

# Central Academy of Technology and Arts

## Cougar Chronicle

Volume 3; Issue 35  
May 26, 2016

CATA families,

Congratulations to our women's soccer team for finishing their season in the Top Four 2A teams in North Carolina. The Cougars were named regional runners-up. Great season. Congratulations to the Cast, Crew and Orchestra for Ragtime—they were awarded the prestigious Wells Fargo Best Musical for 2016 at the Blumey Awards! CATA also took home the Best Actor AND Best Actress Awards, as well as Best Overall Direction! Way to go!! Our chorus program is having their final show of the year—on Friday, May 27th at 7:30 PM in the auditorium. Please join us for a great evening with our very talented singers. Great job to the National Honor Society on hosting their annual talent show last night! We have some very talented students.

Awards Day is tomorrow for Seniors starting at 9:00. Underclassmen receiving an award have been notified as well and will attend a portion of the program. Attendance Waiver Forms were sent home and should have been returned. Many students have already been working on recovery, however, parents and students still must sign the waiver form requesting that the Administration waive excused absences so that they do not cause the student to fail a course due to absences. Parents there is only a week left before final exams begin. The schedule is in the Chronicle and all students should be present each day to take their exams as we cannot move final exam dates. Students should always attend their review sessions so that they are best prepared for the exam.

Please take time to read over this newsletter. The Cougar Chronicles are also available on the school's website. The Cougar Chronicle, in addition to our website, will be the main form of communication from school to home. At CATA we will continue to work toward Leading the Way so that your child can lead the way in the future!

Go Cougars! Dr. Kim Fisenne



### CATA Computer Repair



**Bring your computer  
to room 216**

**We will give you suggestions  
and an estimate on cost**

we can:

- get rid of viruses, malware, adware
- optimize your computer
- install upgrades
- install hardware

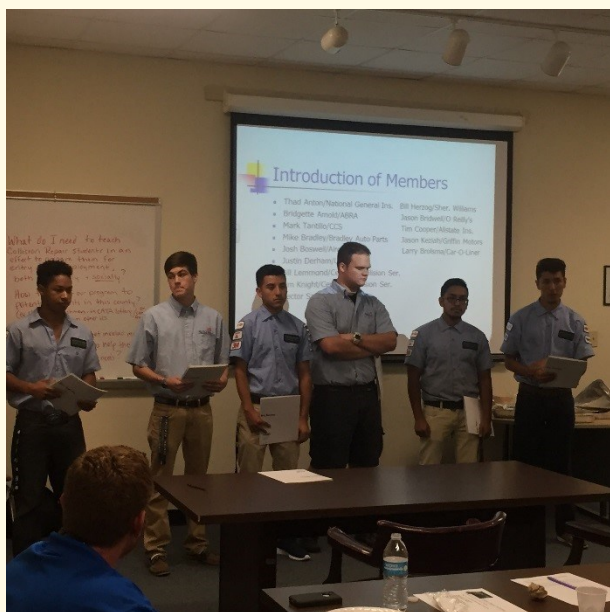


**No additional charge other than parts**



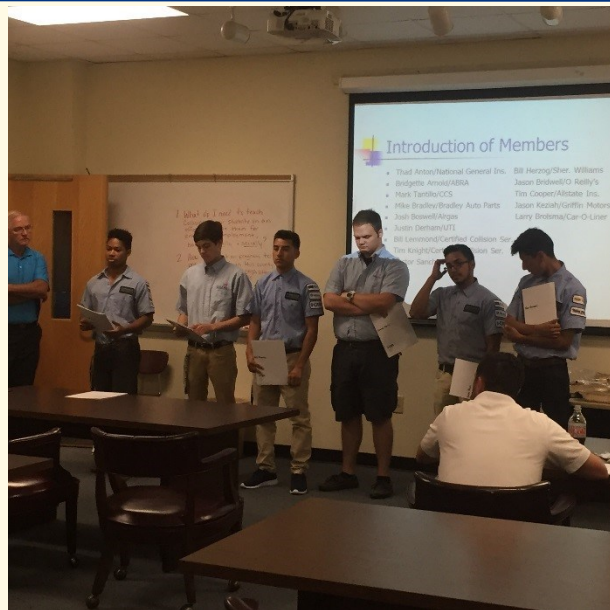
## Collision Repair Seniors

Mr. Lindley's Senior Collision Repair class spoke to the Collision Repair Advisory Board members at their last meeting. The Collision Repair Advisory includes members from Body Shops, Welding Shops, and Insurance Adjusters from around the Charlotte area. Each



