A REPORT TO
Parents, Patrons & Friends
2010 - 2011

The first AHS graduating class!
EDUCATING HEARTS & MINDS

American Heritage School has outstanding academics and extracurricular programs. We also believe that strengthening faith in Christ is indispensable to properly educating the hearts and minds of the rising generation. In addition to regular morning devotions, prayer, and use of scripture as a foundational reference text in every subject, the AHS Honor Code focuses on the two great commandments to love God and neighbors “with all thy heart, with all thy soul, and with all thy mind” (Matt. 22:36-39). Every student and faculty member at the school commits to uphold the highest standards of moral conduct whether they are on or off campus. In 2010-2011, students not only committed to memory the school’s Honor Code through the “Trustee Award” program, but applied the two great commandments in classroom activities, athletic competitions, community service, homes, and personal relationships as well.

SACRIFICE & RESPONSIBILITY

Sacrifice is a foundational principle at American Heritage School. AHS does not accept federal, state, or local government funding, and welcomes assistance from all those willing and able to support our mission of Christ-centered and character-focused education. In 2010-2011, generous donors, parents, students, and community supporters gave approximately $400,000 to improve programs, increase teacher salaries, and help expand the Home and Distance Education Program. Tuition revenue covers the vast majority of the School’s ongoing expenses, and thanks to donations, the educational experience received by families at AHS is greater than what tuition alone would afford. This financial model of providing the highest quality programs while keeping tuition as low as possible is only accomplished through a spirit of sacrifice and personal responsibility. Just ask teachers and students who help regularly by cleaning their own classrooms and caring for the building together. Sacrifice brings forth the blessings of heaven!

INSPIRING & RIGOROUS COURSES

In 2010, American Heritage School added many inspiring and highly qualified teachers in a slate of new and rigorous courses, including physics, chemistry, calculus, U.S. constitution, Church history, family science, journalism, and AP human geography. In addition, AP tracks were made available in English, literature, U.S. history, calculus, and biology. Add to these courses the flexibility of live and mentored Distance Education courses, and American Heritage School offers not only a unique faith-based atmosphere, but one of the most exceptional academic programs available anywhere in the nation.

PREPARED GRADUATES

In the Spring of 2011, American Heritage School graduates received admission, many on scholarship, to outstanding post-secondary institutions, including BYU (Provo and Idaho), Purdue, University of Utah, Edmonds College, University of California at Santa Barbara, Southern Virginia University, LDS Business College, Weber State, and UVU. Two AHS high school students achieved National Merit Scholar honors for their stellar performance on the PSAT/NMSQT, placing them in the top 3% of nearly 2 million eligible high school candidates. But the most extraordinary aspect of AHS graduates has just as much to do with their hearts as their minds. Take a moment to read a few of their very heartfelt graduate essays at american-heritage.org/document/graduation.

NATIONAL ACCREDITATION

In October 2009, American Heritage School hosted a successful site visit with representatives of the Utah State Office of Education (USOE) and the Northwest Accreditation Commission (NWAC). The visiting team, which included the USOE Director of Accreditation and the NWAC Utah Chair, was very impressed and recommended AHS for immediate provisional accreditation. Effective for the 2009-2010 academic year and forward, this provisional accreditation affords AHS all the benefits of regional and national accreditation. AHS is also a candidate member of the Pacific Northwest Association of Independent Schools and expects to receive full and dual accreditation by both NWAC and PNAIS in the 2012-2013 school year.
“We believe that strengthening faith in Christ is indispensable to properly educating the hearts and minds of the rising generation.”

SCIENCE, SPEECH, & ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS

Our science students represented American Heritage School in its second appearance at the Central Utah Science and Engineering Fair at BYU in March 2011. AHS students came home with numerous scholarships and awards, including the second place overall project in Engineering. AHS students also received invitation-only entrances to other regional science and invention fairs, including the Utah Energy and Renewable Energy Fair and the Westminster Energy Fair.

All AHS students engage in significant writing and public speaking for authentic audiences. In the regional 2011 Freedom Festival Speech and Essay contests, entitled “American Values: Family, Freedom, God, and Country,” American Heritage School students took home more top honors than any other school in the state, demonstrating not only extraordinary commitment to these values, but extraordinary writing and communication skills as well.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

American Heritage School classes continue to score well above national and state averages on standardized exams, making AHS one of the most academically competitive schools in the state—public and private schools included.

