The Academia

CHRIST-CENTERED. CHARACTER-DRIVEN. ACES FOR LIFE.

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF AQUINAS COLLEGE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

70TH ANNIVERSARY 1957 - 2027 A Legacy of Goodness | Discipline | Knowledge

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VOLUME 8, ISSUE 1 | SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2026

VERITAS. EXCELLENCE. SERVICE.

Teach Us Goodness, Discipline, and Knowledge Where Excellence is A Habit



ST. THOMAS AQUINAS
70 YEARS. SAME PURPOSE. BRIGHTER TOMORROWS.

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The ACADEMIA

AQUINAS COLLEGE | SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2026

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AQUINAS COLLEGE
EST. JANUARY 1957
VERITAS
THE BAHAMAS

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VOLUME 8, ISSUE 1 | SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER

VERITAS. EXCELLENCE. SERVICE.



Principal's Message

One Faith, One Light, One Journey

Mrs. Shona Moss-Knowles | Principal

Dear Aquinas Family,

With a grateful heart and renewed enthusiasm, I welcome our students, parents and guardians, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends to the 2026–2027 school year. To those joining Aquinas College for the first time, we extend a particularly warm welcome. You are becoming part of a community rooted in faith, strengthened by service, and committed to helping every scholar discover and develop their God-given potential.

We begin this school year with much to celebrate. The spectacular performances of our Grade 8, Grade 9, and Grade 11 scholars, together with our Graduating Class of 2026, in national and international examinations have given our Aquinas family tremendous cause for pride. Behind these results are hours of preparation, perseverance through challenges, dedicated teaching, and the steady encouragement of families. To our scholars, congratulations on the fruits of your hard work. To our teachers and parents, thank you for the guidance, sacrifices, and belief that helped make these achievements possible.

Our pride extends beyond examination results. Aquinas scholars have distinguished themselves in various competitions, earning outstanding accolades and demonstrating the breadth of talent within our school. Through their accomplishments, they remind us that learning reaches far beyond the classroom. Competing requires courage, preparation, creativity, teamwork, and the willingness to grow. We celebrate both the honours earned and the character developed along the way. To every scholar who represented Aquinas College, thank you for carrying our name with pride and purpose.

One Faith, One Light, One Journey | Continued

These successes encourage us to approach the year ahead with confidence and clear expectations. We expect our students to take responsibility for their learning, attend school prepared, honour our rules, and treat others with dignity. We ask them to be curious in the classroom, generous in service, honest in their choices, and persistent when faced with difficulty. Excellence is built through daily habits: completing an assignment carefully, asking for help, keeping a commitment, and choosing to do what is right.

Our motto, **Goodness | Discipline | Knowledge**, continues to guide this work. We want our scholars to achieve academically while developing the judgment, compassion, and integrity needed to use their knowledge wisely. As we prepare them for further education, careers, and an ever-changing world, we remain committed to nurturing young people who will contribute meaningfully to their communities and lead with both competence and conscience.

This mission depends on partnership. I encourage our parents and guardians to remain actively involved, maintain open communication with the school, and reinforce the values we teach. I thank our faculty and staff for the care and professionalism they bring to their responsibilities, and our alumni and supporters for their continued connection to Aquinas. Every member of this community has a part to play in our scholars’ success.

This year also brings a milestone of profound significance. On **January 28, 2027, Aquinas College will celebrate 70 years as an institution**. We look forward with excitement to honouring seven decades of Catholic education and the generations whose faith, dedication, and service have shaped our school. This anniversary invites us to remember with gratitude, reconnect with those who share our history, and consider the legacy we are building for those who will follow.

Our theme, **“One Faith, One Light, One Journey,”** expresses the spirit in which we move forward. United in faith, we each bring a light to this community, and together we continue a journey greater than any one of us.

May this school year be filled with purposeful learning, meaningful achievement, and opportunities to serve. With God’s guidance and our shared commitment, let us make it a year worthy of the proud history - and promising future - of Aquinas College.

Mrs. Shona Moss-Knowles
Principal

SUCCESS THROUGH SERVICE

Archbishop Patrick C. Pinder inspires Aquinas scholars

A message of courage, character and purpose as seniors look towards their next chapter.



Archbishop Patrick Pinder addresses Aquinas College scholars during his October 1 visit.

As Aquinas College's senior scholars prepare for life beyond high school, Catholic Archbishop Patrick Pinder offered a reassuring message: they need not have every detail of their future settled. What matters is taking the next step with courage, protecting their character and recognising that lasting success includes service to others.

The Archbishop visited the Gladstone Road campus on Thursday, October 1, one month into the academic year, as he began his biennial visits to Catholic schools. Aquinas was the first stop on a month-long schedule that also includes St. Thomas More; Mary, Star of the Sea Catholic Academy; Xavier's Lower School; St. Cecilia's School; St. Francis de Sales; Every Child Counts; and Sts. Francis & Joseph School.

Addressing students approaching a new chapter, Archbishop Pinder urged them to pair ambition with effort and humility. "Dream big but work hard. Remain humble. Keep learning. Choose your friends wisely. Guard your character and your good name." His counsel placed gratitude, prayer and respect for parents and mentors alongside academic and professional aspirations.

The courage to begin again

The Archbishop spoke candidly about failure. Mistakes, poor decisions and disappointment, he explained, are part of being human. "The important question is not whether you will ever fail. The important question is whether you will get back up again."

He encouraged scholars to take responsibility, seek forgiveness and make amends where possible, without allowing a setback to determine their future. One failure does not make a life a failure, and one poor choice should never become an excuse for another. His message was one of accountability grounded in hope: there is always the possibility of beginning again.

Character. Compassion. Contribution.

