

2010 GCBI Dundie Awards

SB: I once heard someone say of a young woman that “blended alongside the good, there was an equal amount of the ridiculous in her”. To say that there was an equal amount of ridiculous in our students may perhaps be one of the largest understatements of the year. Without doubt, we were blessed with a group of the wittiest, most clever, most sarcastic individuals...and this year’s awards will give you just a taste of our experience! Borrowing from a favorite television show, we are proud to present the Second Annual Great Commission Bible Institute Dundie Awards!

CAM – Magie

You’re all familiar with “EGRs” – you know, those people for whom *extra grace is required*? We encounter them regularly – in the church, in our jobs, at our schools. They are those who teach us to go outside of ourselves and our comfort zones in order to meet their needs. We learn to be extensions of grace to these people. We learn quickly how to minister to these EGRs. But what about the EPRs? You know...extra PROTEIN required?

Before Mayelis Cisneros came to GCBI in August, she called with a bunch of questions and among those, she said very sweetly, “I just found out I’m hypoglycemic...is that gonna be a problem?” Noooo, we assured her, it would be fine! What we didn’t know was that that would entail the consumption of copious amounts of beef jerky and cheese sticks at any given time of day or night – which meant that the Happy Family could **never** leave the house without her lunchbox. For those of you who haven’t had the difficult pleasure of feeding a group of students that included a hypoglycemic, let me tell you about the protein adventure we have been on this year...

Inevitable sugar-induced mood swings, last minute snack detours, splitting headaches, and for the love of all that’s holy either the van was too hot or too cold but never just right... There was an upside though, because when Magie’s had too much sugar, she crashes, and I mean not a peep out of her...which you can understand was a relief at times, due to the fact that typically, once she got started talking, you never knew when she’d stop, or in what language...

I’m also pretty sure I saved her life a couple times in Israel...who’s got jokes about my food bag now huh? But let us tell you, in spite of Magie’s constant need of a protein packed pick-me up, we wouldn’t have traded the experience for anything in the world...except for maybe a life time supply of almond butter! So in light of all this we are proud to present to Mayelis Cisneros, **THE... “DID YOU BRING A SNACK” AWARD!**

CAM – Erin

From time to time, GCBI manages to host persons of great intrigue, nomadic spirits whose travel, both home and abroad, keep them constantly on the move. Typically more mature, yet somewhat mysterious, these are the people whose one-year stay in Sebring amounts to practically ‘settling in’ when compared with the past 7 or so years. These delightful wanderers are prone to feeling restless in our quaint town and frequent expeditions to far-off lands like....**the Northwest**...are the only remedy.

Not exactly a closet ‘Dora the Explorer’, but close, these folks are easy to spot because they come with a wide accoutrement of tastes and abilities not native to the comfortable rural setting of Highlands County. Erin Williams’ vast array of talent manifests itself behind the camera, where she is photographer extraordinaire. It makes itself known in the kitchen (where she has deftly taught our boys to cook eggs) and on Monday afternoons, where she has proven herself to be a connoisseur of fine teas. Her very attire itself reveals the gypsy spirit, with her wardrobe boasting somewhere around 85 scarves and one seriously worn pair of Chuck Taylors – we think they’re over ten years old – what wild places have they seen? What stories could they tell? Erin knows the power of the well-turned phrase, “the pen is mightier than the sword”, yet her fine command of the English language is verbal as well as written.

We’re wondering if somehow GCBI hasn’t become some sort of witness-protection program... What has Erin Williams (if that is indeed her real name) done? And who has she done it to, that would require someone whose passport has known no boundaries, to quietly sequester themselves on the 2nd floor at 109 W Center St.? Waiting... waiting... Though we suspect her feet may be itching, we’ve also heard her stay here has been extended indefinitely.

It is for all this and more (which we are not free to divulge at this time) that we proudly present Erin Williams with the **Not Going Anywhere For A While? Grab a Snickers! Award.**

SB - Elijah

We come into the world with unique and individual sets of gifts and talents – they are what form our identities. In many cases, we become known for these: the Teacher, the Administrator, the Artist, the Musician... Many of us spend years honing our talents – while others display such natural giftedness with relative ease. We barely talented folks gaze with admiration at those who have a flair for the creative or a natural bent for lyrical elegance. Case in point: Elijah.

