

One Day Monthly

May 2010

Topics in this issue:

- Choosing Curriculum, Part IV
- Student Receives Gold Seal at State Art Event
- Students, Teacher Selected for Duke TIP, NASA Scholars
- GenJ, Patriot Academy Offer Political Experience for Students

What You Need to Know Before Choosing Curriculum, Part IV *Developing your vision statement*



Homeschooling through high school is a superior way to prepare your children for a practical and spiritual life.

Editor's Note: The following is last in a four-part series by One Day Academy teacher Viv Lynn and her husband Ken. Parts One through Three can be found in the February, March, and April issues at the ODA website under Newsletters.

Homeschooling through High School

I cannot say emphatically enough that homeschooling through high school is a superior way to prepare your children for a practical and spiritual life. Just in case you missed the point: it can be

done, done well, and benefit your child beyond your imagination.

By now you should have realized that people with different talents, learning styles, or multiple intelligences would also have different challenges towards educating secondary school (high school) subjects. Parents are required by God, the law and nature to learn and adapt to the changing needs of their children. It doesn't mean every parent should master calculus, chemistry, and piano just because their vision statement now

encompasses all of these and more. Parents should remember that "teaching" and "directing" your child through an education program are different entirely.

Homeschooling through high school is about insuring your children are taught under your authority, according to your worldview, and towards your vision of God's will in their lives. Homeschooling is about providing resources, textbooks, supplies, guidance and goals that help them to grow in a manner that glorifies God.

(Continued on page 3)

Volume 2, Issue 8

Success at State VASE *Laura Yates receives top award*

One Day Academy's Laura Yates received a Gold Seal for her work "Canyon Blues" at the State Visual Arts Scholastic event in Houston on April 9-10. The Gold Seal is awarded to exemplary works of art that are chosen by the state jury.

ODA student James Schooler also won a medallion for his photo of a fire truck light.

"Canyon Blues" is a painted paper collage made up of blue-green color/value segments. It depicts Laura's brother, cousin and grandfather hiking in the Grand Canyon.

"I like how the map that they hold represents our need for a roadmap to guide us through life," said Laura.

Laura's self-portrait, a colored pencil drawing, also qualified for the State VASE.

James was pleased to be a

part of the State VASE, too. "I would like to extend my gratitude to Mr. Armstrong, who I take photography classes from at the ODA South Austin campus, and to Mrs. Gallaher for setting this all up for me to have an experience to remember."

Medals are awarded to students who received a superior rating at the regional event and a medallion is awarded to students who received superior at the state event.

Regional VASEs across Texas sent 2,082 pieces of artwork. Our region, one of twenty in the state, sent in 222 artworks. Of those, 165 received me-

dallions. Students in our region received a total of 27 Gold Seals out of the 150 awarded.

-Alyssa Hook



"Canyon Blues" received a Gold Seal at the State VASE. Photo courtesy of Laura Yates

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Coming in July/August:
Preparing for the New School Year
NASA Aerospace Scholars

Editor: Susan Peisker
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Homeschool Handyman's Corner: Teaching Your Children Basic Homeowner Skills

This month: Water Heater Safety

We depend daily on hot water but few people think about their water heater until it becomes a problem. Because the water heater is usually out of sight and out of mind, maintenance of this appliance is rarely performed.

However, there is one particular safety check that is very important, and it is the subject of this month's column. It is also a great way to inject a science

topic into homeschool education, so involve your kids in this as both a practical and educational experience.

The plumbing system in our homes is closed, meaning it is pressurized to the level of the utility water supply, which is typically 60 pounds per square inch (psi) or so. We know from basic physics that water pressure is proportional to temperature, so when cold 60 psi water

is heated, the pressure in the tank increases with temperature. Here is a great topic of discussion and experimentation with your children. Look in your science curriculum for ways to demonstrate the principle of fluid (gas or liquid) pressure changing as it is heated or cooled.

Water heater tanks and piping are designed to be safely pressurized up to a certain level.



The safety valve can be found at the top or side of the water heater.
Photo by Jim Peisker

“Without TPR valve maintenance and inspection, you have an unreliable safety valve, and this may be little better than having no valve at all.”

Above this, they are in danger of exploding violently, as a balloon would when it is over-inflated. Plumbing codes require that a safety valve be installed on all water heating systems (gas/electric, tank/tankless). Its purpose is to prevent water pressure and temperature from reaching the steam range, which can destroy a water heater or damage piping.

