Story, and in two grade-level divisions: 9th & 10th grade division; 11th & 12th grade division.

9th grade: 1st place: Macie Shifferd
2nd place: Emily Zhang
3rd place: Jieqiong (Sally) Xu

10th grade: 2nd place overall; 3rd Place
3rd place overall; 1st Place

1st Place Team - Shrihari Nagarajan, Prithvi Nagarajan, Abhijith Jenkins, Nat Curtis, and Prithvi Nagarajan - 5th Place Overall

Shrihari Nagarajan - 9th Place Overall, 1st Place Countdown Round
Abhijith Jenkins - 2nd Place Overall, 3rd Place Countdown Round
TJ Juniors selected for Boys, Girls State Congratulations to the three TJ juniors selected to participate in Missouri Girls State this summer. Lenny Ahn, Grace Jacobs, and Aria Evans will attend the week-long leadership program at the University of Central Missouri beginning June 24. Missouri Girls State brings the best and brightest students from around the state, and pushes them to test their leadership, citizenship, and scholastic skills as they create and govern a mythical state, highlighting leadership at the city, county, and state government levels. Delegates to this program are chosen by an interview and application process. Delegates are Missouri high school students who have just completed their junior year, and candidates are evaluated on their leadership abilities, interest in government, service to others, and academic accomplishments, including speech and debate experiences.

TJ students earn top awards at regional algebra contest Congratulations to the TJ students who earned the awards in the 30th Annual Pittsburg State University Math Relays. Students from nearly 50 area schools competed in individual and team events, and these students earned awards (1st, 2nd, and 3rd place earned medals).

Jane Min Tied for 1st in 10th grade Algebraic Equations and Inequalities, got 95% in 10th grade Algebraic Simplifications, tied for 2nd in 10th grade

Geometry

Hummza Rehan earned 1st in 10th grade Algebraic Simplifications, and 12th grade in Potpourri.

Kayley Ball tied for 3rd in 10th grade Geometry, 2nd Overall, and for 3rd in 10th grade Potpourri.

Lessa Alon tied for 2nd in 11th grade Functions, got 98% in 11th grade Trigonometry.

Chris Underwood laid out for 1st in 11th grade Geometry.

TJ seniors earn honors in regional standardized tests Congratulations to the TJ seniors who earned the 2nd place overall award in the Statistics Poster Contest sponsored by the Mathematics Department at Pittsburg State University. The seniors received their awards at the awards’ breakfast at PSU on Feb. 28, and their winning entries were regional winners in the 9th & 10th Grade Divisions:

9th & 10th Grade Division:

Johanna Joyajan - 1st Place Personal Narrative, Sonia Carlson - 2nd Place Personal Narrative, Naomie Martucci - 2nd Place Personal Narrative, Kip Atteberry - 2nd Place Personal Narrative, Sydney Walker - 2nd Place Personal Narrative, Lown - 2nd Place Personal Narrative, Andrew Lown - 3rd Place Personal Narrative, Abhijith Jenkins - 3rd Place Personal Narrative


Tyra Boudreau, Samantha Seto, Marisa Martucci, Jay Bell, Macie Shifferd, and Sydney Brattin.

TJ team earns 1st place in MATHCOUNTS regional tournament Congratulations to the TJ Middle School MathCounts team on the performance at the regional competition at MSSU. Ten TJ Middle School students competed, and our students earned several top awards, including the 1st Place Overall Team, and 4 of the 5 top overall awards. These students earned awards, and qualified for the state competition.

1st Place Team - Abhijith Jenkins, Nat Curtis, Shrihari Nagarajan, and Prithvi Nagarajan
Abhijith Jenkins - 2nd Place Overall, 3rd Place Countdown Round
Shrihari Nagarajan - 3rd Place Overall, 1st Place Countdown Round

TJ Annual Report 2017-2018

16
Cavaliers sweep 1st place awards in regional math tournament. Congratulations to the Middle School scholar bowl teams on the strong performances at the Middle School Math Tournament at TJ. This regional scholar bowl tournament includes several themed tournaments throughout the season, and teams from several schools compete. Tournament topics include History, Math, Science, and Humanities. The Cavaliers earned 1st place in all divisions, and the A and 6th grade teams were undefeated for the evening.

Speech & Debate team earns top awards at regional contest. Congratulations to the Upper School speech and debate team on the great performance at the Clever Speech Tournament. Freshman Jane Min earned 3rd place overall in Original Oratory (out of 22 entries from 10 schools). Hayden Dillard earned 2nd place in Round 1 of Original Oratory, Victoria Henson-Miyach and India Robinson earned 2nd place in Round 1 of Improvisational Duet Acting, and Johanna Jeyara earned 1st place in Round 3 of the Original Oratory competition.

