

INTOUCH

INSPIRING LEADERS • CULTIVATING EXCELLENCE

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FACULTY FILE



Ms. Virtue Harris

1st Grade / Second Year at FHJ

Ms. Harris, soon to be Mrs. Jean, is a graduate of Liberty University. She received a degree in Paralegal Studies and minor in Criminal Justice in 2020. She was set to go to law school, but God called her to teaching young minds. She is currently attending Liberty University as an education student for her Masters in Elementary Education. As an educator, her goal is to deliver engaging and exciting lessons that will provide her students with knowledgeable fun!



A Noteworthy Addition at FHJ

We are so excited about the growth of our Arts program at FHJ Prep. In addition to our already established songwriting program, this year F. H. Jenkins is excited to announce the beginning of two new arts programs: K-8 Strings and our Piano Lab. Our new music programs not only help cultivate the joy of music and development of music skills, but they also contribute to the academic development of our scholars. The National Association for Music Merchants, outlined that “music education, facilitates student academic achievement, improves recall and retention of verbal information, advances math achievement, boosts reading and English language arts (ELA) skills, and increases average SAT scores.” When scholars make music they are using all parts of their brain. The skill of creating music is one that can benefit them for



Kaitlyn Raitz

a lifetime. We are so proud that F. H. Jenkins is able to provide these rich opportunities for our scholars.

The Program:

Our K-8 strings program is being led out by Mrs. Kaitlyn Raitz. This program

Continued on page 2

is the primary music program for the school. All scholars take part in music classes twice a week.. Scholars were able to select their stringed instrument of choice (violin, viola, or cello). Most of the scholars are picking up a stringed instrument for the first time, and it has been amazing to see their progress.

The Instructor:

New York-born Nashvillian **Kaitlyn Raitz** grew up surrounded by a wide array of musical genres, finding each one more exciting than the next. These passions have led her to a career as a versatile cellist who is equally at home playing Schubert or Sondheim, sitting in on a bluegrass jam or reading a Beethoven string quartet, and performing on stage at Carnegie Hall or the Grand Ole Opry.

Kaitlyn has collaborated with world renowned artists in a wide array of genres. Her playing can be heard on albums spanning from bluegrass to video game soundtracks.

As an educator, Kaitlyn believes in the value of teaching a wide variety of musical styles and skills from a young age to help foster creative thinking in and out of music.

Kaitlyn holds a Bachelor of Music degree and a Performer’s Certificate from Purchase College, State University of New York and a Master of Music degree from McGill University.

The Program:

Our piano lab is open to scholars interested in learning how to painlessly learn how to play the piano. This program was spearheaded by FHJ Prep alumnus, Mr. Melvin, “Maestro,” Lightford. Scholars participate in weekly virtual lessons and have access to the piano lab for further practice and development twice a week.

The Instructor:

Since his birth, **Melvin W. Lightford III** was expected to do great things in the world of music. His nickname, “Maestro”, was given to him by his mother whose only wish was that her son would learn how to play the piano.

He has had the pleasure of working with several artists, such as: Ledisi, Corbin Bleu, Dave Stewart, Keb Mo,



Kirk Whalum, Sheléa, Michael McDonald, Danny Gokey, Kierra “Ki Ki” Sheard, and many more.

Not wanting to limit himself to playing and producing for artists, Maestro decided to try his hand in the world of film and television. With his newly acquired knowledge and experience, more prestigious opportunities came his way. He later became the lead composer for the musical biopic, *Remember Me: A Mahalia Jackson Story*.

In addition to being a music producer and film composer, Maestro is the author of the one of a kind piano book, ***The Piano Book I Wish I Had.***

The Program:

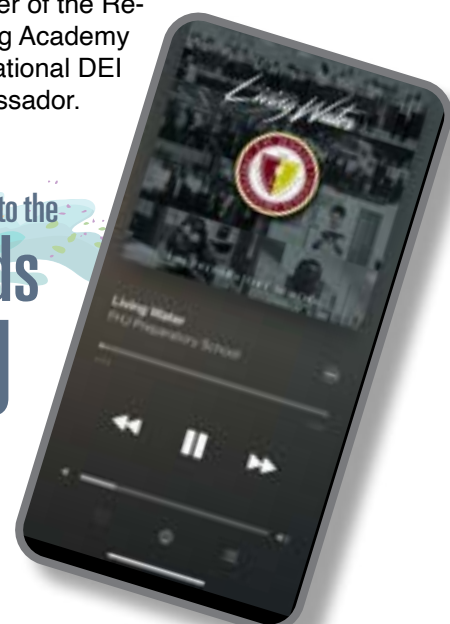
This year, we continue to offer songwriting to our scholars. Since 2015, the F. H. Jenkins 7th & 8th grade scholars have written and professionally recorded three songs. Our scholars get the opportunity to learn from the Grammy-nominated arranger, Mr. Armand Hutton, and record in some of the top music studios in Music City. This year our songwriting class will be an after school program, open to all 5th - 8th graders.

The Instructor:

Armand Hutton is a bass singer, songwriter, producer, and GRAMMY-nominated arranger who resides in Nashville, TN. The Maryland native has performed with Take 6, Quincy Jones, Ludacris, Lionel Richie, Michael Bubl , and Coldplay. His acapella singing career professionally began when he became a member of the vocal band, “Naturally 7.” He was a member of the inaugural GRAMMY Next program in Nashville and also a member of the organization SOLID based in Nashville. Armand has done session work for Disney, EA sports,



WORD, Robert Randolph, and is the bass singer for YouTube sensation Peter Hollens. Along with session work Armand has recorded 2 audiobooks and is now a member of the a capella group Street Corner Symphony, all while running his own record label, Hutton Records. He currently serves as the Vice President of the Nashville Chapter of the Recording Academy and national DEI Ambassador.





You've Got Us Covered!

Celebrating Grandparents' Day at FHJ

On Friday, September 16th there was so much excitement in the air! F. H. Jenkins hosted their first Grandparents Day program since the onset of COVID. The theme for the program was "Grandparents, You've Got Us Covered".

Our 8th grade scholars launched the program with grandparent introductions. Each year we are blessed to have grandparents, and grandparents who are "standing in the gap" join us for this memorable occasion, as well. This year we were able to virtually include our grandparents who were unable to attend the event in-person, While some of our grandparents traveled as far as 500 miles to take part in this special occasion.

Scholars shared how grandparents cover us with knowledge, gifts, and especially love. Each class shared a special presentation. There were poems, songs, music and even a game show. Some grandparents even won prizes! The program ended with the entire school singing a special song with lyrics written just for our grandparents. The grandparents enjoyed the day and our scholars loved having their special loved ones in the building. We can't wait to celebrate them again next year.



FHJ Pours On the Love!

Many heard of the water crisis impacting the community of Jackson, MS. The F. H. Jenkins scholars, family and friends responded by raising \$892.75 for clean water in Jackson.



One Team, One Mission

This year's fall sports season was jam packed with activity. While we had multiple sports, each team came to together for the purpose of growing and excelling. Our fall sports included K-8 cross country, as well as middle school girls' volleyball. The teams worked hard in practice and each meet/match one couldn't help but notice how they improved.

Cross Country

This season 22 FHJ Prep runners participated in five TSIAA cross country meets, as well as the elementary and middle school championship meets. Each meet was held on the property of The Hermitage. Hundreds of students from across Middle Tennessee came together to compete each week. This year's cross country team was coached by Mr. Shane & Mrs. Lena Winfree.

Girls Volleyball

This 2022 season was our first volleyball season after a two season hiatus due to COVID. This year our girls rallied all season long. Their determination and teamwork was a true testament of their commitment and quality coaching. This year's co-captains were Micah Lewis (8th grade) and Corrin Alford (6th grade).

On October 11th, we celebrated our 8th graders on our final regular

season home game of the year. Each scholar athlete was presented with a custom gift to commemorate their FHJ volleyball experience.





Fan the Flames! That is the theme for the 22-23 school year, and it was also the theme for Fall Week of Prayer this year. This year, F. H. Jenkins implemented a new behavior program emphasizing positive behavior choices. The program is represented by the acronym *F. L. A. M. E. S.* In support of this new program, Fall Week of Prayer centered around examples of people in the Bible focusing, listening attentively, accepting responsibility, modeling kindness, exhibiting excellence, and staying safe—FLAMES!