This safety valve is commonly

referred to as a temperature pressure relief (TPR) valve. It opens to discharge water when either the water pressure increases beyond a safe value (typically 150 psi), or the water temperature approaches a boiling point (typically 210°F).

The safety valve can prevent big problems if the water supply pressure suddenly increases or the temperature control thermostat fails. However, the TPR valve, like most plumbing in

your house, is subject to buildup of corrosion and minerals. If the safety valve gets caked up with this gunk, it may not open at the desired temperature or pressure should the need arise, or it may not open at all. Without TPR valve maintenance and inspection, you have an unreliable safety valve, and this may be little better than having no valve at all.

Testing the safety valve is quite simple. At the top or side

of your water heater, there should be a brass valve with a lever on it. Identified by a metal tag and perhaps an instructional label, this TPR valve should also have a pipe connected to the outside of the house, or somewhere that hot water can safely be discharged.

You should test the valve **at least once a year** and observe that hot water flows out the safety drain. **Use caution here!** Keep people away from the outlet pipe as splashing hot water may scald. Lift the lever to operate the valve and lower the lever to close. Exercise the test lever a few times to flush out junk that might be built up around the valve actuator.

If the safety valve opens but does not close again, you will need to replace it (be prepared to turn off the supply valve). If it has been a few years since the valve was tested, consider

replacing it. If it does not open when you lift the lever, or you can't easily move the lever, it should definitely be replaced. Photos and detailed information can be found under the topic of Water Heater Safety Valve at

www.handyhomeowner.us.

There are several other maintenance tasks that water heater manufacturers recommend, and these should also be observed to preserve the life of your appliance, improve efficiency and minimize trouble. Information on this can be found at the same website under the topic of Water Heater Maintenance.

Jim Peisker

www.handyhomeowner.us
jim@handyhomeowner.us

Jim is a homeschool dad who has worked 29 years as an electrical engineer; he has been fixing stuff all of his life.

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What You Need to Know, from page 1

Your children will never be, probably never could be, limited by your own experience and resources. You should relish the opportunity to expand their education beyond the kitchen table, but never relinquish the authority God has given you in the education process. Managing high school is about managing resources, time, and expenses to an optimum outcome.

There isn't a perfect high school graduate (except mine), and if you haven't already written that into your vision statement, go back and rewrite it. High school is about finishing the job. It is the shortest time, the majority of practical information, and most rewarding of efforts. High school is not the time to either "play it safe" or "squander the opportunity" by relinquishing control over the outcome to another authority (public school).

Parents should also be reminded that perfection is not our goal. Perfection is not a human (God-given) characteristic, but growth and maturity in Christ is our direction. There is also not a

guarantee that comes with a birth certificate.

The Bible says, "Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it." (Proverbs 22:6). There is a process of faith imparted in this verse. When you are finished directing your children's education, your job is limited to mentoring their lives. It becomes your children's free will and God's faithfulness that assure an everlasting result and the accomplishment of homeschooling.

Parents are to be wise in their approach, do their jobs, and let God insure the outcome. Most parents may still have "college-preparatory" in their vision statement, but hopefully it is now a means/tool instead of a destination for their children. It is easy to research the high school graduation requirements for Texas public high schools:

ritter.tea.state.tx.us/student.assessment/resources/grad/2008-09_GradBro.pdf.

These are guidelines you can use for what needs to be documented and placed into a transcript for typical college entrance programs. You should not overlook checking the degree pro-

grams for several schools to see what they require for enrollment. Simply, UT-Engineering is not the same as STU-Social Work. By the way: somewhere in the sophomore year, your path to a specific goal should start to take shape.

Goals

Goals...I am to have goals and vision. Plans are to be submitted to the Lord, but you are still to prayerfully make them and seek His correction and guidance. Goals are simply a useful tool for you to see the steps needed to achieve the vision God has given you. Goals are also to become your "Academic Program."

Define five areas for achievement that can identify growth and success towards your vision statement. Note: these will be your child's personal and academic goals. Write a paragraph to a page on each goal.

Under each goal write three numbered sentences such as "Steps to Achieving this Goal." Really! Write them down!

At least half of these short term goals should have some measurable processes to create a visual feedback and accountability for

your work. This is less important in primary school, but becomes necessary in high school and college prep. If your goals are well thought out they should have some resiliency to them. In other words, you shouldn't change them like you change coffee flavors. Feel free to change your goals only as your understanding of God's plan is revealed to you (such as in your annual review).