Gifts with a purpose

Archbishop Pinder reminded students that their talents take many forms: academic ability, athletic skill, music, art, leadership, communication, technology, attentive listening and even a wonderful sense of humour. Whatever their gift, he urged them to develop it and put it to meaningful use.

“A gift becomes truly meaningful when it becomes a gift to others.” He challenged future doctors to heal, lawyers to seek justice, teachers to inspire and businesspeople to create opportunities and treat employees fairly. Public servants should serve the common good; those with wealth or influence should use it responsibly. Future parents, he added, should give their children time, presence and a good example.

Whatever vocation they choose, students should ask how they can make other people’s lives better. It is a question, he noted, worthy of scholars attending a school where excellence is a habit.

A call to serve The Bahamas

The Archbishop also urged scholars to recognise the contribution they can make to their country. “The Bahamas needs young people who are educated, but also young people who are honest, courageous, compassionate, and committed to making our common life better,” he said.

As tomorrow’s leaders, they should consider what they can give to their nation alongside what they hope to receive from it. Personal advancement, he cautioned, should never mean forgetting the needs of others. Success carries a responsibility to serve.

Friendship beyond the school gates

Looking towards graduation, Archbishop Pinder encouraged seniors to remember the classmates with whom they have shared this chapter. Further study, work and life in different places will take them in new directions. Some friendships will endure; others will change. He urged students to celebrate one another’s achievements, offer support in difficult times and resist jealousy.

A phone call, a message, a word of encouragement or a willingness to listen, he observed, can make a lasting difference to someone who is struggling.

His closing challenge brought the address into focus: “Do not spend your life merely trying to become successful. Spend your life trying to become someone whose life is worth something to other people.” For Aquinas scholars, the invitation was clear: let achievement be accompanied by compassion, and let the opportunities they have received become opportunities to do good.



Scholars listen to the Archbishop’s address.



Principal Mrs. Shona Moss-Knowles speaks.

A VISIT TO REMEMBER

Faith and fellowship at Aquinas College



Ashe-Ann Riffin, Jhenae Brown, Soliel Coverley, Chavaria Hanna recites a Poem to St. Therese of Lisieux



Bria Beneby and Kevin Bowe welcomes His Grace Archishop Pinder and other guests



The school's choir and pop band performed musical selections



Jaliah Nairn and Dane Braynen makes a presentation to Dr. Alexandria Roberts-Bowe, Director of Catholic Education

A VISIT TO REMEMBER

Faith and fellowship at Aquinas College



Alanna Murray, 12th Grade Student presents personal Artwork to Archbishop Patrick C. Pinder



Archbishop Patrick C. Pinder cuts Aquinas College's 17th Anniversary cake (marking the 17th Year that Aquinas College has been located on Gladstone Road)



Ciera Knowles, 7th Grade Student shares a photograph with Archbishop Patrick C. Pinder

"A gift becomes truly meaningful when it becomes a gift to others."

ARCHBISHOP PATRICK C. PINDER

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE AT AQUINAS COLLEGE

Grade 8 and Grade 11 scholars shine in the 2026 national examinations, demonstrating the power of preparation, perseverance and dedicated teaching.

Aquinas College celebrates the outstanding achievements of its Grade 8 and Grade 11 scholars in the 2026 Bahamas Junior Certificate (BJC) and Bahamas General Certificate of Secondary Education (BGCSE) examinations. Their performances reflect sustained effort, disciplined study and the determination to meet demanding academic goals.

Across the subject entries recorded in the supplied results, Grade 8 scholars earned 194 A–C passes from 196 BJC entries, an aggregate rate of 98.98%. Grade 11 scholars achieved 178 A–C passes from 185 BGCSE entries, an aggregate rate of 96.22%. The two cohorts earned 75 and 71 A grades respectively.

The results are particularly meaningful for scholars in Aquinas College’s Accelerated Streams, who complete their prescribed course of study ahead of their peers and have the opportunity to sit national examinations earlier. Their success demonstrates what careful preparation and a willingness to embrace greater challenges can achieve.

Among the Grade 11 achievers, Kylah Taylor earned eight A grades; Caiden Moxey earned seven; and Alanna Murray earned seven A grades and one B. At BJC level, Berthia Durham earned seven A grades and one B, while Christabel Strachan earned seven A grades. Each achievement forms part of a wider story of scholars rising to the occasion and demonstrating their readiness for national examinations.

Behind these accomplishments are teachers whose contribution extends well beyond classroom instruction. Planning, mentoring, revision and steady encouragement help scholars build both knowledge and confidence. Aquinas College gratefully recognises their dedication, alongside the effort of students and the support of their families.

As the school community celebrates, the message to every scholar is one of possibility and purpose: dream boldly, work diligently and continue to grow. These results give fresh meaning to a conviction that guides life at Aquinas College: excellence is a habit.

THE RESULTS AT A GLANCE

GRADE 8 | BJC

Subject	Entries	A–C passes	Pass rate	A grades
Art	12	12	100.00%	1
Craft	7	7	100.00%	1
General Science	26	24	92.31%	5
Health Science	27	27	100.00%	7
Mathematics	35	35	100.00%	16
Religion	26	26	100.00%	14
Social Studies	28	28	100.00%	20
English Language	35	35	100.00%	11
TOTAL	**196**	**194**	**98.98%**	**75**

GRADE 11 | BGCSE

Subject	Entries	A–C passes	Pass rate	A grades
Art & Design	6	3	50.00%	1
Biology	29	29	100.00%	3
Craft	11	11	100.00%	10
Auto-Mechanics	6	6	100.00%	0
Chemistry	10	10	100.00%	2
Combined Science	7	7	100.00%	5
Economics	5	5	100.00%	3
English Language	28	28	100.00%	20
Electrical Installation	14	14	100.00%	5
Mathematics	20	16	80.00%	3
Music	5	5	100.00%	0
Physics	15	15	100.00%	3
Religion	29	29	100.00%	16
TOTAL	**185**	**178**	**96.22%**	**71**

Entries count subject examinations, not unique students. A–C passes and A grades shown here relate to the stated grade-level cohort. Figures are drawn from the school’s 2026 subject-statistics tables.

