



# Heritage Happenings

Summer 2020



Architectural rendering of the Heritage Early Learning Academy.



Architectural rendering of the Heritage Academy gymnasium.

Well, it's time to share with the family what has been happening at Heritage Academy.

So, grab a cup of coffee, get comfortable and read on...

Five years ago, the board developed a strategic plan that included the addition of an early learning academy that would address the deficits with which children in poverty arrive in kindergarten. Working with the United Way, we began a legal process that would "improve the arrangement of the association of nonprofits" on Telfair Street, bringing stability and sustainability to those properties and allowing Heritage to develop the early learning academy.

In December 2019, after many delays and hurdles, we obtained the title to the historic home and conference center. In January 2020, Brandeis University published a study called "The Child Opportunity Index 2.0" which quantifies neighborhood opportunity for children to thrive in domains such as education, health and environmental factors, as well as social and economic development. Augusta, Georgia, and more specifically our neighborhood, ranked 6th from the bottom in the nation.

In February, the board voted to begin a five million dollar capital campaign to build the Heritage Early Learning Academy on the site of the old conference center. The campaign would also include the renovation of the 1891 house at 326 Greene Street for executive offices as well as the construction of our school's first gymnasium behind the school.

Then came the Coronavirus and the

significant impact on the economy. We were concerned that our timing was off. Yet, everything pointed to now being the time to do this. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, which funded the COI 2.0, said this was a "call to action" - a call we had been preparing to answer for nearly five years. So we embarked upon the campaign. First came an anonymous \$500,000 gift. Two weeks later came the call that the campaign had been completed - one single source had committed \$4.4 million. I will provide you with details at a later date.

The architectural renderings of the two buildings are here. We stand in awe of our God who has done exceedingly more than we ever imagined. And you, faithful one, have stayed with us on this journey. I hope you are beyond thrilled about God's provision for the children of Augusta. Lift your voice with mine in grateful praise.

- Linda Tucciarone, Executive Director



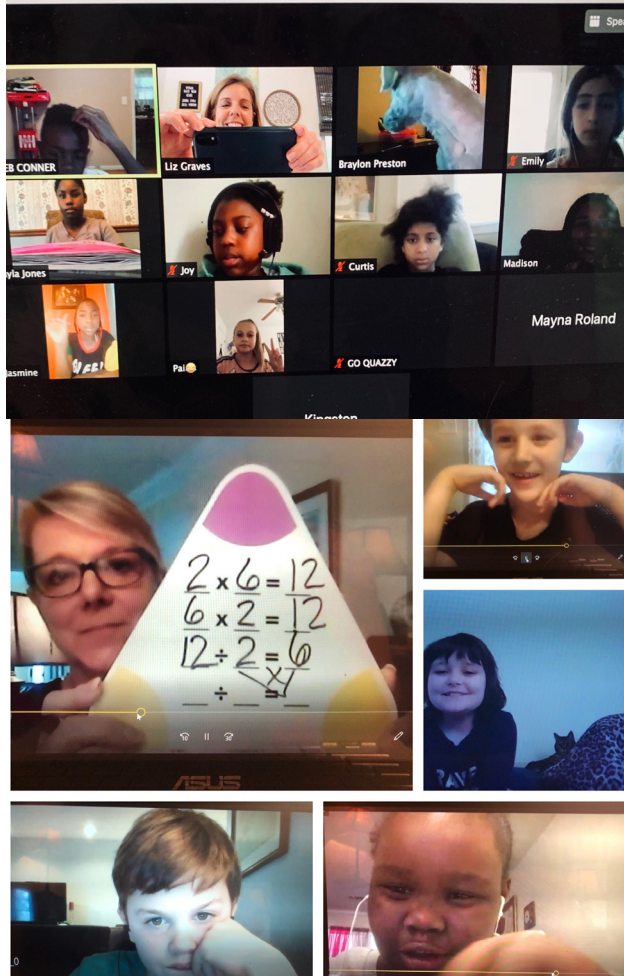


## 8th Grade Graduation



We celebrated our 8th grade graduates with a small, evening ceremony on May 21st. Our families parked along the front of the school to hear their students speak on their HA memories, receive awards, and to pray for their safe journey forward into high school. As faculty and staff, we look forward to seeing the tremendous impact our alumni will have on the world.





Towards the end of the school year, Heritage Academy transitioned to Heritage at Home with Zoom lessons, video storytime, and PE exercises uploaded to YouTube! Thank you to our faculty, staff and families for being flexible and keeping motivation high.



In the midst of a time with many unknowns and changes, we understand there are many worthy programs to support. The Augusta community (and beyond) has generously supported our students for nearly twenty years. As we approach the end of another fiscal year, we are \$150,000 short of our annual fund goal. As our school grows each year, so does our need. Will you help us finish the year strong and provide scholarship funds for our 260 students? The annual fund closes on June 30th.

Thank you for your partnership in our mission.

-Julie Tollison,  
Director of Development

# Annual Fund Need!



## Augusta Heritage Academy

333 Greene St.

Augusta, GA 30901

[www.heritageacademyaugusta.org](http://www.heritageacademyaugusta.org)



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Heritage Academy Augusta

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# CONGRATS CLASS OF 2020

Jayla



## Ann C. Boardman Award

Ann Boardman is a former member of the board of directors and a generous donor to our school. She champions many causes in Augusta but improving the well-being of children tops the list. The recipient of this award is a young lady who exhibits a willing spirit, a commitment to her school community, positivity and a striving to do her best.

Kenyoun



## Robert L. Shanks Award

The Robert L. Shanks award is named for a long-standing volunteer at Heritage Academy who was a model of Christian service up until his death in 2011. The recipient is a young man who exhibits humility and service to others. He is willing to do any task and volunteers to help others with a joyful spirit.

# 2020 Award Winners