Pick a Curriculum

With this homework, prayer, and organization your research and selection from the available curriculum should be easy and fruitful! Thank you for letting us share with you what God has given us and the peace and blessing that have come from our obedience to God.

-Teaching for 18 years, Viv Lynn is Director of Standards of Excellence and One Day Academy Department Head for Academic Development.

Ken Lynn is Business Manager for Standards of Excellence. He has also served Christ as a teacher, Program Director, and Project Consultant.

ODA Students, Teacher Selected for Programs

Duke TIP Offers Invitation

"It was a great feeling when I received the invitation [to join the Duke University Talent Identification Program]," said One Day Academy student Laurie Sheldon, who was recently invited to join Duke TIP for the seventh grade.

Laurie said: "When I got invited to the seventh grade program, I was excited at the opportunity to take the SAT."

Duke TIP is a gifted student program which allows gifted and tal-

ented students a chance to stimulate and challenge their minds through taking standardized tests such as the ACT or SAT and on-campus classes over the summer.

Laurie thinks that being homeschooled has played a huge role in her success. "Homeschooling allows me to participate in higher level classes, [which has helped my scores]." Laurie is taking an architecture class this summer in Lawrence, Kansas through Duke TIP.

I am also an invitee: I was invited to the fourth/fifth grade level pro-

gram three years ago. I have participated in many online classes and taken the SAT. My personal experience has shown me that Duke TIP is a great program for advanced learning.

To be eligible for the Duke TIP, students must score in the top 95 percent or higher on any standardized test, and score 125 or higher on any IQ test.

<http://www.tip.duke.edu/summer.html>

-Justin Movalli

NASA Aerospace Scholars

One Day Academy's Kara McDonald was selected this year to be a part of NASA's High School Aerospace Scholars program.

Program directors also chose ODA teacher Patti Ashley to work

with a team of students for a week this summer.

Kara's participation in the program includes completing 10 web-based lessons. The program culminates in the summer sessions at Johnson Space Center Houston, where students will work on a (mock) manned mission to

Mars. Kara is scheduled to go in August.

Mrs. Ashley said she is excited to assist the students in their mission, as she is looking forward to getting to know her team as they live and work together.

-Susan Peisker

"Laurie thinks that being homeschooled has played a huge role in her success."

One Day Academy

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Find us on the Web:

<http://onedayacademy.com>

Announcements

- **The One Day Academy 2010 End of Year Party** is scheduled for Saturday, May 8, from 10-2 at Zilker Park. Please visit the web page for more information: <http://onedayacademy.com/event-calendar/end-of-the-year-party/>
- Join us for the **2010 One Day Academy Graduation** on May 22 at 2 pm at Bannockburn Baptist Church. The church is on Brodie Lane just south of William Cannon.
- Come to the **Central Texas Homeschool Resource Fair** on June 13. Please see article next page for details.
- It's not too late to register for **summer classes**. Go to the website for a schedule and further information. <http://onedayacademy.com/summer/>
- Students! One Day Academy is organizing **Generation Joshua** chapters at the Bastrop and Southwest Capstone campuses. A chapter has already formed in Georgetown. Each chapter must have at least one adult sponsor and five student members to be a part of GenJ. Contact Tom Schoeneck: t.schoeneck@onedayacademy.com. (see article below)
- Consider **Patriot Academy** this summer: for any student who wants a hands on experience with government, or is thinking about serving God through law, politics, and government. www.patriotacademy.com (article below)
- **Psalm 91 Ministry** offers an opportunity to pray for ODA staff. For ODA families, friends, relatives, etc. Contact: t.schoeneck@onedayacademy.com

Training Students to Become Leaders

Generation Joshua, Patriot Academy offer hands-on approach to learning about politics



Generation Joshua students march at the Texas Rally for Life in Austin last January. Photo by Stacie Bright

One Day Academy ministry partners Generation Joshua and Patriot Academy are training young adults to use their voices in the political realm.

These programs give a hands-on approach to becoming leaders in a generation where apathetic attitudes and a seemingly absent sense of patriotism is the norm.

ODA's partnership with Generation Joshua has gone through changes this year: the local club has recently been reorganized. Tom Schoeneck of One Day Academy believes that "our Democratic Republic requires informed citizenry to be active at the levels of political life. GenJ clubs are a beginning place for young people ages 11-19 to catch the 'Political Bug.'"

A GenJ group has already

formed in Georgetown. However, there can only be one Generation Joshua club per county. In order to start clubs in Travis and Bastrop counties, at least one adult sponsor and five students would be needed for each club.