ITBS, K-8, School Norms 2010

ACT, High School, Average Student Score

AWARD-WINNING MUSIC PROGRAMS

American Heritage Lyceum Philharmonic. In 2011, for the third year in a row, the American Heritage Lyceum Philharmonic was named “Best Youth Instrumental Group” by Best of State Utah. Comprised of exceptionally talented student musicians ages 13-18 from across Utah, the 2010-2011 season featured the Lyceum Philharmonic with acclaimed recording artists Jenny Oaks Baker, Steven Sharp Nelson, and Dallyn Vail Bayles, among others. The Philharmonic helped to raise considerable funds for (Continued on page 5)
PROPOSED EXPANSION

Grades 7-12 Facility
- Student Classrooms
- Science, Physics & Engineering Wing
- Computer Science Lab
- Art Room with Ceramics Kiln
- Research Library
- Distance Learning Computer Lab
- Lunchroom
- Student Commons
- Administration Wing

LDS Seminary Facility
- Student Classrooms
- Teacher Offices

Performing Arts Facility
- Auditorium Seating
- Stage with Orchestra Pit & Fly Loft
- Staging & Green Rooms
- Dressing Rooms
- Orchestra, Choir & Band
- Drama
- Ballroom Dance
- Practice Rooms
- Prop Shop with Woodworking & Sewing
- Costume & Set Storage

AHS Athletics Facility & Fields
- Gymnasium with Locker Rooms
- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Baseball
- Softball
- Track & Field
- Lacrosse
- Soccer
- Tennis Courts
- Tickets & Concessions

Home & Distance Education Facility
- Administration Offices & Reception
- Visitor Center History Gallery
- Training Room
- Web Support Offices
- Instructional Design Offices
- Curriculum Library
- Bookstore
- Proctored Computer Lab
- Video/Audio Recording Studios
- Customer Service
- Print Shop

Maintenance & Support Facility
- Offices
- Custodial Workstations
- Shipping & Receiving
- Vehicle Storage
- Material Storage

SCHOOL QUICK FACTS

On-campus enrollment: 630
Grades offered: K - 12
Distance education enrollment: 720
Distance education courses: 69
Teaching staff: 63
Average class size: 20
Student-teacher ratio: 10:1
Administration: 9
Full-time support staff: 7
Community lyceum orchestras enrollment: 135
Community choir enrollment: 95
Extra-Curricular: basketball, soccer, cross country, choir, ballroom, drama, student government, and orchestra
Accreditation: NWAC Provisional, PNAIS Candidate
AHS teachers and programs, and performed live for well over 20,000 audience members—including in The Price of Freedom and An American Heritage Christmas at American Heritage School, the Freedom Festival Patriotic Service at the Marriott Center, and the Days of ‘47 Pops Concert at Abravanel Hall—and reached countless more through television broadcasts of their performances. The mission of the American Heritage Lyceum Philharmonic includes performing sacred music that educates hearts and minds. The 2011-2012 season will include the premier of a new work by Rob Gardner celebrating the sesquicentennial of the Civil War. The Lyceum Philharmonic was recently honored with a formal invitation to perform this work at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C.

Lyceum Music Festival. Each summer, American Heritage School and the American Heritage Lyceum Philharmonic sponsor a week-long music festival and camp that draws talented young musicians from across the Wasatch Front and the country to be tutored by professional musicians, including members of the Utah Symphony and specially invited guest artists. In 2010, renowned violinist Jenny Oaks Baker joined the festival and spent multiple days with the students leading up to a grand finale performance at the Eccles Center for the Performing Arts in Park City. In July 2011, AHS held its third annual Lyceum Music Festival at the Zermatt Resort in Midway, featuring acclaimed cellist Steven Sharp Nelson and Utah Symphony Associate Director David Cho.

American Heritage Youth Chorus. In 2011, the American Heritage Youth Chorus, an LDS-oriented choral organization for children and youth ages 8-18, completed a 6-week road-tour through Nevada and California, building musical excellence and faith in the lives of thousands of young people through uplifting and sacred music. The 2011 tour music suite was entitled House of Glory, House of God and focused on the blessings of temples and families.