student talked about why they came to the Colli-

sion Academy and what it has done for them. Several students already hold jobs in a Collision shop. One student even said going to Mr. Lindley's classes were not like going to other classes; it was more like going to a hobby.



## Attendance Information for Parents and Students

Students with more than 7 absences in a course can fail the class due to Absences alone, regardless of their grade average in the class.

Attendance at school is Priority. It is so important to be present in order to learn and to gain opportunities for mastering coursework. This is also a very important life lesson for our children to learn—in life we have expectations of going to work and working to the best of our ability, and this good life habit starts with attendance at school.

- To ensure maximum student attendance we will be contacting students and parents when students reach 3, 6, and 8 absences. The numbers 3, 6, and 8 are for Total absences, both excused and unexcused.
- According to UCPS attendance policy students should not miss more than 7 classes in each class. **The goal is to not miss ANY school**, but if a student has a valid reason, such as an illness or other excused absence, they can have up to 7 absences and still pass the class.
- **It is important that excuse notes be written and turned into the office within 3 days after an absence. After the three days, then the absences are recorded as unexcused permanently.**
- At each absence threshold (3,6,8) CATA staff will make the determination if the student needs to begin the recovery process to make up absences and notify parents and students on how to make up time missed from school. Recovery should be done during the semester and in the two week time span given or the student will not be allowed to recover the absences at a later date. There are UCPS limits on how many classes can be recovered. Recovery will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school with Ms. Riley, or with the student's individual teacher. Students are expected to work on content during recovery time. This plan is in place so that your student makes up content close to the date it was delivered in class. CATA feels this is most effective.

# Diversity in Our “Culture of Respect”

The following student representatives from CATA attended the Union County Public Schools (UCPS) Diversity Day this past month at Marvin Ridge High School. Our students had the chance to hear guest speakers and attend workshops on Topics of diversity with students from all of the other high schools in UCPS.

Nazirah Ahmad, Baily Boryczewski, Ethan Cammer, Duyen Dao  
Caitlyn George, Garrett Gilmer, Kyndal Ivey, Taylor MacLellan,  
Daniel Morrison, and Tyler Smith

## CATA PTSO NEWS

Thanks to one and all for all of your wonderful support of the PTSO!

**Help support our neighbor—Wolfe School—**by sending your **Box Tops and Labels for Education** into the CATA main office. Your support will help some of our most wonderful children in UCPS have a great school experience.

**Simple ways to support CATA - you must re-link each year!! Thank you!!**

Support CATA when you use your VIC card at Harris Teeter. Link your card to our school's account - # 3612. Support CATA when you use your Target REDcard. Link your card to our school's account - # 81011.

Kathie McKain

[kathieptsocata@gmail.com](mailto:kathieptsocata@gmail.com)

301-514-1890, cell



**CATA Spirit Wear available** online. Support the Band and CATA and get your spirit on.

To see all [available spirit wear for CATA click here!!](#)

Support our athletics and our Band of Blue at once by showing school spirit!!



### CATA Guidance Department

A high school guidance department can help your student with a LOT during high school—counseling during a problem/or stress, college planning, career/college questions, interview skills, problem solving with classes/teachers, friendship/social issues. Counselors also help with scheduling and what courses to take. Counselors are available to answer parent questions as well.

Please see the list of counselors by academy:

[Ashley Lawson](#): Medical Science, Teacher Prep (Seniors only), Transportation & Guidance Department Chairperson

[Kendall Cameron](#): Pre-Engineering and Performing Arts (theatre & dance)

[Mini D'Rozario](#): Information Systems (CyberSecurity, Computer Engineering, Software & Game Design) and Music Production & Recording Arts.