Generation Joshua's vision and purpose is to, "Train and educate society about the principles that guide our nation and encourage these newly equipped citizens to effectively influence America for Christ."

ODA also supports Patriot Academy, which is for students ages 16-25. It is a rigorous five-day program in which students are alerted and informed of the pressing political and spiritual issues of our world. This program transforms students into state representatives within a matter of

hours.

Founder David Barton gives a call to action on the Patriot Academy website's home page, "This call to leadership is not for the faint of heart. This is not the place to seek fame and fortune. We do not need more self-serving politicians, we need more self-sacrificing patriots. If you are prepared to raise your standards, leave behind the limits of mediocrity, and join our Founding Fathers in a pledge of lives, fortunes, and sacred honor... then I salute your courage and look forward to seeing you at the next Patriot Academy."

Find out more at www.patriotacademy.com and www.generationjoshua.org.

-Cassidy Woodall

Homeschool Resource Fair Coming in June

Mardel to be featured vendor

Christian bookstore and home education supplier Mardel will be the featured vendor at the Central Texas Homeschool Resource Fair on Saturday, June 13.

One Day Academy is sponsoring the event at High Pointe Baptist Church from 9 am to 4 pm.

Dana Tillman, a highly regarded world view instructor,

will be our featured speaker. Dana has worked for many years with David Quine of Cornerstone Curriculum, the supplier of ODA's World Views of the Western World class resources.

Lucas Mason of Home School Legal Defense Association will speak on HSLDA and Generation Joshua, which is a division of HSLDA (see re-

lated article, page 4).

ODA teachers and several area homeschool support group leaders will be available to answer questions.

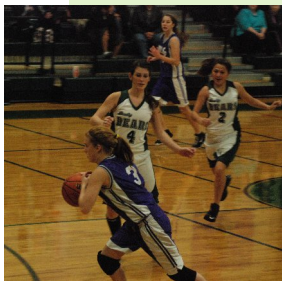
Many of ODA's ministry partners will also offer information. Look for representatives from athletic organizations, speech/debate groups, robotics teams, and more.

Admission is \$3 at the door;

children are free (no registration necessary). High Pointe Baptist Church is at 12030 Dessau Road—east of I-35 between Parmer and Braker.

For more information, go to: <http://onedayacademy.com/event-calendar/homeschool-resource-fair/>.

-Susan Peisker



Caroline Harger takes the ball down the court while Inga Dedow assists.
Photo by Kelsey Johnson

Royals Basketball

Girls' and Boys' season ends well at Nationals

The Austin Royals Christian Athletics Varsity Girls and Boys basketball teams finished well this season, with both teams placing high in the rankings for their divisions at the National Christian Homeschool Basketball Championships.

According to Royals Athletic Director Pam Lee, the girls

varsity team finished with a 32-6 record and earned third place in the 5A division at Nationals, which were held in March in Springfield, Missouri.

Hannah Devine, Inga Dedow, and Ashley Emmons were named first, second, and third team All-American respectively. Caroline Harger

and Stormie Blackwell were named All Region players.

The boys varsity team had a 22-26 record at the end of the season. They finished first in the B division at Nationals. Karl Dedow was named to third team All-American, and Daniel Perez was named an All Region player.

-Susan Peisker

Christian Homeschool Formal

Students gather at the Sheraton for 2010 Event



Nearly 200 students gathered at the Sheraton on April 23 for the Christian Homeschool Formal. Formal organizers Terri Miller and Kim McGorty saw an increase of 70 students over last year's event, which included a catered dinner. Students prepared for the evening by participating in dance classes, and each student received a dance card when they arrived at the event. Pictured here is a group dance. For more information on the event, go to: <http://www.christianhomeschoolformal.com>.

Photo courtesy of Jordan Ashley Photography, Karen Andrews photographer

Students Present Musical

Spring performance held at two locations



One Day Academy students presented the musical *Pilgrims* at two venues in April. Pictured here is the Bastrop ensemble, which performed at the Bastrop Christian Outreach Center. The other ensemble performed at Teravista Fellowship Baptist Church in Round Rock.

"It was a unique experience to present the drama with two different groups of students. The kids enjoyed it, but because it was a musical, they really had to stretch their abilities," said Director (and ODA drama teacher) Voni Dickson. "They had a lot of fun, and it was well-received." Mrs. Dickson will offer the same classes again next year at the Bastrop and Lakeline campuses.

Photo courtesy of Patti Ashley