HONOURING OUR SCHOLARS

GRADE 11 | BGCSE

Kylah Taylor
8 A grades

Caiden Moxey
7 A grades

Alanna Murray
7 A grades, 1 B

Demarion Dawkins
5 A grades, 1 B

Rayanne Bain
4 A grades, 2 Bs, 2 Cs

Bria Beneby
4 A grades, 1 B, 1 C

Valentino Lloyd Jr.
3 A grades, 2 Bs, 2 Cs

Marena Strachan
3 A grades, 2 Bs, 1 C

Nina Albury
3 A grades, 2 Bs, 1 C

Jayden Johnson
3 A grades, 1 B, 3 Cs

Chloe Armbrister
3 A grades, 1 B, 2 Cs

GRADE 8 | BJC

Berthia Durham
7 A grades, 1 B

Christabel Strachan
7 A grades

Aiydin Rolle
6 A grades, 1 B

Seth Clarke
6 A grades, 1 B

Madison Daxon
5 A grades, 2 Bs, 1 C

Destiny Adderley
5 A grades, 1 B, 1 C

Jaztin Sangco
4 A grades, 3 Bs

Morgan Daxon
4 A grades, 3 Bs

Analise McPhee
4 A grades, 2 Bs, 1 C

Rodney Auguste
4 A grades, 2 Bs

T’ahja Smith
4 A grades, 2 Cs

FACES OF AQUINAS

Celebrating our scholars



Alanna Murray (BGCSE)
7 A's | 1 B



Analise McPhee (BJC)
4 A's | 2 Bs | 1 C



Aiydin Rolle (BJC)
6 A's | 1 B



Bria Beneby (BGCSE)
4 A's | 1 B | 1 C



Brethia Durham (BJC)
7 A's | 1 B



Caiden Moxey (BGCSE)
7 A's



Chloe Armbrister (BGCSE)
3 A's | 1 B | 2 C's



Christabel Strachan (BJC)
7 A's

FACES OF AQUINAS

Celebrating our scholars



Demarion Dawkins (BGCSE)
5 A's | 1 B



Destiny Adderley (BJC)
5 A's | 1 B | 1 C



Jayden Johnson (BGCSE)
3 A's | 1 B | 3 C's



Jaztin Sangco (BJC)
4 A's | 3 B's



Kylah Taylor (BGCSE)
8 A's



Madison Daxon (BJC)
5 A's | 2 B's | 1 C



Marena Strachan (BGCSE)
3 A's | 2 B's | 1 C

FACES OF AQUINAS

Celebrating our scholars



Morgan Daxon (BJC)
4 A's | 3 B's



Nina Albury (BGCSE)
3 A's | 2 B's | 1 C



Rayanne Bain (BGCSE)
4 A's | 2 B's | 2 C's



Rodney Auguste (BJC)
4 A's | 2 B's



Seth Clarke (BJC)
6 A's | 1 B



T'ahja Smith (BJC)
4 A's | 2 C's



Valentino Lloyd Jr. (BGCSE)
3 A's | 2 B's | 2 C's

AQUINAS COLLEGE

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE

CLASS OF 2026 BHSD HONOURS & ADVANCED PLACEMENT



Breanna Balfour
AP Scholar



Jaa Rolle
AP Scholar



Mickyle Saunders
AP Scholar



Charles Forbes AP Scholar - With Honours

Aquinas College proudly celebrates the Class of 2026 scholars who earned the Bahamas High School Diploma – Honours Diploma, together with the exceptional Advanced Placement achievements recorded by members of the graduating class.

This feature recognizes the complete group of Honours Diploma recipients represented in the official student portraits supplied for publication. Their achievement reflects the sustained academic effort, discipline, leadership and commitment to excellence that define ACES PRIDE.

30 BHSD Honours Diploma Recipients Featured	**3** AP Scholars	**1** AP Scholar with Honours

GOODNESS • DISCIPLINE • KNOWLEDGE

CLASS OF 2026

BHSD HONOURS DIPLOMA RECIPIENTS

Aquinas College salutes these members of the graduating Class of 2026 for attaining the Bahamas High School Diploma – Honours Diploma.



Abigail Pitter

BHSD • Honours Diploma Recipient



Alvin Bullard

BHSD • Honours Diploma Recipient



Amelia Hepburn

BHSD • Honours Diploma Recipient



Amiah Cooper

BHSD • Honours Diploma Recipient



Ariel Swan

BHSD • Honours Diploma Recipient



Ariyelle Bain

BHSD • Honours Diploma Recipient

CLASS OF 2026

BHSD HONOURS DIPLOMA RECIPIENTS

Aquinas College salutes these members of the graduating Class of 2026 for attaining the Bahamas High School Diploma – Honours Diploma.



Breeanna Balfour

BHSD • Honours Diploma Recipient



Candace Bodie

BHSD • Honours Diploma Recipient



Christopher Cambridge

BHSD • Honours Diploma Recipient



Cleanthea Rolle

BHSD • Honours Diploma Recipient



Cody Pitter

BHSD • Honours Diploma Recipient



C'orra McKinney

BHSD • Honours Diploma Recipient

CLASS OF 2026

BHSD HONOURS DIPLOMA RECIPIENTS

Aquinas College salutes these members of the graduating Class of 2026 for attaining the Bahamas High School Diploma – Honours Diploma.