## Seniors

Senior Parents—see the Senior Letter at the end of the chronicle

**Graduation—Friday, June 10, 2016 6:00 PM at Winthrop Coliseum**

**Graduation Practice (REQUIRED to participate) Thursday 6/9 at 2:00**

**Senior Graduation Packages:** You can contact Jostens by calling 1-800-582-6376 or email Mr. Honrine at [Honrine@jostens.com](mailto:Honrine@jostens.com). **Please note that to participate in the graduation ceremony you must wear the correct cap and gown.**

**Need a transcript??** For more information, please visit: <http://cata.ucps.k12.nc.us/guidance/TranscriptRequests.php>

### Scholarship Spotlight:

**The Betsy Y. Justus Scholarship:** The North Carolina Technology Association is awarding a \$4,000 scholarship (payable at \$1,000 per year) to young women who are pursuing an academic and career path in a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math) field, with an emphasis on technology and engineering. Recipients will also receive a personal computer provided by Lenovo. To be eligible, student must: 1). Be a senior *female* planning to enroll at an accredited institution of higher education in North Carolina in the fall; 2). Have a minimum 3.0 GPA; and 3). Declare a major in a STEM field, or express interest in pursuing a career in STEM with a focus on technology and engineering. In addition to their application, students must provide an essay (topic can be found on the application), an official transcript, a copy of your college acceptance letter, and a letter of recommendation. For more information, and to apply, please visit: <http://www.ncotechnology.org/about/scholarship.aspx>. **Deadline: May 31, 2016.**

### Charlotte Knights STEM Scholarship Program:

The Charlotte Knights and Piedmont Natural Gas will be providing three \$1,000 scholarships. To be eligible, students must: 1). be a senior in Union County; 2). Plan to attend an accredited school in the fall of 2016; 3). have a cumulative *unweighted* GPA of 3.3 on a 4.0 scale; 4). Have a minimum SAT score of 1800 (on a 2400 scale), a 1200 SAT score (based on a 1600 scale), or an ACT score of 26; 5). Be a member of at least one sports team at your high school or other extracurricular activity; 6). Have a great deal of involvement in the community or multiple hours of volunteer experience; and 7). Plan to declare a major within a STEM field, or have demonstrated interest in pursuing a career in those areas. Students must provide an official transcript and one letter of recommendation with their complete application. For more information, please visit: [http://www.milb.com/content/page.jsp?ymd=20140128&content\\_id=67200278&sid=1494&vkey=team3](http://www.milb.com/content/page.jsp?ymd=20140128&content_id=67200278&sid=1494&vkey=team3). Applications can be emailed to [community@charlotteknights.com](mailto:community@charlotteknights.com) or mailed to the address on the application. Applications are available in Guidance or on the website above. **Deadline: June 1, 2016.**

### Charlotte Knights Healthcare Scholarship Program:

In an effort to improve education funding and further opportunities to the youth in our community, the Charlotte Knights instituted the HealthCare Scholarship presented by Carolinas HealthCare System. This year, 3 recipients will receive a \$1,000 scholarship and honored at BB&T Ballpark. To be eligible, applicants must: 1). Be a high school senior in Union County; 2). Be attending an accredited institution of higher education in the fall of 2016; 3). Have a cumulative *unweighted* GPA of at least 3.3 on a 4.0 scale; 4). Have a minimum of an 1800 SAT score (based on 2400 scale) or 1200 SAT score (based on 1600 scale) or an ACT score of 26; 5). Be a member of at least one sports team at your high school or related extracurricular activity; 6). Have heavy involvement in the community or multiple hours of volunteer experience; and 7). Plans to declare a major within the healthcare field or have demonstrated an interest in pursuing a career in a healthcare field. To apply, students must provide proof of acceptance to a post-secondary school, a transcript, and one letter of recommendation with their application. For more information, and an application, please visit: [http://www.milb.com/content/page.jsp?ymd=20140113&content\\_id=66596346&sid=1494&vkey=team3](http://www.milb.com/content/page.jsp?ymd=20140113&content_id=66596346&sid=1494&vkey=team3). Applications can be emailed to [community@charlotteknights.com](mailto:community@charlotteknights.com) or mailed to the address on the application. Applications are available in Guidance or on the website above. **Deadline: June 1, 2016.**

