



# 2016 THE PATTERSON POST

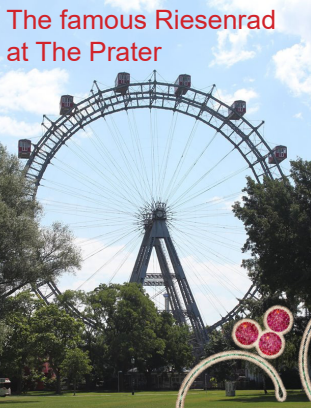


Schnitzel, Doner Kebabs, Happy Noodles, Gelato, streetcars, subways and visits to the Blue Danube River were the norm of The Patterson family and 15 Hardin-Simmons University students who lived in Vienna, Austria during the month of July. Coleman led two study abroad courses, Great Leaders of History and Cross-Cultural Leadership, with Vienna as the classroom.

The Pattersons stayed in an apartment and the students stayed in an international dorm a few blocks away as they experienced the Austrian culture. They visited numerous museums, the Prater amusement park, Opera houses, parks, beautiful cathedrals, several palaces, the Imperial Treasury, Imperial Zoo, Imperial Crypt (otherwise know as the Creepy Crypt), Naschmarkt and Flohmarkt (food and flea markets), Film Festivals, the Hundertwasserhaus, malls, and they caught a glimpse of the Lipizzaner Stallions heading to training exercises.

There was much souvenir and shoe shopping, pastry buying and exploring. Some of the students and the Pattersons went on a 30-mile bike ride on the Danube River, a highlight of the trip. Tours of the United Nations headquarters and a meeting with a foreign service officer at the American Embassy were also highlights.

After a month in Vienna, the family and students had a greater appreciation of foreign cultures as well as gratefulness for ice in drinks, air conditioning, free drink refills and free ketchup that we enjoy in the US!



2016 was a busy year for Tracy! She finished her second year as the Philharmonic Guild secretary and got to present Kirsten as a senior Belle (volunteer) at the Philharmonic Tea in February. She performed in Fairy Tales & Fables with Abilene Ballet Theatre in February and dance recital in May. She choreographed a tap dance and a ballet piece for her students for the recital.

-tracy

On April 15, Tracy had a big age-shall-not-be-named birthday. After a Mexican dinner, Coleman took her to a friend's house to pick up Cole and was surprised with a birthday party! Didn't see that coming!

Tracy completed another year of serving as director of the Children's Art & Literacy Festival in June, which she decided would be her final year. She continues to teach ballet and tap, adding an additional tap class and ballet class to her teaching schedule in the Fall. She is in her sixth year of teaching Jazzercise and co-directed a Jr. Jazzercise camp, which began the day after she returned from Vienna.

In the Fall, she performed in the Nutcracker with Abilene Ballet Theatre, dancing the roles of the maid, Mirliton soloist, snowflake and a flower. She continues to serve as secretary of the ballet's board of directors and created a new website for the ballet company ([abileneballettheatre.org](http://abileneballettheatre.org)). In the Fall she accepted the position of meeting notification person for the Philharmonic Guild and also is in the silent auction committee. She is in her 16th year of being a children's choir small group leader at First Baptist Church.

A GIANT list of projects awaits Tracy in 2017 and she has determined that this is the year that they will be completed--if she can stop reading long enough to start on them!





The second half of 2016 was a time of milestones for Coleman--it marked 10 years since earning a black belt and teaching karate, 20 years since finishing graduate school and starting as a faculty member, and 50 years since making his debut in the world.

Finishing his 18th year at HSU, 2016 provided opportunities to experience new variations on old themes.

## Coleman

The summer started with a May-term ethics class using the Harry Potter stories--which was great! Even greater, he rode bicycles with college students 1,830 miles from Del Rio, Texas to the border with Canada north of Grand Portage, Minnesota. The three-week trip provided him the opportunity to visit his sister, Marce, and family on the final day and night of cycling in Grand Marais, Minnesota. Three weeks after completing the ride, the family was off to Vienna with LDSP students for a month. A new Facebook page for the LDSP program lets the world know what they do: [www.facebook.com/hsuleadership/](http://www.facebook.com/hsuleadership/)

The start of the school year also brought new experiences. A "Presidents" class, with trips to the LBJ and G.W. Bush presidential libraries, and a class using genealogy research and Ancestry.com were highlights of the semester. Plans for another bike ride, travel courses, and Model United Nations conferences are in the works.

