



At Chestatee High School

**2012-2013
Application Packet**

Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you have imagined.
Henry David Thoreau

Student Name

Current School

Introduction

The Renaissance Academy for Creative Enterprises (RACE) is a program designed for students who have a passion for learning, curiosity, originality, and are open to discovering their gifts in a creative educational setting. Prime candidates for this program possess the following characteristics: intrinsic motivation, creativity, versatility, and self-discipline. The Renaissance Academy provides opportunities for students to thrive in a highly personalized environment dedicated to meeting the needs of the passionate learner both academically and creatively.

Students enrolled in RACE will benefit from a program that incorporates all facets and experiences of an exceptional high school education within an intimate small school setting. RACE provides a technology-rich learning environment that features a project-based integrated curriculum. As a program within Chestatee High School, RACE provides students the opportunity to participate in various extracurricular activities and athletics.

The Renaissance Academy Application Process

Requirements to Apply

Any Hall County School District student in 8th grade may apply. Parents of students who live outside the CHS attendance zone must provide transportation for their children to and from school.

Application and Selection Procedure

1. Complete the application packet and submit it to Nick Scheman at CHS by **Friday, February 17th, 2012:**
The Renaissance Academy for Creative Enterprises
Attn: Mr. Nick Scheman
3005 Sardis Road
Gainesville, GA 30506
2. Select two middle school teachers to complete the confidential recommendation form.
3. Completed student application packets will be reviewed by the RACE Team and selected based on the following criteria:
 - Demonstrate advanced levels of knowledge, interest and aptitude in science, the arts and/or technology
 - Exhibit outstanding communication skills
 - Possess qualities associated with creativity, including curiosity, resourcefulness and a problem-solving disposition
 - Demonstrate a high level of motivation to excel
 - Possess the maturity to work well independently and in small group settings

***Depending on the number of applicants, additional requirements may be necessary.
Committee decisions are final.***

The Renaissance Academy Student Application

I. Student Information

Student Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Current School: _____ Student ID#: _____

Indicate area(s) of special interest: _____

Do you own a laptop that can be used at school? Yes No

Overall Computer Skills: Excellent Good Fair Limited

Describe computer software proficiency in the space below:



II. Parent/Guardian Information

Name(s): _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Email: _____



III. Academic Record

1. Attach your child's middle school standardized testing history (both ITBS and CRCT if available). These must be official records, which may be obtained from the counselor at your child's school, Infinite Campus and/or your own copies of standardized test score reports.
2. Photocopy and attach your child's most recent report card.



IV. Parent Essay

Please answer the question below, limiting your response to one typed or hand-written page.

Please share some of your child's greatest challenges and successes. Describe your expectations, in the following areas:

- a. Academics
- b. Electives (connections/enrichment)
- c. Athletics
- d. Extracurricular activities



V. Student Essay (to be completed by students only)

Please answer the question below, limiting your response to one typed or hand-written page.

Describe your most significant middle school accomplishment(s). Be sure to include the process(es) employed, challenges faced, and outcome(s) achieved.



VI. References

Please ask two individuals to complete confidential recommendation forms. One of the references must be a current teacher. The other reference may be another current teacher, a former teacher, or an individual (non family member) who has observed your interests, talents, and work ethic. If they agree to serve as references, please give each person a copy of the confidential recommendation form located at the end of this application packet. Additional reference forms may be found at the CHS website.



VII. Parent Assurances

- I grant permission for the RACE Team to request and review my child’s complete academic and discipline records.
- If I live outside the CHS attendance zone, I will provide transportation to and from school for my child to attend the RACE Program at Chestatee High School.
- I will commit to 10 hours of volunteer service to the RACE Program.
- I understand that if my child has persistent problems with behavior and/or motivation while enrolled in the RACE Program, I understand that he/she will return to his/her home school.

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature

Date



VIII. Certification and Signatures

I certify that the information contained in this application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that if selected for the RACE Program, falsified statements may be grounds for removal.

Student Name (Print please)

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Legal Guardian Name (Print please)

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature

Date

RACE Student Recommendation Form
(Confidential. Please do not return to the student or his/her parent/guardian.)



Please send this document via interoffice mail if you are a Hall County employee. You may also mail the completed document to Mr. Nick Scheman by *Friday, February 17, 2012* at the address below:

Nick Scheman, RACE Coordinator
Chestatee High School
3005 Sardis Road
Gainesville, GA 30506

Student's Name _____

Student's Current School _____ Student's Current Grade Level _____

Name of Individual Completing Form _____

Relationship to Student _____

Please reflect on the student who has asked you to recommend him/her to the Chestatee High School Renaissance Academy for Creative Enterprises (RACE). The qualities that are most important for student success at the Renaissance Academy are:

- Passion for learning, primarily in the areas of science, art and technology
- Creativity
- Maturity, self-discipline, intrinsic motivation
- Collaborative, flexible learner

It is essential that you think carefully about each statement. Please provide your honest, professional judgment about this student in relation to other students of the same age who have had similar opportunities to develop their gifts and talents. If you have not had the chance to observe this student in a setting where he/she could demonstrate a particular characteristic, please leave that item blank.

Thank you for providing your professional observations to assist the RACE Committee in the selection process. Your rating of the student will remain completely confidential.

CRITERION <i>The student...</i>	Never	Very Rarely	Rarely	Occasionally	Frequently	Always
1. Demonstrates behavior that requires little direction from teachers						
2. Demonstrates responsible behavior, can be counted on to follow through on activities/projects						
3. Is consistently cooperative when working with others						
4. Is persistent when pursuing goals regardless of obstacles or setbacks						
5. Is critical of his or her own work; sets high standards of quality, often reworking creation in order to refine it						
6. Grasps concepts quickly						
7. Is able to transfer learning/skills from one situation to another						
8. Demonstrates an enthusiasm and motivation to understand scientific processes and/or technology						
9. Is curious about why things are as they are						
10. Enjoys participating in artistic activities in which they visually express ideas through various creative elements						
11. Arrives at unique, unconventional solutions to scientific, artistic and/or technological problems as opposed to traditional answers						
12. Willingly experiments with different forms of media that employ a variety of materials and techniques in order to complete projects						
13. Elaborates on ideas from others—using them as a “jumping-off point” as opposed to copying them						
14. Demonstrates a level of flexibility that allows them to adapt, improve, or modify objects or ideas						
15. Is intellectually playful, willing to fantasize and manipulate ideas						
16. Exhibits a nonconforming attitude, does not fear being different						
17. Has an adventurous spirit that enables them to take intellectual risk						
18. Relates well to others; displays ability to empathize with peers						
19. Is sensitive to their environment; makes keen and insightful observations that might be overlooked by others						
20. Is dedicated to completing tasks; takes pride in following through with projects						

- I recommend this student highly.
- I recommend this student with some reservations.
- I cannot recommend this student

Additional Comments—Any additional comments about this student that will help the RACE Committee better understand his/her strengths, as well as any information regarding learning or behavioral issues that may affect the student’s success in RACE are appreciated. Please either type or print them neatly on a separate sheet of paper and include them in an envelope with this checklist. Thank you!