**The LAST scholarship newsletter of the 2015-2016 school year is available. Check it out [HERE!](#)**

### Graduation Ceremony Video

Directions for Uploading Photos for Graduation Video:

- 1) Download the Yearbook Snap app
- 2) Enter school name: CATA
- 3) Enter the school code: cougars16
- 4) Click Submit Photos
- 5) Click Yearbook Special Requests
- 6) Click on the + and upload up to 5 photos.

**Senior Week *FRIDAY: May 27th*, SENIOR AWARDS DAY; STUDENTS SHOULD DRESS NICELY TO RECEIVE AWARDS.** Awards to be held during 1st & 2nd period.

- Following the senior awards, there will be an ice cream social IN THE CAFE IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING AWARDS PROGRAM - YEARBOOKS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED FOR YEARBOOK SIGNING. STUDENTS WILL RETURN TO CLASS DURING THIRD PERIOD.

## News from Guidance:

**If you are taking an online summer course please make sure to see Mr. Rowell in Room 403 by Friday, June 3rd to pick up the summer online information, including the course dates and log in information.**

- **SAT.... ACT.... PSAT....**Info on the CATA website. [Click here to go to the page for registration dates, costs, AND information on SAT and ACT prep.](#)

**Summer Opportunities** – SPCC is offering a wide variety of affordable summer camps this summer. Camps run various dates from June 23 through August 4, 2016 and include: Advanced Manufacturing, Art, Construction Trades, Intro to Auto Mechanics, Cyber Crime, Health, Leadership Robotics, Solar Energy, and Small Business. For more information, and to register, please visit: <http://www.spcc.edu/summer-camps-june-23-through-august-4/>

### **Volunteer Opportunity!!**

Stallings Parks & Recreation is looking for high school students to volunteer. They need one-time volunteers and long-term volunteers. For more information, or to sign up, you can contact Abby Fowler at (704)821-0379 or at [afowler@admin.stallingsnc.org](mailto:afowler@admin.stallingsnc.org).

**Summer Opportunities!** Check out the [Summer Opportunities](#) page.

**DigiGirlz High Tech Camp** - This one-day camp takes place at Microsoft's Charlotte location and introduces high school girls to the many career fields offered within the high tech industry. During the camp, DigiGirlz will listen to executive speakers, participate in technology tours and demonstrations, network, and learn through hands-on experience in workshops. This event provides girls in grades 9-12 with career planning assistance, information about technology and business roles, thought-provoking exercises, and interesting Microsoft product demonstrations. This camp will occur June 14-16, 2016. There is no registration deadline; however, registration will close once all slots are filled. To register, please visit: <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/diversity/programs/digigirlz/hightechcamp.aspx>

**UNC Charlotte** is offering a wide variety of summer camps for students in grades 9-12. **Niner Academy at UNC Charlotte** will give students the opportunity to learn about academic disciplines and careers that high school curricula may not offer, preparing them for both college and career. For more detailed information on each camp, and to register, please visit: <http://summercamps.uncc.edu/summer-camp/niner-academy>.



## NHS TALENT SHOW

**The NHS Raised  
\$350.00 for  
Turning Point**



## Student Recognition Opportunity –

If you have participated in PLTW courses and AP courses, you may be eligible to receive AP + PLTW recognition. College Board and Project Lead the Way have teamed up to offer this recognition that will demonstrate to colleges and employers that the student is ready for advanced course work and interested in careers in this discipline. There are three chosen pathways in which a student can participate: Biomedical Science, Engineering, and Computer Science. To qualify, students must complete three courses in their pathway:

- One AP course
- One PLTW course
- One additional AP or PLTW course

The Pathway Menu of Courses that students can select from can be found [HERE](#). Students that are interested in receiving this recognition need to apply by **June 30th, 2016**. Please be on the lookout for information about how to apply. [Or - Apply Now by clicking here.](#)

Link to the website with guidance information: <http://cata.ucps.k12.nc.us/guidance/guidance.php>



# Hygiene Kit Drive

**Beta Club's is sponsoring this drive to benefit the homeless shelter in Monroe. Donations of washcloths, toothbrushes, trial size toothpaste, shampoo, and soap can be donated in your second period class. Please consider donating a few items to help your community!**

**Donations will be taken through  
May 31st**



## **Around Campus...** *(for all home and away sports times, see Athletics section)*

The CATA website Calendar is a great resource—please see that on the [main CATA page](#).

**Friday, May 27:** Senior Awards Day, 9:00 AM (Auditorium); Chorus Concert, 7:30 PM (Auditorium); Student Council Sophomore Class Meeting, 3:30 (Media Center)

**Monday, May 30:** NO SCHOOL, Memorial Day

**Tuesday, May 31:** Performing Arts PTSO, 6:30, (Media Center)

**Wednesday, June 1:** Performing Arts Banquet, 7 PM (Auditorium and Cafeteria); FCA Leadership Meeting, 8:00 AM (Mr. Lindley's Room);

**Thursday, June 2:** FCA Weekly Meeting, 8:00 AM (Gym); Band of Blue Marching Band Meeting, 6 PM (Band Rm.); Band Booster Meeting/Board Elections,, 6:30 PM (Band Rm.)

### **Upcoming Dates:**

5/27—Senior Awards, 9:00 AM (Auditorium)

5/27—Chorus Concert, 7:30 PM (Auditorium)

5/30—NO School— Memorial Day

6/1—Performing Arts Banquet, 7 PM (Café and Auditorium)

6/3 to 6/9—Final Exams

6/9—Graduation Practice, (CATA GYM)

6/10—Graduation at Winthrop University, 6:00 PM

## **Final Exam Schedule**

**Friday, June 3: First Period Exam, 2nd Period Review**

**Monday, June 6: Second Period Exam, 3rd Period Review**

**Tuesday, June 7: Third Period Exam, 4th Period Review**

**Wednesday, June 8: Fourth Period Exam**

**Thursday, June 9: Exam Make-Up Day**

- Students should attend ALL review sessions to best prepare for exams.
- Students May leave after 4th period exams IF they have a note from their parents. The note must be turned in prior to the exam.
- Students remaining on campus after fourth period exam will participate in scheduled activities.

# **ITALY Spring 2017**

**If you are interested in traveling to ITALY during Spring Break, then please see Ms. Foreman in Room 208**

## Student Life Notes

**All students are asked to lend a hand to the Beta Club's Hygiene Kit drive to benefit the homeless shelter in Monroe. Donations of washcloths, toothbrushes, trial size toothpaste, shampoo, and soap can be donated in your second period class every day this week. Please consider donating a few items to help your community! Donations will be taken through May 31st.**

**The Spring Choral Concert is on Friday, May 27 at 7:30 PM in the Auditorium.**

**Driver's Education class registration is now open. Only two classes are being offered this summer and they start June 9th and July 18th.**

**LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE!!!**

**Click on the link to the Online Driver's Ed Class information on the CATA homepage.**

**BE a LEADER JOIN a STUDENT LIFE ORGANIZATION TODAY**

Questions??? OR an announcement needed, please e-mail Mr. Wall at

[josh.wall@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:josh.wall@ucps.k12.nc.us)



**Class of 2017  
Attention  
Juniors/Rising Seniors  
SENIOR  
T-Shirt CONTEST**

**The voting deadline is  
Friday, May 27, 2016**

**Check your school email  
for the voting link!**



## **COUGAR ATHLETICS**

If you have questions about athletics or want to volunteer to help with athletics, please send an email to Athletic Director, [Coach Jay Niessner](mailto:jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us).