Dasia Marshall

BHSD • Honours Diploma Recipient



Donnysia Hunt

BHSD • Honours Diploma Recipient



Eden Hepburn

BHSD • Honours Diploma Recipient



Eryn Bartlett

BHSD • Honours Diploma Recipient



Ethan Mackey

BHSD • Honours Diploma Recipient



Gary Cooper

BHSD • Honours Diploma Recipient

CLASS OF 2026

BHSD HONOURS DIPLOMA RECIPIENTS

Aquinas College salutes these members of the graduating Class of 2026 for attaining the Bahamas High School Diploma – Honours Diploma.



Jaa Rolle

BHSD • Honours Diploma Recipient



Jazmine Albury

BHSD • Honours Diploma Recipient



Jonathan Richards

BHSD • Honours Diploma Recipient



Joshua Seymour

BHSD • Honours Diploma Recipient



Kai Barnes

BHSD • Honours Diploma Recipient



Mickyle Saunders

BHSD • Honours Diploma Recipient

CLASS OF 2026

BHSD HONOURS DIPLOMA RECIPIENTS

Aquinas College salutes these members of the graduating Class of 2026 for attaining the Bahamas High School Diploma – Honours Diploma.



Nerissa Thompson

BHSD • Honours Diploma Recipient



Rhaine Williams

BHSD • Honours Diploma Recipient



Tahlia Peterson

BHSD • Honours Diploma Recipient



Tamar Armbrister

BHSD • Honours Diploma Recipient



Tianna Davis

BHSD • Honours Diploma Recipient



Trey Stubbs

BHSD • Honours Diploma Recipient

These distinctions stand as a testament to the determination of our scholars and to a school culture that calls young people to pursue excellence with purpose. Aquinas College congratulates every Class of 2026 BHSD Honours Diploma recipient and every AP honouree represented in this feature.

CONGRATULATIONS, CLASS OF 2026!

ONE FAITH • ONE LIGHT • ONE JOURNEY

HOME & SCHOOL | LEARNING TOGETHER

Annual Bring Your Parent to School Day





Parents and guardians share in the classroom experience alongside our students.

What a special and memorable morning at Aquinas College as we welcomed parents and guardians to experience a day in the life of an Aquinas student!

Our annual **Bring Your Parent to School Day** was a beautiful reminder that education is most successful when **home, school, and the child work together in partnership**. Active parental involvement helps build a strong foundation for academic achievement, character development, confidence, and lifelong success. Educating a child is a shared responsibility, and together, we can accomplish so much more!

Parents shared valuable nuggets of wisdom, participated in classroom lessons, engaged in learning activities, and even competed against our students. Collaboration, laughter, learning, and friendly competition made the morning truly special.

The excitement continued with a spectacular performance by the **Aquinas College Marching Band**, bringing the morning session to a vibrant and memorable close.

HOME & SCHOOL | MUSIC, GENEROSITY & SERVICE

Standing Together for Breast Cancer Awareness



Our marching band brings music and school spirit to the morning's celebrations.

The day also offered an opportunity for the Aquinas family to support **Breast Cancer Awareness**. While the school community participated in the designated **$3 contribution**, marching band members went above and beyond by generously contributing **$5 instead of $3**.

Their thoughtful gesture reflects the compassion, generosity, and service we strive to instill in our students. These contributions were earmarked for the **Sister Sister Breast Cancer Support Group**, supporting its important work with those affected by breast cancer.

We are incredibly proud of our students for demonstrating that even small acts of kindness can make a meaningful difference in the lives of others.





A Partnership for the Future

As we approach our **70th Anniversary**, we celebrate seven decades of teaching **Goodness, Discipline, and Knowledge**: shaping minds, building character, strengthening faith, and preparing generations of young people to make a meaningful difference in their communities and beyond.

To our parents and guardians, thank you for showing up, sharing your wisdom, participating enthusiastically, and partnering with us. Your presence sends a powerful message to our students: **Your education matters, your future matters, and we are in this together!**

At Aquinas College, we remain committed to nurturing a community where faith guides our actions, excellence inspires our efforts, and every child is supported in reaching their God-given potential. As we continue toward this historic milestone, let us move forward united in purpose and strengthened by our shared commitment to the next generation.







One Faith.
One Light.
One Journey.

70 Years of Teaching Goodness, Discipline, and Knowledge!

The ACADEMIA

AQUINAS COLLEGE | SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2026

SECTION 01

ACES Pride

Celebrating achievement.
Inspiring possibility.

GOODNESS. DISCIPLINE. KNOWLEDGE.

One Faith. One Light. One Journey.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP | FAITH & SERVICE

Pinned to Lead. Called to Serve.

Student Leaders' Pinning Ceremony 2026-2027



On **Tuesday, September 22, 2026**, Aquinas College proudly celebrated the pinning of our **2026-2027 student leaders** - young men and women who have accepted not simply a title, but a responsibility to lead.

Leadership at Aquinas is not about a badge, a position, or being at the front. It is about service, character, accountability, and the willingness to make a difference in the lives of others.

Our student leaders are reminded that true leadership begins with **servant leadership** - leading with humility, listening with compassion, making wise decisions, and putting the needs of others before themselves. They are called to be examples of **Goodness, Discipline, and Knowledge**, allowing their actions to speak as loudly as their words.

As they take on their responsibilities, we challenge them to remember our Aquinas mantra: **"Excellence is a Habit."**

Excellence means showing up with purpose, doing what is right even when no one is watching, accepting accountability, and inspiring others to become their very best.

This year, our student leaders journey together under our school theme: **ONE FAITH. ONE LIGHT. ONE JOURNEY.**

May their faith guide their decisions, their light inspire those around them, and their journey remind them that leadership is not about where you stand, but how many people you help rise along the way.

Lead with courage. Serve with humility. Live with purpose.

Your Aquinas family believes in you and looks forward to the impact you will make.
Congratulations to the Aquinas College Student Leaders 2026-2027!