This year’s Week of Prayer was a mix of live and virtual services, kicking off live on Friday, September 30, with an energetic message from Pastor Tina Carriger, who also serves as the P. E. teacher for F. H. Jenkins. The following Monday through Thursday, the services shifted to a virtual format and included messages from Pastor Kimberly Mann, Pastor Furman Fordham, Pastor Marlon Reid,

and Elder Vandeon Griffin. Week of Prayer concluded with a return to a live format and message from Elder D. C. Edmond.

At this year’s Week of Prayer, the students were not just “hearers” of the Word, but they led out as well. The 7th and 8th grade class led the entire student body throughout the week: introducing the speakers, praying, encouraging positive behavior, and getting the student body up on their feet while praising the Lord during the daily theme song, “Start a Fire”. The Kindergarten through 6th grade classes were also involved in leading out in worship each day through worship songs chosen specifically to emphasize the lesson of the day. The week culminated with students making a personal commitment to honor God through one of the F.L.A.M.E.S. attributes. F. H. Jenkins is on fire this year, and this year’s week of prayer showed the Spirit of God is igniting the student body.



S H O P & S U P P O R T F H J

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Organization Name:
F. H. Jenkins

ORGANIZATION CODE: 31828

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Academic Honors

QUARTER 1

Principal's List:

Arden Jennings (1st)
Kalani McKissack (1st)
Julius Plummer (1st)
Ezekiel Rowe (1st)
Malachi Standifer (1st)
Ava Boone (2nd)
Jaden Campbell (2nd)
William Dowe (2nd)
Gabrielle Jones (2nd)
Jade Odem (2nd)
Aravis Wheeler (2nd)
Karisma Mortimer (5th)
Corrin Alford (6th)
Victoria Dyer (6th)
Jaxon Boone (6th)
Lauren Dowe (6th)

High Honor Roll

Isaac Anderson (4th)
Olivia Carriger (5th)
Kerri'Oyna Burns (6th)
Kennedy Williams (7th)
Micah Lewis (8th)

Honor Roll

Blake Poe (3rd)
Braxton Carriger (3rd)
Senghor Wheeler (6th)
Jeremiah Marsh (8th)
Leslie Hammonds (8th)
Jada LeSure (8th)
Jael Rowe (8th)

Perfect Attendance

Maddux Bean
Roman Blackledge-Harris
Kerri'Oyna Burns
Leilani Charles
Damon Cotton
Lauren Dowe
William Dowe
Brylee Hall
Maya Lewis
Micah Lewis
Jeremiah Marsh
Karisma Mortimer
Rizpah Mortimer
Danny Phillips
Ziona Phillips
Julius Plummer
Jernii Smith
Brice Wilcox
Kennedy Williams

DONORS

Individuals who have contributed directly to FHJ Prep this fiscal year:

Carlos Anderson	David Hamberger	Lewis & Betty J Peacock
Alexander Arthur	Robert Hammonds	Shelley Pelote
Keisha Ashmeade	Michael Hicks	Marcus Perry
Gamaliel Ballard	Kay Higgs	Paula Peterson
Claire Benson	Aqui Hines	Donna Ruffin
Orville Bignall	Ashley Humphrey	Roger Ryan
Thomas Cain	Christopher Ifill	Tyrus Sass
Courtney Campbell	Kevin & Leah Jennings	Bobbi Smith
Lorraine & Mario Charles	Gary Jones	Andrea Thomas
Sylvia & David Chunn	Gordon & Wendy Jones	Autumn Washington
Ryan Coopwood	AyRon Lewis	Kwiajuana Webster
Reginald Coopwood, II	Melvin Lightford, III	Keenan West
Hetha Dixon	Robert Lister	Dorothea Williams
Wonder Drake	Errol McLean	Dwayne Williams
Keith Dyer	Marcia Metansingh	Richard Williams
Deborah Edmondson	Wayne Moore	Greg Wonsey
Mignon Evans	Avaleen Morris	Don & Lynette Wood
Alexys Ferguson	Ron Morris	Summer Wood
Tracee Gaddy	Network For Good	
God's Missionaries	Jeremy Nixon	

Upcoming Events



11/11 Bible Expo

11/20 Giving Tuesday

12/17 Christmas Program



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SUMMER D. WOOD, PHD
Principal