### **Varsity Results:**

**Baseball, Softball, Tennis, Golf:** Season Complete

**Women's Soccer:** CATA 0—Forbush 1. CATA Soccer named 2A Regional Runners-up. Season complete

**Track & Field: Regionals** - Jesse Ballew Regional Champ – 400 Meter, Men's 4X800 Relay Regional Champions – Jesse Ballew, Josh Weirich, Alec Merrill & Evan Wunder.

### **News & Information:**

- Summer workouts & fall sports are just around the corner. Please remember that fall sports start on Monday, August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016. You **MUST** be here for tryouts if you plan on participating in a fall sport.
- Summer workout calendars was posted by **May 1<sup>st</sup>** on the CATA website.
- You **MUST** have a **current physical** on file with the Athletic Director to participate in summer workouts.
- All other required paperwork to participate in fall sports will be available after July 1<sup>st</sup>. Only physicals can be handed in prior to July 1<sup>st</sup> per state policy.
- Fall sports required parent meeting will be held on **Monday, July 25<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 pm** in the CATA Auditorium.

Athletic Trainer – Sarak Hang – [sarak.hang@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:sarak.hang@ucps.k12.nc.us)

### **Spring Sports Head Coach Contact Information:**

Women's Soccer & Athletic Director – Jay Niessner – [jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us)

Baseball – Nelson Rowell – [nelson.rowell@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:nelson.rowell@ucps.k12.nc.us)

Softball – Doug Mayhew – [doug.mayhew@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:doug.mayhew@ucps.k12.nc.us)

Track & Field – Kim Inuwa – [iam4kim@yahoo.com](mailto:iam4kim@yahoo.com)

Men's Golf – Mike Jacobus – [mike.jacobus@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:mike.jacobus@ucps.k12.nc.us)

Men's Tennis – Ken Neese – [keneese@gmail.com](mailto:keneese@gmail.com)

### **Fall Sports Head Coach Contact Information:**

Athletic Director & Men's Soccer – Jay Niessner – [jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us)

Football – Shane Griffin – [edward.griffin@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:edward.griffin@ucps.k12.nc.us)

Volleyball – Doug Mayhew – [doug.mayhew@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:doug.mayhew@ucps.k12.nc.us)

Cheerleading – Ashley Lawson – [ashley.lawson@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:ashley.lawson@ucps.k12.nc.us)

Women's Golf – Mike Jacobus – [mike.jacobus@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:mike.jacobus@ucps.k12.nc.us)

Women's Tennis – Nelson Rowell – [nelson.rowell@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:nelson.rowell@ucps.k12.nc.us)

Cross Country – Kim Inuwa – [iam4kim@yahoo.com](mailto:iam4kim@yahoo.com)

### **Winter Sports Head Coach Contact Information:**

Athletic Director – Jay Niessner – [jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:jay.niessner@ucps.k12.nc.us)

Cheerleading – Ashley Lawson – [Ashley.lawson@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:Ashley.lawson@ucps.k12.nc.us)

Women's Basketball – Tony Byrum – [tb93bball@yahoo.com](mailto:tb93bball@yahoo.com)

Men's Basketball – David Daniels – [david.daniels@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:david.daniels@ucps.k12.nc.us)

Men's & Women's Swimming – Kelly Lepsig – [Kelly.lepsig@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:Kelly.lepsig@ucps.k12.nc.us)

Men's & Women's Indoor Track – Kim Inuwa – [iam4kim@yahoo.com](mailto:iam4kim@yahoo.com)

Wrestling – Mike Jacobus – [mike.jacobus@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:mike.jacobus@ucps.k12.nc.us)

Make sure to follow all of CATA's athletic teams on Twitter:  
**@CATA\_Athletics**