TJ 4th grader, 6th grader win TJ Spelling Bee. Congratulations to Daisy Drown on winning the 4th and 5th grade school spelling bee, and to Alexis Stamps for winning the 6th grade spelling bee. Daisy and Alexis advanced to the regional Joplin Globe Spelling Bee on March 19, at TJ. Vanlor Evangelista was the 2nd place finisher in the 4th and 5th grade bee, and he got out on the word “hamburger.” In the 6th grade bee, Adeline Dunn finished 2nd, and “hedgehog” was the word she finished on.

TJ “Mathletes” Earn Top Awards at Regional Contest, Advance to State. Congratulations to the TJ Mathletes who competed in the MCTM contests in Lomart (for 6th, 7th, and 8th grades) and here at TJ (for 4th, 5th, and 6th grades) at the Lomart contest: The TJ Team of Dev Dhillon, Ian Ding, Shrihari Nagarajan, and Abhijith Jenkins earned 1st place overall. Shrihari, Ian, Dev, Abhijith, and Prithvi qualified to compete in the State MCTM Middle School Competition. Individual winners were: Shrihari Nagarajan: 1st place Sprint, 1st place Target, and 1st place Overall. Abhijith Jenkins: 2nd place Sprint, 2nd place Target, 2nd place Overall. Prithvi Nagarajan: 1st place Sprint, 1st place Target, 1st place Overall. Allison Ding: 2nd place Sprint, 3rd place Overall.

Duke University Recognizes TJ Talent. Congratulations to the 21 TJ 7th graders who qualified for the Duke Talent Identification Program (TIP) 7th Grade Talent Search based on their standardized test scores as 6th graders. The 7th Grade Talent Search identifies academically talented 7th graders based on standardized test scores achieved while attending elementary or middle school (TJ students who scored at or above the 95th percentile on the CTP tests in 6th grade), Candidates have the opportunity to take the ACT or the SAT college entrance exam as 7th graders, which allows them greater insight into their academic abilities. These students also are invited to participate in unique enrichment programs, and they gain access to valuable resources for gifted students. On average, more than 50 percent of each 6th grade class has qualified for Duke TIP, and 67 percent of 5th graders qualified for the highly-selective 7th grade Duke TIP Talent Search. These TJ students qualified for Duke TIP’s 36th Annual 7th Grade Talent Search: Shayan Anis, Kip Atteberry, Jay Ball, Nico Carlson, Benjamin Carroll, Nat Curtis, Jaiden Dorris, Ryken Garner, Tannah Grigg, Alizej Hammad, Sana Hammad, Jessica Joseph, Eva Locher, Yasmina Mokhtar, Mary Parker, Andrew Remmer, Jason Robinson, Alisabeth Rogers, Samantha Soto, Sophia Sweeney, and Richard Zhang.

The Freedom Award and College Award scholarships are named for The Honorable Mel Hancock (Sept. 14, 1929 – Nov. 6, 2011). His generous endowment has provided scholarships for TJ students for years. Mr. Hancock, who represented Southwest Missouri as a member of Congress from 1989 to 1997, is better known to most Missourians as the author of the “Hancock Amendment” to our state Constitution. This amendment aligned growth of state tax collection with income growth of the people, and has put tax money back in the pockets of millions of Missourians since voters approved it in 1980. Following his years of public service, Mr. Hancock endowed TJ with the scholarship awards that provide significant financial support for parents with children at TJ, and for students who plan to attend a private college or university. Two half-tuition Mel Hancock Freedom Awards are presented to a rising junior and rising senior based on academic merit, school spirit and citizenship, demonstrated interest in conservative politics, and a cogent essay addressing the “proper role of government in a free society.”

The 2018 recipients of the Mel Hancock Freedom Awards are: Savannah Dillard, Class of 2020, and Lane Wilson, Class of 2019. The Mel Hancock College Award is presented at Honors Day to a graduating senior who demonstrates qualities similar to those of the Freedom award recipients and submits a cogent essay dealing with the “meaning of the Thomas Jefferson Mission Statement in a free society.” The recipient must attend a private college or university. This $1,000 award is paid directly to the college when recipient begins matriculation.

The 2018 recipient of the Mel Hancock College Award is: Elena Rodriguez, Class of 2018.
IN THE ARTS

2017-18 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2017-18 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

IN THE ARTS

TJ Senior named to All-State Band

Congratulations to Aaron McDonald on being named to the highly-selective Missouri All-State Honor Band. More than 240 clarinet players from high schools across the state auditioned to be part of the All-State Band.

