

glendale gazette



Glendale Academy Says Goodbye to the Mohrs

After working as music teachers at Glendale Academy for 24 and 28 years, Craig and Brenda Mohr are saying goodbye and moving to Seattle, Washington. Mrs. Mohr, who has worked at GAA as both the band and choir teacher, will attend the University of Washington in order to pursue her doctorate in musical arts in choral

conducting so that she will be able to teach at the university level. The GAA musical ensembles have won many awards and have achieved well-deserved reputations for excellence under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. Mohr. The concert band and jazz band are considered by many to be amongst the best Adventist school bands in the nation. Both groups

won gold at the 2012 Heritage festival in San Francisco. Every year since 1989, Mrs. Mohr's choirs have achieved superior rankings at every adjudication in which they participated. Mr. and Mrs. Mohr have been a blessing to our school and they will be greatly missed as they embark on their journeys to fulfill God's plans for them.





Interview with Mrs. Mohr

1. What are your proudest accomplishments?

Getting 2nd Place at the Golden State South choral competition in 1999 and winning 1st place in 2000. Establishing choral ensembles grades 5-8 and Women's and Men's Choirs in the Academy.

2. How do you feel about leaving GAA?

I am sad about leaving GAA. I have been here for more than half of my life! This was my first teaching job straight out of college.

3. What are your fondest memories from teaching?

Music Tours, all of the Christmas, Spring and Benefit concerts and time spent in rehearsals with my students.

4. What has been most enriching about your experience teaching here?

Being a part of the professional musician community here in Los Angeles. Getting to know and work with some of the best professional musicians in Southern California.

5. What are you most excited about for the future?

I'm excited about being part of a music department that has a passion for choral music like I do. Being able to study and work with choral musicians who love their art.

6. What will you miss most about GAA and California?

I will miss the friendships I have with my fellow teachers and of course, my students. I will miss the sunny, mild So Cal weather.

7. How do you feel about Katie leaving the nest?

I'm happy for her and sad for me. I'm excited that she gets to go to college to meet new people and have new experiences. I'm sad because we've been together more than most parents and their children because I work at the same place she went to school for 13 years.

8. How have you changed since you first started teaching?

I've gained weight, gray hair, wear flats and my name is now Mrs. Mohr.

9. What is the best piece of advice you can give to the seniors going off to college?

"Never give up on a dream just because of the time it will take to accomplish it. The time will pass anyway."

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."—Jeremiah 29:11

10. What do you hope to accomplish in the future?

I hope to teach choral music and future music teachers at the college/university level someday.

Interview with Mr. Mohr

1. What are your proudest accomplishments?

I am proudest when alumni tell me how important and enriching music was to them when they were in school. They often relate things I said or did that had an impact in their lives. I am proud when they continue making music after graduating.

2. How do you feel about leaving GAA?

I feel sad to leave my students, friends and community, but also excited for a new adventure in life.

3. What are your fondest memories from teaching?

I have many—all the rehearsals, concerts, and tours, of course, and the relationships developed with so many special students. Those early Benefit Concerts during the 90's were fun because everything we did was for the first time. It was like an adventure. The first trip to Chicago and the second trip to Washington DC stand out in my mind as especially fun.

4. What has been most enriching about your experience teaching here?

Watching young children mature into responsible, caring, successful adults. Being able to teach my daughter for 8 years was also very special.

5. What are you most excited about for the future?

I really don't know...maybe having new challenges and opportunities about which I currently know nothing, because they are in the future! My future is in the Lord's hands so it is certain to be great.

6. What will you miss most about GAA and California?

I will miss the GAA community—the closeness of the school family. I will miss the support of administration, fellow faculty and parents. I will miss the beautiful rehearsal room and all the top-notch instruments and equipment. I will definitely miss the California weather!

7. How do you feel about Katie leaving the nest?

I am so excited for her. She will learn independence, which is hard for a Dad to experience, but it's time for her to spread her wings. Hopefully I will keep my composure while she marches at graduation and I conduct the Band playing Pomp and Circumstance.

8. How have you changed since you first started teaching?

I have learned patience, compassion and the realization that God's love is REALLY big.

9. What is the best piece of advice you can give to the seniors going off to college?

Study hard, play hard, get out of your comfort zone and get as much sleep as you can. Choose a career path that allows you to serve others and will find happiness.

10. What do you hope to accomplish in the future?

I want to continue in the music education field, possibly pursuing some higher education, and be a positive influence for young people.

5 Random Facts about the Mohrs:

1. Katie and her mom love Disney

Katie's favorite Disney character is Tinkerbell and her favorite ride at Disneyland is Indiana Jones. This year alone, she has already been to Disneyland too many times to count.

2. Mr. Mohr's favorite composer is Gustav Mahler

Mr. Mohr's favorite composer was a late-Romantic conductor and pianist.

3. Katie is going to PUC in the fall

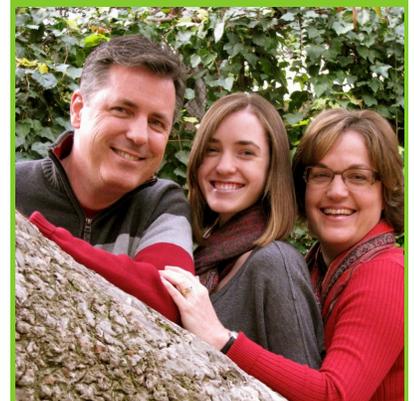
Katie plans to attend Pacific Union College as a psychology major. She hopes to obtain a career in behavior analysis.

4. The Mohrs love biking

Not only do the Mr. and Mrs. Mohr enjoy watching bike races, but they also participate in the activity themselves.

5. Katie loves to read

Katie's favorite books are *Gone With the Wind* by Margaret Mitchell and the Sherlock Holmes short stories by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.



By: Miranda Larsen and Alexandria Lee