



# Blue Mountain Academy COMMUNIQUE

JULY 2010

## More Room for Learning

Interacting with young people brings joy to our teachers' hearts. Sharing ideas and spending spiritual, educational and social time with students enables teachers at Blue Mountain Academy (BMA) to mentor those who are preparing for the challenges of life.

To facilitate this interaction, our under-utilized library was recently updated with two new offices—a remodeled learning center and library office—and the addition of 30 computer stations. Our guidance counselor,

learning specialist and chaplain will now have offices in this area. The student-centered environment will allow students and mentors to mix naturally, while still providing a learning atmosphere.

Students are excited about the changes. "It feels more open and friendly," Amy Beisiegel ('13) commented. "I had a place to read a book for class, and it was comfortable."

This is another example of our adherence to the school's motto, "They shall be all taught of God," which guides us as we minister to students at BMA.



**Craig Ziesmer**  
*Principal*



## New Staff Joins Campus Family

**Shawnessey Cargile** will serve as chaplain and religion teacher. Cargile has a bachelor's degree in religious studies from Southern Adventist University (Tenn.). He has experience as a teacher, a Bible worker and as an assistant chaplain. He enjoys music and working with young people "ages 3-23."

**A'Lisa Lashley** will serve as assistant girls' dean and Spanish teacher. She holds a bachelor's degree in Spanish, a minor in English and a secondary teaching certificate from Andrews University (Mich.). She has experience as a student dean, resident advisor and lab instructor and tutor. Lashley is enthusiastic about music, sports and teenagers.

**Renee Mathis** holds a bachelor's degree in English and a minor in photography and religion from Southern Adventist University. As a student, Mathis worked in

the college dormitory office and was a resident assistant. She is fluent in Spanish and was a member and captain on the university's gymnastics team. She will be teaching English and photography.

**Mel Wade** is joining the staff as a computer technology instructor. He holds a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Southwestern Adventist University (Texas) and a master's in curriculum and instruction from Andrews University. Wade was on staff as computer teacher and IT director at Upper Columbia Academy in Spangle, Wash. He was previously IT director for the Michigan Conference. He has been the Adventist Robotics League coordinator for the North American Division since 2004. Wade's family includes his wife, Lois, and son, Keith, who is attending Walla Walla University in Washington state.

## NEWS

### Students Happily Serve

Blue Mountain Academy's annual Service Explosion day was filled with opportunities for students to reach out to the community. Seniors Faisal Mohammad and Matthew Dekle volunteered at Blue Mountain Wildlife, filling in potholes on a road near the river.



### Students Present "Elijah"

BMA's spring concert included student soloists, the Sylvan Singers and the orchestra. Together they presented "Elijah" by Felix Mendelssohn. Pictured is soloist Isaac Suh ('11).



### Sophomore Recognized for Outstanding Service

Sierra Fox ('12) received one of only two Maryland Governor's Volunteer Service awards. Fox volunteered for Great and Small, a nonprofit organization that provides therapeutic horseback riding for students with disabilities.

Fox volunteered more than 974 hours—an average of 64 hours per month. Her activities include leading or walking beside horses during riding lessons, as well as helping with horse care and farm work, some of which is physically draining and demanding.

She also qualified for this year's President's Volunteer Service Award, a national honor program.



*Anthony G. Brown, Maryland's Lieutenant Governor, presents sophomore Sierra Fox with the Maryland Governor's Volunteer Service Award.*

### Senior Takes Flight

*Left: Ricardo Antron was recently honored for completing his first solo flight. Earl Binder, his flight instructor, cut off Antron's shirt tail in honor of this achievement.*



### 18 Join Honor Society

The National Honor Society (NHS) inducted 18 students at its seventh annual ceremony. Pictured below is Nam Yoon "Randy" Kim ('10), signing the official NHS membership book.

To date 153 BMA students have signed as members with the mission of using "the talents and abilities the Lord has blessed us with for the good of others."



### Want to get BMA News Fast?

We can email the *Communique* to you as soon as it is printed. Send your name and email address to Kathleen Sutton at [kathys@bma.us](mailto:kathys@bma.us).

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