Texas Martial Arts Center is now in its sixth year and continues to be a source of enjoyment--for exercise, teaching and learning, and good people. After 30 years since last playing in the University of Florida Symphonic and Jazz bands, Coleman joined the Abilene Community Band in August and also now plays in the FBC orchestra on Sunday mornings. Playing saxophone and bass clarinet, he has really enjoyed reawakening his musical brain cells and making music.



## Kirsten

2016 started off with the Philharmonic Ball and Brunch in February, which honors outstanding Philharmonic supporters and senior Belle and Beau student volunteers. At the brunch Kirsten was presented by Tracy and was awarded a bronze scholarship for her and Tracy's volunteer service to the Philharmonic Guild for the past five years. At the evening Ball she was presented by her dad as a senior Belle and performed a dad/daughter dance with the other senior Belles and their dads.

Not long after she performed in Fairy Tales & Fables, Abilene Ballet Theatre's new Spring production. She was a bluebird in the Fairy Tales portion and performed Company pieces during the mixed repertoire portion. She traveled with her band and choir to New Orleans for the annual band/choir trip and in the same month traveled to Baton Rouge for the Regional Dance America/Southwest Festival, where she performed in "Tarantella" during one of the nightly performances. Graduation was right around the corner and ended with a Spring formal

and an all-night graduation party. She was named as the number three graduate in her class at the Spring awards ceremony, barely missing the number two spot but relieved that she didn't have to give a speech! She was thrilled to have her Uncle Dave, Aunt Kara and cousins Avery, Cooper and Carson come from Katy, TX to see her graduate!

In August Kirsten started her college career at Hardin-Simmons University as an art/graphic design major. Her first month passed with an activity every day and Rush activities. Kirsten pledged Alpha Iota Omega and had three extremely busy weeks of pledging before being initiated. The new members got to participate in a small portion of their Sing act at homecoming. At her Fall formal she received the Super Pledge award.

When pledging was over she returned to ballet classes and was put into a small part in The Nutcracker two weeks before the performances and got to dance in the Mirliton dance with Tracy and the Spanish variation at a school show. She also got to dance the Sugar Plum Fairy dance at the Sugar Plum Fairy Tea.



## Jack

Jack enjoyed a busy Spring semester as a sophomore at Abilene Christian High School. He continued playing on the tennis team and at the end-of-the-year sports banquet was named the Outstanding New-comer. The tennis team also won the highest GPA award of all the sports. Jack played alto saxophone in the band and sang in the choir. He also got to travel to New Orleans with the

choir and band. He has heard news that his school might start a soccer team next year and is excited to be a part of it.

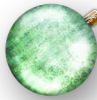
In the Fall Jack joined the television ministry at church as a camera operator. He can be found standing in the upper left balcony several Sundays each month. Also in the Fall he got his driver's license and is now able to drive himself to TACO BELL every day!

Jack continues to be the family IT guy--upgrading computers and fixing all the family computer and internet woes. Give him some parts and he will build a computer!! He enjoys gaming, ping pong, reading, sleeping and eating. He is a black belt in karate.

College information has started coming in the mail--how can this be? He is still "Baby Jack" at nearly 6'2" tall. He is interested in possibly majoring in physics or engineering. We shall see....



# COLE



The orange tornado just keeps on spinning!

Cole finished out his 7th grade year playing on the Mann Middle School tennis team, playing tenor sax in the band and violin in the orchestra. He also continued piano lessons and was a piano assistant at his piano studio. He played in a jazz quintet for a school district solo and ensemble competition, and