The ACADEMIA
AQUINAS COLLEGE | SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2026

STUDENT LEADERSHIP | HIGH SCHOOL LEADERS' PROGRAM

Aquinas College Celebrates Our Emerging Leaders!



OUR HIGH SCHOOL LEADERS' PROGRAM REPRESENTATIVES

Aquinas College proudly congratulates Jerlea Adderley, Lexani Virgil, Jamauri Jones, and Jakhari Jones on being selected to represent our school in the High School Leaders' Program, an initiative of the Ministry of Youth.

This exciting opportunity recognizes students who demonstrate leadership potential and provides them with meaningful opportunities to develop their leadership skills, build confidence, strengthen communication and decision-making abilities, and engage with other young leaders from across The Bahamas.

Through training, mentorship, networking, and hands-on experiences, the program encourages students to become responsible, purpose-driven, and service-oriented leaders who are prepared to make positive contributions to their schools, communities, and country.

At Aquinas, we believe leadership is not simply about holding a position—it is about character, responsibility, service, and the courage to make a difference. Opportunities such as this allow our students to grow beyond the classroom while developing the skills and mindset needed to become tomorrow's leaders.

We are especially proud that these four outstanding students will carry the Aquinas College name and spirit into this program. May they lead with Goodness, Discipline, and Knowledge, make Excellence a Habit, and continue to let their faith and light guide their journey.

Congratulations, Jerlea, Lexani, Jamauri, and Jakhari!

We are excited to watch you learn, grow, lead, and serve!

One Faith. One Light. One Journey.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE | ZONTA ESSAY COMPETITION

Ten Years. Ten Victories. One Legacy of Excellence!



FIRST PLACE

Kylah Taylor

Head Girl



SECOND PLACE

Bria Beneby

Senior Class President

Aquinas College proudly celebrates another outstanding achievement in the **Zonta Club of Nassau's Annual Essay Competition**. For the **10th consecutive year**, an Aquinas student has secured first place, continuing a remarkable tradition of excellence.

Head Girl Kylah Taylor earned first place, while **Senior Class President Bria Beneby** placed second. Both young women demonstrated exceptional writing, critical thinking, confidence and leadership, embodying the Aquinas spirit of **'Excellence is a Habit.'**

Along with cash prizes and trophies, Kylah's first-place award included an extraordinary opportunity: travel to New York on **Thursday, September 24**, to attend the **United Nations General Assembly**, accompanied by her coach and mentor, **Mrs. Bain**, Head of the English Language Department.

Their success reflects their hard work, the dedication of their teachers, and Aquinas College's continued commitment to developing confident, articulate and purpose-driven young women.

Congratulations, Kylah and Bria!

Ten years of excellence. Ten years of distinction. And the legacy continues.

ZONTA ESSAY COMPETITION | THE PRIZE BEYOND THE PODIUM

From Aquinas to the United Nations

Kylah Taylor’s first-place prize brought her to New York for the United Nations General Assembly, where she engaged with members of the Bahamian Delegation.



Kylah with members of the Bahamian Delegation and accompanying adults in New York.





Conversations with members of the Bahamian Delegation during Kylah’s visit.

The ACADEMIA
AQUINAS COLLEGE | SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2026

Excellence on a Wider Stage

From award-winning writing to an international setting, Kylah’s visit extended the story of Aquinas College’s tenth consecutive first-place achievement.



A shared moment with the Bahamian Delegation during the United Nations visit.





Memories from New York: Kylah proudly represents Aquinas College.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT | FINANCIAL LITERACY

Back-to-Back Champion!



Aquinas College proudly celebrates **11th-grade student Jerlea Adderley** for winning the **2026 Deposit Insurance Corporation Video Essay Competition** for the **second consecutive year!**

Representing Aquinas College, Jerlea once again demonstrated her exceptional research, critical thinking, and communication skills as she tackled the thought-provoking topic:

> **“Bank Regulation versus Deposit Insurance: What’s the Difference?”**

Her ability to explore an important financial literacy topic and present her ideas with clarity and confidence is a true reflection of the excellence we strive to cultivate at Aquinas College.

Congratulations, Jerlea! Your dedication, brilliance, and consistency continue to make us proud.

Two years. Two wins. One outstanding scholar!

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT | CELEBRATING SUCCESS

Excellence Through Consistency





Two years. Two wins.

Celebrating Jerlea Adderley's second consecutive victory in the Deposit Insurance Corporation Video Essay Competition.

COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS | THE SOAR PROGRAM

Soaring to New Heights!

Aquinas College proudly celebrates **Sydney Wilkinson, Kylah Taylor, and Jayden Johnson**, who participated in the **SOAR Program** this past summer, gaining valuable exposure to university life, academic opportunities, and the college experience.



Kylah Taylor
Southern Texas University



Jayden Johnson
Lincoln University, Missouri



Sydney Wilkinson
Texas A&M University

Their participation is a powerful reminder that **college and career preparation begins long before graduation**. Early planning and meaningful exposure allow students to explore possibilities, build confidence, identify areas of interest, and begin envisioning themselves on college campuses.

At Aquinas College, student success is a shared journey. It takes advanced academic and college planning; strong parental support and encouragement; guidance and counselling services that connect students with opportunities; dedicated administrators and educators who help students navigate their next steps; and experiences that broaden horizons and aspirations.

We are especially proud of our **Guidance Department** for helping students identify and pursue opportunities such as SOAR and encouraging them to think intentionally about their futures.

To Sydney, Kylah, and Jayden—keep soaring! Your summer experience is only one step in the journey ahead. We look forward to seeing where your preparation, purpose, and potential will take you.