# Cougar Pride - Way to go!!!

- ⇒ Air Force JROTC News—**Andrew McDow** was promoted today to the 2016-2017 Cadet Group Commander for NC-931! Effective at the beginning of the next school year, Andrew will be in charge of all three squadrons comprised of both CATA and Monroe High School students. Way to go Andrew and all of the JROTC students!!!
- ⇒ Congratulations to the 2016 Junior Marshals!! These students are in the top 5% of the Junior Class and will participate in Senior Awards Day and Graduation:
- |                 |                |                       |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Anna Barber     | James Lewis    | Zaria Reep            |
| Molly Boda      | Brice Martin   | Diana Sanchez Vazquez |
| Elizabeth Helms | Andrew Pappas  | Trevor Weimer         |
| Matthew Leonard | Kaylianna Ritz |                       |
- ⇒ Congratulations to our 2016-2017 Student Council Officers:
- Your Student Body President is...**Nazirah Ahmad.**
- Your Student Body Vice President is...**Dan Morrison.**
- Your Student Body Secretary Treasurer is...**Taylor MacLellan.**
- Your Student Body Spirit Leaders are...**Courtney Walker and Paula Das.**
- Your Senior Class President is...**Alexis Elko.**
- Your Senior Class Vice President is...**Lindsey Reich.**
- Your Senior Class Secretary Treasurer is...**Rebecca Dean.**
- Your Junior Class President is...**Garrett Gilmer.**
- Your Junior Class Vice President is...**Nicole Nava.**
- Your Junior Class Secretary Treasurer is...**Taylor Barnes.**
- Your Sophomore Class President is...**Ethan Cammer.**
- Your Sophomore Class Vice President is...**Hunter Thompson.**
- Your Sophomore Class Secretary Treasurer is...**Ashton Petty.**
- Thank you to those of you who took the time to vote.
- ⇒ Congratulations to the entire Ragtime Cast, Crew, and Orchestra for winning 2016 Wells Fargo Best Musical at the Blumeys Awards Program last weekend!!!
- ⇒ Congratulations to Amina Faye for winning Best Actress and Justin Rivers for Best Actor at the Blumeys last weekend!
- ⇒ Congratulations to Mr. Robinson for winning best overall direction at the Blumeys!!!

**Central Academy of Technology and Arts  
Graduation Information  
Class of 2016**

Dear Class of 2016,

We are so very proud of each and every one of you. This spring semester we hope that you will enjoy your time with your friends and teachers while maintaining your school work. In just a short time you will no longer be a “high school student” and will be looked at as an adult. You have worked hard, we have worked hard, and your parents have worked hard to prepare you for this challenge. You are each a reflection of your family and your school and, more importantly, you are a reflection of your core values. We hope that you will have fond memories of CATA and of the people here. We certainly have wonderful memories of each one of you.

The rest of this letter contains important information you need to know in a very factual format. We ask that you review the entire letter with your family. We are excited about the remainder of your Senior Year and want to be sure you know the expectations that are set. Feel free to come and ask any questions you may have.

**Congratulations Class of 2016!**

**Date and Time:** Graduation will be held at Winthrop University (701 Oakland Avenue, Rock Hill, SC 29730) on Friday, June 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm.

Students will need to arrive at the university by 5:00 at the latest.

A map and directions will be provided for you at a later date. If you have any questions or need directions, then please visit the website ([www.winthrop.edu](http://www.winthrop.edu))

**Attire:** Students are expected to dress appropriately and professionally since this is a dignified ceremony. Students at CATA are only permitted to wear CATA issued cords, medallions, and cap and gown. No graduation regalia may be altered in any way.

**Ladies:** Ladies will need to wear an appropriate dress (or dark slacks) that is no longer than their gown. There should be No collar showing with the gown. Shoes should be brown, tan, black, or navy since the robes are navy. Flip-flops and tennis shoes are not appropriate, however, dressy sandals are appropriate.

**Gentlemen:** dark pants, a white shirt, black or dark tie or bowtie, and dark shoes (brown, tan, black or navy). No tennis shoes or flip-flops will be allowed.

IF you have any questions about your attire, then please ask administration.

**Senior Cap and Gown Picture: \*\*Above is the same attire you will be expected to wear at the senior cap and gown picture on Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup> in the gym.\*\*** (Ladies, you do not need to run out and buy your graduation dress now, something that you have that fits this general dress code is fine). This occurs during 2<sup>nd</sup> block and you must be present and in appropriate attire to be included in the picture (be here by 10:00 am if you flex first period).