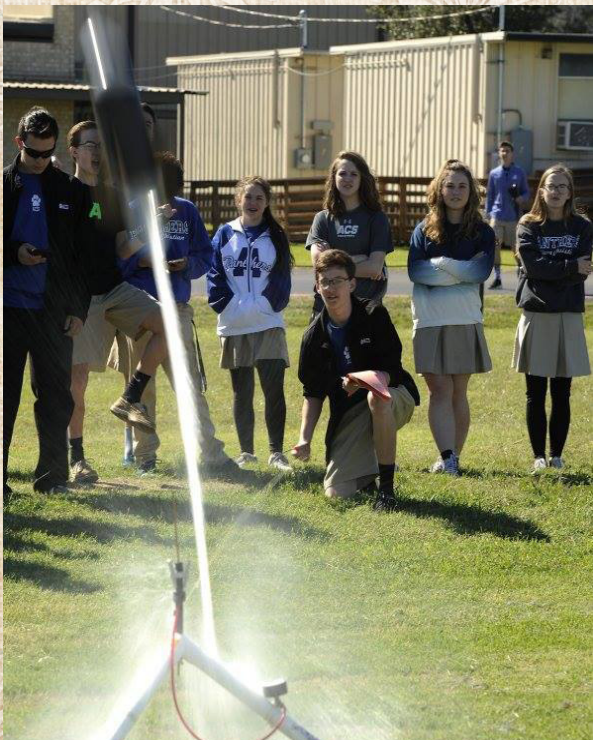
they were awarded a superior rating. He did as well at his violin competition. At the end of the year city tennis banquet he was awarded the 7th grade boy MVP of his middle school tennis team.

During the summer he worked over 100 hours with Tracy at the Children's Art & Literacy Festival. He worked in the registration area registering people, filling registration orders and selling merchandise in the Storybook Store.

In the Fall he continued band, orchestra and tennis and joined the Philharmonic Belles & Beaus program, for which he will volunteer as an usher for Philharmonic concerts and help with the Ball for five years. He kept busy with all-city band and orchestra rehearsals and concerts and earned his black belt in karate.

In his free time, he enjoys Rubik's Cubes, ping pong, juggling, watching youtube and Instructables videos, attending events and retreats with Coleman's college students and learning new instruments.

Jack in the Abilene Reporter-News shooting off his rocket with his physics class



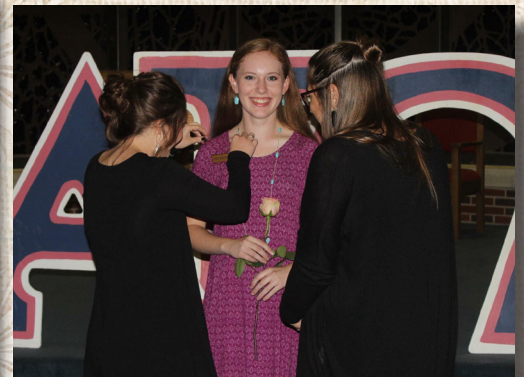
With his principal, receiving the Horace Mann award and Top Boy GPA



Fairy Tales & Fables



Working his first Philharmonic concert



Bid Day

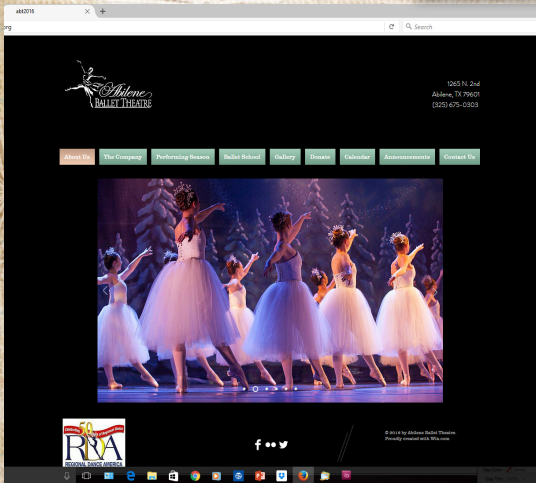


At the Philharmonic Ball senior Belles presentation

# FAVE PHOTOS



Regional Dance America Southwest Festival in Baton Rouge



Check out our new Abilene Ballet Theatre website! [abileneballettheatre.org](http://abileneballettheatre.org).



Check out the Abilene Ballet Theatre mannequin challenge on the news! Tracy is the first one shown on the video!

<https://www.facebook.com/ktabtv/videos/10154505721511391/>



The Jazz Quintet



November 17

Abilene Ballet Theatre is getting ready for their annual performance of 'The Nutcracker'. They have spent countless hours rehearsing for their performances that will be Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. The cast decided to take a break and take part in the #MannequinChallenge. After you watch #TheNutcracker, watch KTAB News at 10 on Sunday. Kathleen Barkley KTAB will speak to the cast about their challenge!

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