



COLUMBIA ACADEMY

News Release

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Annual Columbia Academy canned food drive sets new goal for 80,000 food items

COLUMBIA, TENN (November 8, 2011) – The annual Canned Food Drive at Columbia Academy kicked off this week with a new goal set for collecting a record 80,000 canned and boxed food items. In 2010, the drive collected approximately 64,000 food items. The distribution day for the 2011 drive is set for November 22.



CA students work to assemble floor “sculptures” out of canned food items during the 2010 Canned Food Drive.

This year, local businesses are asked to help meet the increased goal through corporate sponsorships that will be recognized locally at the conclusion of the drive. Sponsorship levels include: Bronze Sponsorship - \$50, Silver Sponsorship - \$100, Gold Sponsorship - \$250, and Platinum Sponsorship - \$1000.

“We have always had very generous corporate sponsors for this worthy cause, but this year we want to recognize their generosity and hopefully attract even more sponsors,” said event organizer John Thomas.

For more than 20 years, this Columbia Academy annual service project has filled pantries of food kitchens and local churches during the Thanksgiving holidays. In the history of the drive, more than 1.2 million cans of food have been collected and delivered in the community. Many non-profit organizations and food pantries rely on this contribution to stock their supplies for the entire year.

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“This project has made a drastic difference in our community’s ability to help the less fortunate,” Thomas said. “The majority of these items have gone directly back to our own community through various communities service organizations and churches. We feel it is one of the greatest services our students provide each year.”

The students’ involvement goes beyond collecting the items, Thomas added, as they get creative with the distribution by making a giant canned food “sculpture” that covers the high school gym floor at the culmination of the drive. After the sculpture is unveiled, more than 18 community organizations come to collect the food for their food pantries on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving, or what Columbia Mayor Dean Dickey declared last year as “Columbia Academy Canned Food Day.”

Monetary or food item contributions may be dropped off at the high school building at Columbia Academy at 1101 West 7th Street or the Spring Hill campus at 856 Beechcroft Road. For corporate sponsorship information, contact John Thomas at 931-446-0034 or email john.thomas@cabulldogs.org.

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Columbia Academy is a PreK-12th grade college preparatory school founded in 1979 to provide high quality academics from a Christian perspective. With an enrollment of more than 700 students, CA is located on a beautiful 67-acre campus in Columbia, Tenn., formerly home to the Columbia Military Academy. CA also maintains a satellite campus in Spring Hill, Tenn. Columbia Academy is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and is a member of the National Christian School Association.

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Columbia Campus – 1101 West 7th Street, Columbia, TN 38401, (931) 388-5363
Spring Hill Campus - 756 Beechcroft Road, Spring Hill, TN 37174, (931) 486-1002
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