Middle School music students earn top ratings at regional contest

Congratulations to the students who earned top ratings at the NED Middle School Vocal Festival. The TJ Middle School vocal ensemble earned 1+ ratings from both judges. The Purple Mixed Ensemble and the Gold Mixed Ensemble both earned 1 ratings. The Girls Ensembles received two 1s and a 2 rating. In solo performances, Eve Cartwright earned a 2, and Bria Bratton, Melinda Fauss, and Kip Atteberry each earned a 1. In quartet performances, Kip Atteberry and Luke Miller earned a 1, and Jennalee Dunn and Sydney Flack earned a 2.

Upper School musicians earn medals at state festival

Congratulations to the Upper School music students who performed at the MSHSAA State Music Festival in Columbia. 34 students performed solos and small ensembles for their outstanding performances at the MSHSAA District Solo and Small Ensemble Festival. Receiving a 1 rating (Exemplary): 34 students performed again at the state music festival. All entries that received a 1 rating performed for adjudication, and all of the TJ’s entries received medals. Gold Medals: Matthew Palmer, voice; Kelsey Atteberry, piano; Imogen Eads, String Quartet; Kip Atteberry, cello; Kip Atteberry, voice; Freshman Mixed Trio. Silver Medals: Aaron McDonald, clarinet; Tessa Wells, cello; Girls Trio; Bronze Medals: Savannah Dillard, violin; Anastasia Young, voice; Mixed Double Quartet; Ladies Sextet.

TJ Musicians earn district and regional honors

Congratulations to Aaron McDonald and Jane Min for being named to the Southwest Missouri All-District Honor Band. Aaron is 3rd chair clarinet, and Jane is 2nd alternate flute. Aaron was also recently named to the highly-selective Springfield Regional Youth Orchestra as 2nd chair clarinet.

Upper School Artists Sweep at Ozark 7 Competition

Congratulations to the talented TJ artists who earned awards at the Ozark 7 Conference Art Competition in Cassville, Mo. Awards were announced last night, and TJ students earned 22 top awards including Judge’s Choice Award and five 1st Place awards. Upper School artists in all grades earned awards, and 10 of the top awards were earned by TJ freshmen and sophomores. The artworks were on exhibit for a month at the Barry County Museum in Cassville, and then they were displayed in T.J.‘s Gallery and Arts Lobby. The TJ students who earned top awards in the Ozark 7 Conference Art Competition are: Judge’s Choice Award: Hallah Butcher Graphite Drawing: 1st - Yang Qi, Charcoal Drawing: 1st - Cyra Evans Oil Painting: 1st - Ruchi Patel, 4th - Layla Mokhtar Honorable Mention: Nicholas Turner Illustration: 3rd - Sonia Carlson Pastels: 2nd - Tessa Wells Honorable Mention: Hallah Butcher / Connor Watts Photography: 2nd - Tessa Wells, 2nd - Simran Anis, 4th - Olivia Remer, Honorable Mention - Cyra Evans Mixed Medium: Honorable Mention - Cyra Evans, Yang Qi Wearable Art: Honorable Mention - Audrey Neighbors, Gabi Laid, and Simran Anis Sculpture: 4th - Audrey Neighbors Watercolor: 1st - Tessa Wells, 2nd - Hayley Neighbors

Upper School students earn Exemplary, Outstanding ratings at District Music Festival

Congratulations to the Upper School Music students for their outstanding performances at the MSHSAA District Solo and Small Ensemble Festival. The judging at this event is very demanding, and all of our groups performed exceptionally well. All entries that received a 1 rating performed for adjudication again at the MSHSAA State Music Festival in late April in Columbia, Mo. A total of 34 students performed again at the state music festival. Receiving a 1 rating (Exemplary): Kelsey Atteberry, voice; Kip Atteberry, piano; Mixed Double Quartet (vocal); Matthew Palmer, voice; Anastasia Young, voice; Anna Tri, vocal; Mueller, Sextet; Kelsey Atteberry, piano; Tessa Wells, cello; Savannah Dillard, violin; Kelsey Atteberry, cello; Quartet O’Men (saxophones); Aaron Trio (woodwinds); Each Quartet (strings); Jane Min, flute; Aaron MacDonald, clarinet; Goodhope Sextet (brass); Receiving a 2 rating (Outstanding): Reagan Thompson, voice; Hannah Tripoli, voice; Wells Quartet (vocal); Juliana Joseph, voice; Henry White Sextet (vocal); Savannah Dillard, voice; Nicholas Quartet (cellos); Simran Anis, violin; Kelsey Quartet (strings); Savannah Dillard, piano; Jade Quartet (clarinets); Neighbors/ Patterson duo (strings); Jan Palmer, saxophone; Haaris Rehman, clarinet.