**At Aquinas College, we don't just prepare students for graduation—
we prepare them for their future.**

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT | MENTORSHIP & LEADERSHIP

Celebrating Excellence, Growth, Leadership & Faith



Aquinas College proudly recognizes **Fisk Burrows** for his outstanding accomplishments through the **Next Gen Mentorship Program**, a nonprofit initiative dedicated to developing disciplined, confident, and purpose-driven young men through structured mentorship, leadership training, and real-world exposure.

We are especially proud to celebrate Fisk as the recipient of the **Roscoe Dames Award for Most Improved Mentee**. This recognition is a testament to his growth, perseverance, commitment, and willingness to embrace the guidance and opportunities provided through the program.

Fisk's journey reminds us of the transformative power of mentorship. Positive role models, meaningful experiences, and opportunities to lead empower young men to discover their purpose and reach their fullest potential.





STUDENT SPOTLIGHT | FAITH & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Call on Jesus: Creativity with a Purpose





We extend heartfelt congratulations to Fisk on the launch of his **faith-based T-shirt company, Call on Jesus!** His entrepreneurial venture reflects his creativity, initiative, and desire to share a message of faith with his generation.

Faith provides an anchor in challenging times, a compass for making wise decisions, and the courage to live with purpose and integrity. Fisk is using his gifts and his platform to remind others that no matter what life brings, we can **Call on Jesus**.

Fisk, we celebrate your growth, accomplishments, entrepreneurial spirit, and commitment to faith. Continue to lead, continue to grow, and continue to use your gifts to inspire others.

Aquinas College is proud of you!

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT | MOMENTS OF ACHIEVEMENT

Growth Worth Celebrating





A voice, a vision, and recognition for progress through mentorship.



The ACADEMIA
AQUINAS COLLEGE | SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2026

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT | ART & ASPIRATION

Celebrating Creativity, Talent & Purpose



NINA ALBURY

Artist | Graduating Class of 2027

Aquinas College proudly celebrates **Nina Albury**, an exceptionally talented young artist who continues to demonstrate outstanding artistic ability, creativity, and passion for her craft.

This past summer, Nina participated in an extensive and intensive **one-month summer art programme at the Massachusetts College of Art and Design in Boston**, immersing herself in an enriching environment designed to challenge, inspire, and further develop her artistic talents.

Already a celebrated artist, Nina has set her sights on pursuing **Art as her university major** after graduating in 2027, transforming her passion and natural talent into a purposeful academic and professional pathway.

Her journey illustrates why **college and career planning should begin early**. Exploring interests, experiencing programmes aligned with their passions, and understanding available pathways help students make informed decisions about their futures.

Behind every successful student is a network of support. We celebrate the dedication of **Nina's parents**, whose encouragement and investment have helped create opportunities for her to grow. We also recognize the school and **Guidance Department**, whose college and career counseling, student support services, and individualized guidance help students identify opportunities and connect their talents with future goals.

At Aquinas College, we believe that every student has a gift, and our responsibility is to help them discover it, develop it, and use it with purpose.

Congratulations, Nina! Continue to create, dream, and let your extraordinary gift speak through your art.

Your future is a canvas—and you are already creating something beautiful.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT | CULINARY ARTS

Celebrating Kody Forbes!

Creativity, composure and a passion for the culinary arts



Kody Forbes at Baha Mar's junior culinary event.

Aquinas College proudly congratulates **Grade 11 student Kody Forbes** on representing our school in the **Baha Mar Jr. Chefs Culinary Competition**.

Kody was among 16 high school students from across New Providence challenged to create a dish using a mystery box of fresh ingredients. Twenty minutes into the competition, contestants faced a surprise twist: incorporating **jalapeño mint jelly** into their dishes!

Although Kody did not advance to the second round, he demonstrated impressive culinary skill, creativity, adaptability and composure. The judges were particularly impressed with his execution and creative use of the ingredients.

Kody dreams of studying Culinary Arts at the **Culinary Institute of America**, travelling throughout Europe to gain international culinary experience, and returning home to **The Bahamas to open his own restaurant**.

Kody, we are proud of you!

Keep learning, keep creating, and keep pursuing your culinary dreams. Your journey is just beginning!

ARTS & CULTURE | LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Art Students Experience Bahamian Creativity



Aquinas College Art students, accompanied by their Art Instructor, **Mrs. Simone Hall-Wilson**, recently visited **'Edge of the Water'**, an art exhibition at **Baha Mar** presented by the Baha Mar Conservation & Sustainability Team.

This experience offered students the opportunity to engage with the remarkable talent, creativity, and artistic expression of Bahamian artists as they prepare for their **BGCSE National Art examinations**.

Art students and their instructor during their visit to Baha Mar.





We are grateful for the continued partnership between Aquinas College and Baha Mar, which creates meaningful opportunities for our students to learn beyond the classroom, connect with Bahamian culture, and be inspired by excellence within our own community.

At Aquinas, we believe that exposure inspires excellence!

INNOVATION & DISCOVERY | MARITIME + STEAM

Embarking on an Innovative Journey





Aquinas College at the Youth Innovators Club launch.

Aquinas College proudly participated in the **Ministry of Education, Science and Technology's Youth Innovators Club Launch**, beginning an exciting journey into the **Maritime** pillar and the tremendous opportunities this vital industry holds for The Bahamas.

As an island nation, the maritime industry is deeply connected to our history, economy, culture, and future. From shipping and logistics to marine conservation, sustainable ocean resources, and maritime engineering, the possibilities for innovation are endless!

Throughout the **eight-week programme**, our students will research, innovate, collaborate, and develop their ideas into meaningful presentations that showcase the intersection of **STEAM, maritime, and community impact**.

Innovation begins when curiosity meets opportunity.

YOUTH INNOVATORS CLUB | CONNECTING THE DISCIPLINES

Connecting Maritime and STEAM

Five disciplines. Shared curiosity. Solutions for our island communities.

SCIENCE

Understanding marine ecosystems, ocean health, and the science behind our seas.