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

Many special guests visited AHS in 2010-2011 to participate in classes or events, including Elder Dallin H. Oaks (commencement speaker), composers Janice and Steven Kapp Perry (honorees at An American Heritage Christmas), acclaimed operatic tenor and music professor Michael Ballam (Foundations Training presenter), best-selling author Ron McMillan (class presenter), professional baseball pitcher Jeremie Guthrie (assembly presenter), musical artists Jenny Oaks Baker and Steven Sharp Nelson (Lyceum Music Festival guests), newscaster Sterling Poulson (Days of ‘47 co-conductor), and popular youth speakers Brad Wilcox, John Hilton, and Hank Smith (Family Forum presenters). Accomplished guests like these aided our mission of demonstrating that Christian character really matters—in all aspects of life.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM

In September of 2009, American Heritage School received federal government approval to admit foreign students (F visa-holders). Students promptly applied and were admitted from South Korea, Venezuela, and Hong Kong, with many more on the waiting list. In the 2010-2011 year, the international presence at American Heritage School grew to include additional students from Mexico, India, Japan, China, and France. Attracted to AHS by a common belief that honor and faith must be preserved in the classroom experience, international students add an important and beautiful cultural diversity to the American Heritage School community.

SERVICE LEARNING

Each year around Christmas time, American Heritage School students earn money to purchase and donate hundreds of teddy bears to homeless children who come to the Ogden Rescue Mission. In December of 2010, students from kindergarten to 12th grade donated nearly 600 teddy bears. In the Spring of 2011, high school students and parents made the annual trip to Tequisquiapan, Mexico for eight days to serve and learn by helping with home construction, serving in orphanages, and providing high-yield gardening instruction. In May and June of 2011, approximately 150 students attended enrichment travel tours, including the “Reformation to Restoration” tour, British Isles; “America’s Providential Heritage” tour, Washington, D.C.; the “House of Glory,
House of God” choir tour, California; and the Shakespeare tour, Cedar City, Utah.

FAMILY EDUCATION CENTER

American Heritage School is a place of learning for the entire family. The AHS Family Education Center sponsors numerous community-available education opportunities throughout the year, including an ongoing Family Lecture Series, the annual Family Forum & Family Ball, and the annual Foundations Training—all intended to convey critical relationship, parenting, and family education skills to parents seeking to improve their homes and families “by study and also by faith” (D&C 109:7).

OUR MISSION

American Heritage School exists for the purpose of serving parents in assisting in developing the minds, the hearts, and the bodies of students in order that they may:

1. Be useful in the hands of the Lord in building the kingdom of God on earth;
2. Increase faith in and knowledge of the Plan of Salvation;
3. Develop a love, understanding, and appreciation for America and the founding fathers;
4. Develop the basic academic knowledge and skills necessary to be able to make self-education a life-long pursuit;
5. Learn to reason and discern between right and wrong, truth and error;
6. Develop character and self-discipline of mind and body; and
7. Conduct themselves in all aspects of life as Christians.

All activities, teaching, governance, and administration are to be accomplished in light of the above objectives and in so far as possible in harmony with revealed principles of the restored gospel of Jesus Christ and laws of the land. All teachers, staff, administrators, and trustees shall strive to be living examples of the values, principles, and skills taught at the school.

HOME & DISTANCE EDUCATION

The American Heritage School Distance Education program represents the fulfillment of the School’s long-term vision “to become an effective educational resource for parents worldwide in helping children and families to maximize their divine potential.” Beginning in January of 2009, eight students enrolled in a pilot distance education course (American History). Currently, there are over 700 course enrollments from 18 states, Canada, and China in one or more of the 69 distance education courses that have been developed by nearly 30 dedicated and qualified instructors. Courses cover various subject areas for students in grades K-12. Additional courses are being developed, and all distance education courses are available to home educators, AHS students, students seeking credit advancement or recovery, and interested adult learners.

CONSTITUTION EDUCATION

From an annual high school Constitution Bowl, to constitutional law Distance Education courses, to family education seminars on Constitution studies and awareness, American Heritage School believes patriotism must run deeper than a flag-waving appeal. Constitutional principles and the miracles of America’s Christian heritage have long been an integral part of American Heritage School’s curriculum. Thanks to the Family Education Center and the Home and Distance Education program, we now offer an active and growing number of high-quality, community-available Constitution education programs.
OUR VISION

American Heritage School’s vision is to become an effective educational resource for parents worldwide in assisting children and families to maximize their divine potential.

CONTACT US

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