



The **ACES** Club

Our Monthly Newsletter: May 2023

President's Report

Dear friends and subscribers,

Welcome to the May edition of the ACES newsletter. I would firstly like to inform you that the CiRCE Institute has kindly once again produced and shared video recordings from the April 2023 conference "A Cultivation Of Virtue". To access all video recordings, please follow this [link](#) and enter the password: **VIRTUE2023**. Feel free to share these recordings with others (teachers, parents, principals, etc.). As many Australians have never heard about classical education before these sessions will certainly enlighten those who wish to explore and learn more about it. The CiRCE Institute is always planning new events and webinars so I strongly suggest that you regularly visit their website and consider subscribing to their journal, [FORMA](#).



Secondly, I would like to inform you that Adrienne Freas and Kiernan Fiore from *Beautiful Teaching* will be presenting two seminars online for all Australians. The first seminar is titled "Creating and Leading Seminars for Any Subject" and will be held on Saturday May 27. There are spots remaining so please consider attending. The cost for both sessions is \$100. During this seminar, Adrienne will explore with us how to lead seminars, creating thoughtful discussions and establishing an atmosphere for civil discourse. The link to register and pay is: <http://www.classicaleducation.org.au/blog/classical-pedagogy-immersion-courses-in->

[conjunction-with-beautiful-teaching.](#)

The second session will occur on June 17 and will be led by Kiernan Fiore from *Beautiful Teaching*. It is imperative that participants attend both sessions to receive all the full benefits from this professional development. Both sessions are open to teachers and parents.

I would also like to remind readers about [Via Classica](#). *Via Classica* is committed to supporting schools in educating every child in the truest and fullest sense by giving them the necessary tools of learning, and by fostering wonder and love for all that is genuinely true, good and beautiful. The team at *Via Classica* believes education, both at home and in schools, should support students to read well, speak well, and think well because truth and beauty are good in themselves and desirable for their own sake. Feel free to email the director or subscribe to their mailing list.

Finally I would like to conclude by thanking Andrew Zwerneman, who is the President and co-founder of *Cana Academy*. Any Australian can now receive 25% off all purchases at [Cana Academy's online shop](#), which stocks more than 50 guides for seminars on classic texts. Simply use the discount code: **AUSTRALIA25** at checkout. On the topic of books, Sarah Flynn O'Dea from *Logos Australis* has recently included many new titles on her website. For further information please visit <https://logosaustralis.com/bookstore>.

The support we are receiving from our American friends to help build the classical education movement in Australia is worthy of commendation. It fills us with hope at ACES. However, it is equally important that Australians also support and help ACES. There are so many principals, teachers and parents who read this monthly newsletter. Please forward it to others in your networks. Help spread the word about classical education. Our website has many videos, blogs and other resources that once again can be shared with others.

I finish with a heartfelt request to each one of you. Over the next four weeks, please mention ACES to five other people. Mention our two conferences, our newsletters, our articles, and so on. We are open to any suggestions or ideas about what we can do better to promote classical education. We don't have all the answers but we strongly believe that the current education system in Australia is failing our beautiful students and that they too deserve to be exposed to transcendentals (truth, goodness and beauty), and the cultivation of wisdom and virtue. We all know and read every day about the malaise in education but *NEVER* hear any solution or an alternative educational model being proffered. At ACES we are offering a solution, which enables all our students to flourish and become truly human. As always, please feel free to get in touch if you would like to get involved or have any questions: contact@classicaleducation.org.au.

Yours sincerely,

Kon Bouzikos
President of ACES



CLASSICAL PEDAGOGY

IMMERSION COURSES IN CONJUNCTION WITH
BEAUTIFUL TEACHING

CREATING AND LEADING SEMINARS FOR ANY SUBJECT PART 2

Kiernan will lead you in a seminar. Through this immersive session you will experience the art of how to lead a seminar. This is the ultimate experience for learning how to create a spirit of inquiry in your classroom!

SATURDAY, 17 JUNE 2023, 8AM – 10 AM (AEST)

\$50 AUD per person*

This course is offered only to Australian-based participants with a 30-person attendance cap, so register early. Proceeds for this conference go directly to help ACES.



*Young Man Being Introduced to the
Seven Liberal Arts, by Sandro Botticelli*

SEMINARS FOR ANY SUBJECT PART 2: *Save the date, June 17 (Registration coming soon)*



ABOUT THE INSTRUCTORS:

Kiernan Fiore and Adrienne Freas have extensive experience working with teachers new to classical education. They have lead dozens of seminars for teachers who want to experience the beauty of a classical education. The lessons that they teach will be given to all attendees to use in their own classrooms.



***Payments can be made through ACES: BSB 063-132 Account No. 1163 3884. Please include your name as the reference with bank transfers.**

For more details, please email ACES: contact@classicaleducation.org.au.



BEAUTIFUL
TEACHING

Helping Educators Experience the beauty of good teaching!

For more information on their instructors & podcast, visit:

www.classicaleducationpodcast.com/

Articles of Interest

PIETA - A POEM

Denise O'Hagan is a Sydney-based editor and poet who was born in Rome. She has given us the privilege of publishing her evocative and beautiful poetry on our website. The poem is a thoughtful reflection on Pietro Perugino's *Pieta* and can be found [here](#).