Lower School Musical: Sleeping Beauty

MIDDLE SCHOOL MUSICAL: Peter Pan

UPPER SCHOOL MUSICAL: Curtains

TJ Students Earn Top Awards in George Washington Carver Art and Essay Contest

Congratulations to the TJ 4th graders who earned awards at the annual George Washington Carver 4th Grade Art and Essay Contest. The students were honored at an awards ceremony at the park. The contest celebrates students’ creativity through essay writing and creating original artwork. Based on the annual theme, student work is recognized with an art show and display of essays, plus an awards ceremony.

The TJ 4th graders earned the 1st Place award for “Most Creative Classroom,” and several individual students earned top category awards: 1st Place - Most Creative Classroom (all essays made it into the 2nd round of judging because they were written so well.) 1st Place, individual art, 3-D: Sarah Cole (she was asked to describe her artwork at the ceremony) 3rd place, individual art, 3-D: Daisy Drown 3rd place Essay Category: Abbi Dickinson (she was asked to read her essay at the ceremony) Honorable Mention, Essay Category: Tad Curtis Nathan Cole won an honorable mention. Megan Mueller, Abbie Dickinson, and Rania Najib won honorable mention for their group project. Karsen Myers, Silas Stone, Elliott Parker, Liam Sexton, and Brant Bayersdorfer won honorable mention for their group project.
2017-18 ATHLETIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Olive Renfro earned 1st Place in state Class 1 for the triple jump, with a distance of 36’5”. This was more than a foot longer than her personal best distance. Lane Wilson earned 4th Place overall in the 100m dash, and the girls 4x800m relay team, composed of Caroline Martucci, Austin Flake, Jaden Moore, and Caitlin Mueller, clocked its best time of the year and earned 11th Place overall.

The Upper School golf team earned 4th place overall at the Class 1 MSHSAA State Tournament. The team includes Andrew Lown, Owen D’Amour, Dustin Turnbow, Coach Chris Leiter, Aaron Wells, and Luke Kirk.

Owen D’Amour placed 14th overall at State golf, and made the All-State team.

Luke Kirk – 1st team All-District in golf

Noah Hamlett and Brock Conklin - Class1, District 11 doubles champions in tennis, and the team was the district champion.

Cailtin Mueller as named to the All-Area Girls Basketball Team for the 2nd year in a row.

Senior Andrew Corle was named to the Academic All-State Boys Team, and Austin Flake & Caitlin Mueller were named to the Academic All-State Girls Team.

The Upper School boys basketball team was ranked 10th in the state by the Missouri Basketball Coaches Association its poll, and TJ was the only boys Class 2 team in the region that is ranked in the Top-10.

Austin Flake – 2nd Team All-Ozark 7 Conference Basketball, Ozark 7 Conference Runner of the Year, State Qualifier in cross country

Aaron Wells – Honorable Mention, All-Ozark 7 Conference Basketball, and 1st team All-District in golf

Hayley Neighmond – Class 1, District 11 Singles Champion and State Qualifier in tennis

Audrey Neighmond – Sectional Qualifier in tennis

Jaden Moore – State Qualifier in cross country

Caroline Martucci – 1st Team All-State Swimming

Dhruv Gheewala – Class 2, District 12 All-District Team, and 2nd Team All-Ozark 7 Conference Basketball

Cailtin Mueller – 1st Team All-Ozark 7 Conference Basketball (unanimous selection)

Chase Kellenberger – 1st Team All-Ozark 7 Conference Basketball

Catherine Lent – 1st Team All-Conference, & 1st Team All-District Volleyball Teams.

Acelynn Tate – 2nd Team All-Conference & 2nd Team All-District Volleyball Teams.

Class 1, District 6 All-District Soccer Teams:

1st Team: Aaron Wells (Defender), Thomas Hershey (Forward)

2nd Team: Brock Conklin (Goal), Humza Rehman (Midfield), Luke Goodhope (Midfield)

ACAPELLA INSTRUCTOR

ACADEMIC ALL-STATE HONOREES:

Caroline Martucci competed at the Upper School girls swimming state meet, and was named to the 3rd Team All-State team.

Thomas Jefferson won the Ozark 7 Conference Sportsmanship Award for 2017-2018.

This award is voted on by conference coaches, and administrators.
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2018 HOMECOMING COURT

The 2017-2018 Homecoming Court (from left): Freshmen Owen D’Amour and Edwinna Hiebert, juniors Aaron Wells and Shannon Tewari, seniors Andrew Corle and Caitlin Mueller, Homecoming King Aaron McDonald, Homecoming Queen Riley Henson, seniors Austin Flake and Ray Dohmen, and sophomores Jaden Moore and Brock Conklin.
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