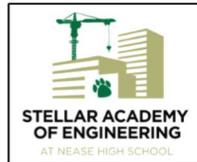


March Newsletter

Academy Coordinator: Jaime Combs

904.547.8306 | jaime.combs@stjohns.k12.fl.us



UPCOMING EVENTS

SPRING BREAK

March 17th, 18th, and 19th

KEEP THOSE GRADES UP!

Students can get help in ANY subject with free tutoring offered by the National Honor Society. Tutoring takes place after school every Tuesday and Thursday in the media center from 4-5 p.m. No appointment or reservation required. Just show up, sign in, and an NHS Officer will match them up with a tutor.

This is available to ALL our students – distance learners included! Tutors can work with students virtually if they need help. If any student needs other times (mornings, lunch, excel, other days, etc) the parent needs to contact Mrs. Milian directly so that she can schedule a tutor to meet with the student. Parents/students needing specialized timing should email Mrs. Milian at

Carolyn.milian@stjohns.k12.fl.us, and would need to provide a few days notice to get a session established. Otherwise, students just need to show up in the media center on Tuesdays or Thursdays from 4-5 pm to get help in any subject.

Teachers are also available to assist students during Excel periods on Wednesdays. Students can get help in their Academy, Math, English, Computer or World Language classes during Excel A. They can get help in their Science, Social Studies, Arts, ESE, and PE classes during Excel B.

Academy Students and Parents,

This school year is moving right along, and our Academy students continue to hone their skills, even through COVID restrictions and quarantines. We are so proud of how our teachers are continuing to set a high bar for our students, and how our students are rising to the occasion! There are so many future opportunities out there for our kiddos, and I hope to inspire them this month with the story of a Communications Academy graduate who started out as a Wired news anchor...and now has an award-winning professional career in broadcast journalism.

Have a safe and fun spring break!

Jaime Combs
Academy Coordinator

FROM THE WIRED ANCHOR DESK TO NBC



As one of Wired's standout anchors, Clark Fouraker helped to shape the news show as it moved from a weekly series to a daily newscast in 2006. One of the Communications Academy's first graduates, Clark followed his passion for broadcast news beyond high school and made a name for himself in the business. Now, as a new member of the Communications Academy Advisory Board, this NBCLX journalist shares his thoughts on the program and on professional success in the news industry.

You were part of the first graduating class for the Communications Academy. What originally drew you to take the TV Production class?

I wanted an easy class on my schedule ... just kidding! I had an instinct that I would enjoy the creative outlet, I liked the idea of learning a skill (shooting and editing video) and I knew other students who had a lot of fun. It turns out I was right on all three.

Can you share one memory of your time in the Communications Academy that made an impact on your future career?

The Academy had purchased new studio and control room equipment that really allowed our class to reinvent Wired. We were having a blast innovating, and then we had the opportunity to travel to the Student Television Network convention in Anaheim, CA. We quickly realized there was a whole world of our high school peers producing amazing content! The trip was motivating. Our group brought back new skills and new energy to improve the content the Academy produced.

What did you do after high school?

After high school, I attended the University of Florida where I majored in Telecommunication-News. Because of my experience in the Academy and internships arranged by the Academy, I was dead set on working in Television News. I've worked at TV stations in Columbia, South Carolina, Jacksonville (First Coast News) and New York City. Now, I'm a national storyteller for NBCLX, a new broadcast and digital network NBC launched to produced content for Millennials and GenZers.



Now you're part of the Communications Academy Advisory Board. Why did you decide to get involved?

For me, there couldn't be a better way to give back! The Communications Academy really did put me on my career path and gave me the confidence to succeed. It also created opportunities for me to begin building a network of people who worked in the communications industry locally. Those contacts became instrumental when I was looking for someone to edit a resume or provide council on a job decision.

What advice do you have for students who want to go into broadcasting in the future?

I've got two pieces of advice. First, never forget to tell me a story. If you can become a good and reliable storyteller, you'll succeed in the broadcasting industry. Second, start a YouTube channel now. In my opinion, YouTube has changed the industry more than anything else because it erased the barrier for you to create a video and publish it. That means you can start producing and sharing content before college or your first job.

We are so thankful to Clark for taking time to share his story and help inspire the next generation of broadcast journalists!

ENGINEERING SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE TO STELLAR ACADEMY OF ENGINEERING SENIORS



The 2021 Society for American Military Engineers (SAME) Jacksonville Post High School and College scholarship applications are now available at: <https://samejax.org/Scholarships> You do not have to be involved in, or pursuing, anything military-related to apply to this scholarship. It is open to any senior who is planning on majoring in Engineering in college. The application deadline is **March 17, 2021** for high schools (graduating Seniors). If you have any questions please contact David Dudley (David.F.Dudley@gmail.com)

Leonard's is proud to open their 2020- 21 Senior Scholarship applications. Three students will be awarded \$1,000 each.

Students who are in a St. Johns County School Career Academy or a school's yearbook class are eligible to apply with preference given to students in digital/graphic design, photography, communications and/or yearbook. The deadline is **April 30th**.

Scholarship link: <https://new.leonards.com/scholarship/>



LEONARD R. TUCKER, SR. MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Leonard's will award up to three \$1000 scholarships to St. Johns County graduating seniors enrolling in college for the 2021-22 Academic year. Please be sure that you meet the following criteria:

- Eligible to graduate June of 2021
- Full-time St. Johns County student
- Enrolled in one of the career academies or a member of the school's yearbook staff
- Minimum grade point average of 3.0

Preference will be given to those applicants who have an interest in digital media and design, communications, photography, or computer technology.

What students need to complete Scholarship Application:

- Cover Letter
- Essay (See application for details)
- Two recommendation letters from academic teachers
- Current high school transcript or most recent report card
- Sample of digital media/design or photography, if applicable

Applicant must also demonstrate The Six Pillars of Character:

- Trustworthiness
- Respect
- Responsibility
- Fairness
- Caring
- Citizenship