TECHNOLOGY

Exploring navigation systems, digital mapping, automation, and emerging maritime technologies.

ENGINEERING

Developing innovative solutions to maritime challenges, including vessel design, coastal protection, and marine pollution.

ART

Using creativity, design, and visual storytelling to communicate maritime ideas, promote ocean conservation, and celebrate our Bahamian maritime heritage.

MATHEMATICS

Applying measurement, geometry, data analysis, and problem-solving to navigation, ship design, and maritime operations.

By integrating these disciplines, students will be challenged to think critically, collaborate meaningfully, and use their knowledge and creativity to develop solutions to real-world challenges affecting our island communities.





YOUTH INNOVATORS CLUB | MENTORSHIP & OPPORTUNITY

Learning from Experience

Our students benefited from valuable input from **Drenaud Moncur**, an Aquinas College alumnus and **First Officer aboard Royal Caribbean's Independence of the Seas**. His professional experience offers an important connection between classroom learning and the exciting realities of a career in the maritime industry.

We extend sincere appreciation to **Raymond Knight, Ajith Kumar, Ravin Wilson, and Brian Tappin**, who will serve as facilitators and coaches. Their expertise, mentorship, and commitment to youth development will guide and encourage our young innovators to think beyond the classroom and envision themselves as future leaders and problem-solvers.









YOUTH INNOVATORS CLUB | FROM IDEAS TO IMPACT

Our Seas, Our Opportunity



Students, educators, and guests celebrate the launch of the Youth Innovators Club.

At Aquinas College, we continue to nurture students who are academically capable, creatively confident, and equipped to make a meaningful difference in The Bahamas and beyond.

Our seas connect us to opportunity.
STEAM equips us to explore it.
Innovation empowers us to shape the future!

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES | DIPLOMATIC WEEK 2026

Aquinas Students Attend Diplomatic Week 2026





Aquinas College students at Diplomatic Week in Nassau.

Aquinas College students participated in the **14th annual Diplomatic Week**, held from **October 18 to 22, 2026**, in Nassau, with activities headquartered at the **Margaritaville Beach Resort**.

The occasion carried a special Aquinas connection: **Mr. Nathan McPhee, a 2015 graduate of Aquinas College**, was among the keynote speakers, bringing an inspiring alumni presence to the experience.

“Orange, Blue and Green Economies: New Frontiers for Trade and Economic Development”

Under Trade Commission Chairman **Barry Griffin**, the event focused on economic diplomacy: connecting Bahamian culture and creative industries (Orange Economy), ocean resources (Blue Economy), and environmental sustainability (Green Economy) with international markets and opportunities for Bahamian businesses.

Event dates and venue: dipweek.gov.bs | AQUINAS COLLEGE

YOUTH RALLY | TALENT, LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

Aquinas Students Shine at the Youth Rally for King Charles III's Visit

The Aquinas College family proudly celebrates our students who represented our school with distinction at the Youth Rally held in honour of the visit of **His Majesty King Charles III**!

Our students showcased their talents, leadership, and commitment to service through their participation in outstanding programmes and organizations:

The Combined High School Band - sharing their musical talents and school spirit.

Doctors Hospital Bridge to the Future STEM Programme - demonstrating innovation, creativity, and a passion for science and technology.

FemSTEM - empowering young women to explore opportunities in STEM.

Young Innovators - showcasing the creativity and potential of the next generation of problem-solvers.

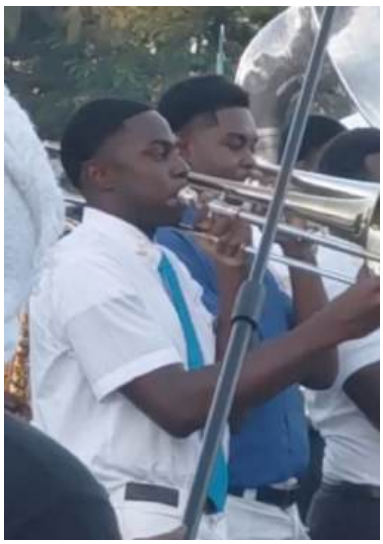
GGYA (Governor General's Youth Award) - exemplifying leadership, perseverance, and community service.

The Bahamas Red Cross - representing compassion, humanitarian service, and care for others.

We are incredibly proud of our students for embracing this historic occasion and demonstrating the goodness, discipline, knowledge, and excellence that define the Aquinas College experience.

Their participation reflects the spirit of young Bahamians prepared to lead, serve, innovate, and contribute meaningfully to our nation and the world.





YOUTH RALLY | INNOVATION IN FOCUS

Sharing Ideas on a Historic Occasion

Students present their creativity and problem-solving through STEM exhibits and conversations.









Moments from the exhibits: student projects, royal engagement, and shared school pride.

YOUTH RALLY | LEARNING, LEADERSHIP & PRIDE

Young Bahamians Ready to Lead

Celebrating participation, curiosity, and the confidence to share ideas beyond the classroom.









Aquinas College: Guided by Faith, Inspired by Excellence, Our Legacy Continues!

SWIMMING & TEAM BAHAMAS

Alanna Murray Makes Waves at the Goodwill Games



Alanna Murray proudly displays her three medals.

Aquinas College celebrates **Alanna Murray**, a member of the 2026 Bahamas Goodwill Games Swim Team and one of four athletes selected to serve as Team Captains.

Team Bahamas travelled to Trinidad for the **30th Goodwill Games, August 14-16**, competing alongside nine other countries.

From the first day of competition, Team Bahamas delivered a dominant performance, securing the championship for an incredible **fourth consecutive year**.

Alanna helped her team achieve this historic four-peat and returned home with **three medals**.

ALANNA'S MEDAL HAUL

SILVER | 400m Medley Relay

BRONZE | 200m Freestyle Relay

BRONZE | 200m Medley Relay

Congratulations, Alanna and Team Bahamas!