**Tickets:** Tickets will be on sale beginning May 9<sup>th</sup> – May 13<sup>th</sup> before/after school in the main office, and will also be available to be purchased online:

- Each senior will receive **four (4)** free tickets with the opportunity to buy extra tickets at \$5.00 a ticket. Students can pre-purchase as many tickets as they need (go to the CATA website, click on "online school payments" on the right tab starting May 4<sup>th</sup>).
- Tickets will also be sold at the door before the Graduation ceremony.
- Everyone (including children) must have a ticket to enter the arena.
- Students will not receive their tickets until the end of Graduation practice.
- Students owing fees will not receive tickets until fees are paid (see below).
- Please keep your receipt for the tickets in case there are any questions.
- Students can pay cash/check to pay for the tickets, or order online as shown above.

**Graduation Practice:** Graduation practice will be held on Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup> in the school gym from 2:00 pm-4:00 pm. Please make sure to make plans to attend the entire practice. **Failure to do so will result in not walking at Graduation.** It is your responsibility to schedule any college functions around final exams, graduation practice, and graduation itself.

You do not have to wear your cap and gown to practice.

If you are speaking at Graduation, then you should bring a copy of your speech so you can practice it a couple of times. You will not receive your tickets until the end of practice so make arrangements beforehand.

**Graduating from high school** is dependent upon earning the number and type of credits needed to earn a diploma.

**Participating in the graduation ceremony is a privilege**, one that your family will truly value as they have spent a lot of time supporting you in your academic studies. Please take time to ensure that you are eligible to graduate by earning the credits needed. Please take time to ensure that you are able to participate in the graduation ceremony by making good choices for the remainder of your senior year, and by making sure that you have taken care of all financial responsibilities. Specifically, students must pay all fees owed to the school in order to be permitted to participate in graduation ceremonies. This includes fees such as (but not limited to) - cafeteria, media center, textbook, transcript, technology, property fees. Any unpaid fee owed to the school or school system must be paid by Wednesday June 8<sup>th</sup> to be allowed to participate in a graduation ceremony. Multiple invoices have been sent this year. If you have an outstanding balance we strongly urge you to meet with your grade level administrator now to set up a payment plan.

**Senior Week: Senior Week is May 23<sup>rd</sup> -27<sup>th</sup>.**

**Extra Information about graduation day:**

- Graduates must park at the back of the coliseum – this will be designated on the directions you receive and signs will be up at the coliseum. Guests must park at the front of the coliseum. If any of your guests are handicapped, there is a handicap accessible entrance at the front of the coliseum – cars can drive up to this entrance to drop their guest off and CATA staff will assist them in getting into the coliseum while the driver parks the car.
- Winthrop Coliseum will have police officers and security at the graduation event. Please remind your guests that no noisemakers are permitted in the coliseum. The officers represent Winthrop and will enforce the Winthrop rules. Guests to the ceremony should plan on arriving 30 minutes to an hour in advance to allow for traffic. Winthrop will close the doors to the coliseum once the graduation ceremony begins, so all guests need to be in place prior to the 6:00 start time.
- Students should not bring any valuables with them, including phones, into the coliseum as there will be no place for them to store valuables. Please leave them with your parents.
- Pictures of the graduates receiving their diploma will be taken by a professional photographer. Students will receive information on how to order the pictures in their Senior Envelope that they get after the ceremony. Only graduates and staff are permitted on the arena floor.
- At the end of the graduation ceremony all seniors will proceed out of the coliseum and will use the coliseum tunnel to exit at the back of the coliseum, where they will receive their actual diploma, final transcript, picture information, and other important items. An official transcript in a sealed envelope will be in the packet. It is YOUR responsibility to mail it to your college. It is REQUIRED by your college for admission. **Please make plans to meet your families by walking around the outside of the coliseum toward the front. There are plenty of places to take pictures outside. Since the University will have to reset after our graduation for the next events, guests and graduates will not be able to stay inside the coliseum for pictures.**