The artistic ingenuity and musical prowess of our token Ogden student contributed to an atmosphere of originality in the Bible Institute this year. From his various piercings and wildly imaginative wardrobe, to the unceasing stream of new music coming from his room, Elijah proved himself an incredibly unique addition to our Happy Family. When he decorated the Institute hallways with his drawings and artwork the first week he moved in, we knew we were in for a treat. When he began playing guitar in the common room...and the hallway...and on the street corners downtown, we knew we couldn't escape.

So! For consistently bombarding his Happy Family with music, for visually assaulting the church body with neon accessories, and for regular use of the classic phrase, "Can I play my new song for you?"....we proudly present Elijah Ogden with the **Aggressive Creativity Award.**

CAM – Chelsea

Every year there's always one student who seems to excel in the, how shall we say it? The 'gung-ho' department. This year is no exception, except the level of youthful exuberance far outweighs anything we've seen before. Unparalleled liveliness, if you catch my drift. Of course, we could only be talking about one Chelsea Grace Rumbaugh, whose smile alone makes you realize that your happy isn't anywhere close to her happy.

Is there such a thing as "forceful excitement" — so spontaneous and contagious that to be in the same room with Chelsea when she starts to bubble over means you're getting ready to be involved in something that will exhaust you before you begin? Even her HAIR responds to the thrill of her daily enthusiastic existence. With such cheeriness in excess, no one can hope to keep up with her — it's really just a matter of who falls least behind.

And how can one so young, the very picture of youthful zeal, know so much? Chelsea came to us a licensed cosmetologist, with knowledge of everything from hair cuttery to toenail fungus. Her excitement about the topic has kept a steady stream of clients coming to her this year. And what about —you're not surprised, are you?— her extensive camp knowledge of her beloved River Valley Ranch? Her enthusiasm about RVR has not gone unnoticed — and really, how could it, with such extreme zest virtually assaulting you at every turn? It is this very fervor that has also made Chelsea into the cheerleading allstar that we have come to love. She has used her cheer skills to memorize Scripture verses and encourage her fellow students, not to mention that half her wardrobe is comprised entirely of cheerleading competition tees.

To have gained this amount of experience in so few years could only be explained by some bizarre warp in the space-time continuum...one that could be caused only by someone who travels at the speed of Chelsea. For this frenzied display of hyperactivity, we are excited to present Chelsea with the **"Your Delightful Energy and Youthful Exuberance Exhausts Us" Award!**

SB – Devon

Have you ever been smitten? Has there ever been something or someone you have absolutely fallen for? We've all been there — that fascination with the cute girl in your middle school science class or perhaps your first car, or even a celebrity or sports superstar. For most of us, it's merely a passing fad or childish fancy. But it takes a true relational genius to elevate such fascination to an art form.

For most of us, we're content to have a favorite sports team or movie star. But for an interpersonal prodigy like

Devon Fox, the acceptable minimum for a true fan is knowing the ERA of every Yankee ballplayer and the on-base percentage of Robinson Cano. Such a thorough understanding of authentic devotion is not limited to the sports arena, but stretches also to the arts. Any fan worth his salt would be able to name at *least* every movie Matt Damon has ever been in and readily quote dialogue from any of those films.

Do not be deceived by his size, mild temperament, or affinity for Zebra Cakes – in spite of his preoccupation with the aforementioned numbers and stats, this man has mastered the nuances of every Mixed Martial Arts move known to man and has used them effectively against my husband. Talk about devotion!

But above and beyond these mundane trivialities, fascinating though they may be to mere relational mortals, this year, Devon has achieved the pinnacle of fan stardom....by unashamedly attaching his affections to none other than our very own Dr. Randall D. Smith; Devon has become the leading proponent of the Principle Approach to Scripture, has set new levels of class participation, and singlehandedly become a walking billboard for Pastor Randy...and it is for this achievement, that we proudly present Devon Fox with... the **Man Crush Award**.