SIX TIPS FOR ATTRACTING STUDENTS TO GREAT BOOKS' SEMINARS

In this [article](#), Andrew Zwerneman, President of *Cana Academy*, provides helpful advice on how to draw young people into the reading of great books. He elaborates on the following six tips:

- 1) *Seminar discussions on classic texts challenge our students with a vision of greatness.*
- 2) *Seminar discussions foster a growth mentality.*
- 3) *Seminars provide exceptional opportunities for freedom.*
- 4) *Seminars open up avenues for creative, independent work.*
- 5) *Seminars establish a great foundation for living a good life.*
- 6) *Seminars are democratic in spirit.*

Highly recommended reading!

ST JOHN OF KRONSTADT ACADEMY



**St John of
Kronstadt**
ACADEMY

Opening its doors in 2024, this new Orthodox classical school will be the first of its kind in Australia. Situated in Brisbane, St John of Kronstadt Academy (stjohnacademy.com.au) is the initiative of Fr Stephen David and others, and begins to fill the much-needed void for genuine liberal arts education.

The Vision Statement of the school is: ***To cultivate saints. Shaping the loves of our students is our prime objective and that starts and ends with love for God as revealed through His Church: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and love for our neighbour made in the image and likeness of God.***

Watch an introductory video [here](#).



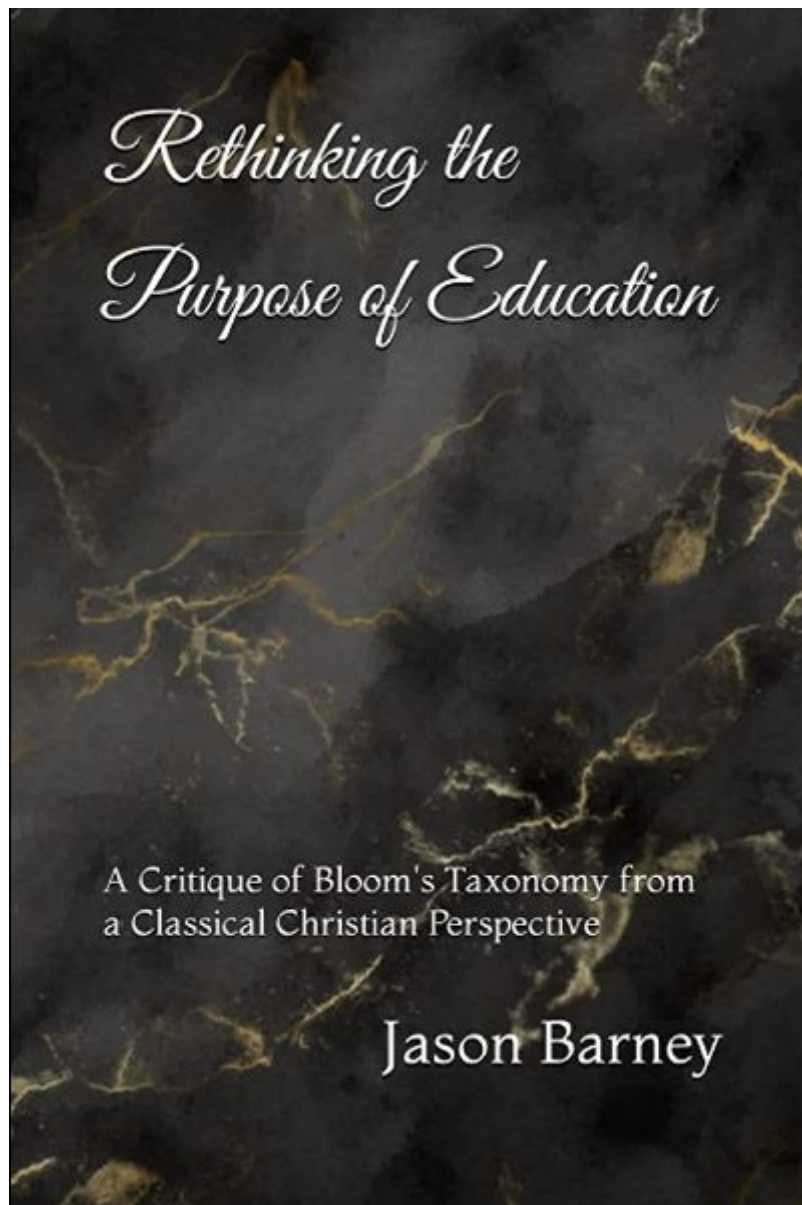
In this video Jonathan Pageau leads a discussion about music, archetypes versus fractals, and how we can look at beauty as something objective, like biology.

RECOMMENDED VIEWING

The Intersection of Music, Art and Culture

Why is it important for everyone to engage with art? Professor Carol Reynolds (professor of music history and global art educator with the Dallas Symphony and the Van Cliburn Foundation), discusses why art belongs as a foundational element of a classical education. Art, she says, is a reflection of what our culture values. And the study of playing music, art and craft, and even folk dance are ways we engage with and absorb art into our everyday lives. Watch the talk [here](#).

Books of Interest



In *Rethinking the Purpose of Education*, Jason Barney evaluates Bloom's taxonomy from within the broader purpose of education as articulated in the classical Christian education renewal movement. He proposes a Christian vision of moral, intellectual and spiritual virtues as the proper goals of education. Lastly, Barney articulates the value of Aristotle's five intellectual virtues as a rival paradigm for Bloom's taxonomy of cognitive domain objectives. The practical conclusion explores how to write learning objectives in a classical and Christian way.

The book can be purchased [here](#).

Erratum: In our previous edition of the newsletter, we advertised Covenant Christian School in Canberra. The link and graphic used alongside the synopsis was incorrect. The website of the school can instead be found [here](#). Please note that Covenant Christian School is still seeking Christian educators with a background in classical learning for future employment opportunities. Please follow this [link](#) for more information.



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