AQUINAS ATHLETICS | CROSS COUNTRY

Adian Bain: A Run to Remember!



Aquinas College proudly celebrates the outstanding athletic achievements of **Adian Bain!**

Adian demonstrated determination, discipline, and endurance on the cross-country course, earning two impressive results:

3RD PLACE

3K Cross Country Competition
September 26

1ST PLACE

4K Cross Country Competition | October 3

From a strong third-place finish to taking the top spot just one week later, Adian's performance is a testament to perseverance, preparation, and a commitment to excellence.





Congratulations, Adian! Keep running, keep striving, and keep proving that Excellence is a Habit!

The ACADEMIA

AQUINAS COLLEGE | SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2026

SECTION 02

Community Service

Compassion in action.
Faith expressed through service.

GOODNESS. DISCIPLINE. KNOWLEDGE.

One Faith. One Light. One Journey.

The ACADEMIA
AQUINAS COLLEGE | SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2026

COMMUNITY & CARE | BREAST CANCER AWARENESS

Aquinas College Supports Breast Cancer Awareness



Our Aquinas community wears pink in support of Breast Cancer Awareness.

Throughout October, our teachers and students were invited to wear pink for a **$3 contribution** in support of **Breast Cancer Awareness**.

This campaign has a special connection to our Aquinas family, as some of our parents, guardians, and families have been personally affected by breast cancer.

By contributing $3 and wearing pink, our students had an opportunity to show their support while experiencing the importance of giving back and standing with those in our community who are affected by this disease.

Every contribution makes a difference.

Together, we wear pink. Together, we support. Together, we make a difference.

COMMUNITY & CARE | COMPASSION IN ACTION

Dressed for the Cure

Standing together during Breast Cancer Awareness Month









Aquinas College joins in support of the Sister Sister Breast Cancer Support Group.

The Aquinas College family came together to show community spirit, compassion, and service during **Breast Cancer Awareness Month**.

Our students and teachers **'Dressed for the Cure'** in October, showing solidarity with those affected by breast cancer. The **Builders Club** sold pink ribbons, and the **Anchor Club** held a bake sale. **All proceeds went to the Sister Sister Breast Cancer Support Group.**

These efforts remind us that we are called to be our brothers' and sisters' keepers, extending empathy, kindness, and support to those who need it most.

FAITH & SERVICE | HONOURING OUR LEGACY

Honouring a Legacy of Music and Service

In memory of Sister Mary Benedict Pratt O.S.B.





Aquinas College representatives join Sister Marva Coakley for the donation presentation.

In a special tribute, Aquinas College recently donated **$3,000 to Sister Marva Coakley, Prioress of St. Martin's Monastery**, in honour of the late **Sister Mary Benedict Pratt O.S.B.** Our marching band members raised the funds by participating in the breast cancer awareness initiative during our Open House event.

Sister Mary Benedict Pratt played an instrumental role in forming the **Aquinas College Marching Band**, securing donations exceeding **$25,000** to purchase the band's first set of instruments. Her vision and dedication helped lay the foundation for a legacy that continues to inspire our students today.

At Aquinas College, we believe that goodness is demonstrated through action, empathy is expressed through service, and our greatest impact comes when we stand together.

The ACADEMIA
AQUINAS COLLEGE | SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2026

SECTION 03

Alumni Corner

Once an Ace, always an Ace.
Our legacy continues.

GOODNESS. DISCIPLINE. KNOWLEDGE.

One Faith. One Light. One Journey.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT | CULINARY ARTS

Aquinas Alumna Shines in the Culinary Arts!



Aquinas College proudly congratulates alumna **Savannah Ritchie** on placing **THIRD** in the **Baha Mar Junior Culinary Showdown!**

Savannah's achievement is a testament to her talent, dedication, and passion for the culinary arts. We are especially proud of the foundation she received at Aquinas College through our **Food and Nutrition and Hospitality programmes**, which helped nurture her skills and prepare her for future success.

Savannah is now a **sophomore at the University of The Bahamas**, where she is pursuing studies in **Culinary Arts and Hospitality**. Her continued growth is an inspiring example of how the knowledge, skills, and experiences gained in high school can open doors to exciting opportunities.



Savannah celebrates her third-place achievement.

Savannah, you are a shining example of the Aquinas College spirit! May God continue to bless your talents, guide your journey, and open doors to even greater achievements. We look forward to seeing all that you accomplish in the culinary and hospitality industries!

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT | COMPETITION HIGHLIGHTS

Talent, Dedication & Passion

Moments from Savannah Ritchie’s culinary journey at Baha Mar.





Skill and focus on the competition stage.





From preparation to presentation: celebrating Savannah’s passion for the culinary arts.

Once an Ace, always an Ace! Excellence is a Habit.

OPEN DOES NOT MEAN OVER

LET'S KEEP OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY SAFE, HEALTHY & STRONG



HANDS

Wash with soap and water often.



DISTANCE

Stay at least 6 feet away from others when possible.



MASK

Wear a mask in crowded or indoor spaces.



COUGH

Cover your mouth and nose with your elbow or a tissue.



IF SICK

Rest and recover. Keep others safe.



DISINFECT

Clean frequently touched surfaces regularly.

TOGETHER, WE PROTECT OURSELVES AND EACH OTHER.

HEALTHY TODAY. STRONGER TOMORROW.

Aces Pride Forever!

FAITH IN ACTION | SERVICE TO OTHERS | EXCELLENCE IN ALL WE DO | RESPECT FOR CREATION | LEADERSHIP FOR LIFE

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO THE WELL-BEING OF OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY. TOGETHER, WE CAN ACHIEVE GREAT THINGS—SAFELY.

LET'S KEEP EACH OTHER SAFE