

Benjamin Bassett

ACTIVITIES

Shakespeare Actor — 2017-2022 — 35 hours weekly, 4 weeks annually

Participated as an actor since 2017 in Shakespeare acting every summer for 4 weeks of rehearsals and performances. Memorized and performed long passages of dialogue. Notable roles include Richard III in *Richard III*, King Claudius in *Hamlet*, and Lewis the Dauphin in *King John*. Spent at least 35 hours a week for four weeks of the year.

Paid Work as Media Coordinator — 2021-2022 — 8 hours weekly, 50 weeks annually

Employed by local church to organize technology, including designing audio/visual systems, organizing livestreams, programming and maintaining website with latest recorded sermons, editing the church bulletin, and more. At least eight hours weekly.

Youth Group Leadership Core — 2021-2022 — 3 hours weekly, 40 weeks annually

Youth leader of local Youth Group's leadership team, which entails leading small groups, assisting with event planning, organizing games, and inviting and interacting with youth.

Annual Mission Trip — 2019-2022 — 40 hours weekly, 1 week annually

Participated in local Youth Group's annual week-long mission trip to Fairmont, WV. Activities include engaging with several homeowners in Fairmont and assisting them with needed projects, including construction or home repair.

Teenpact Leadership Schools — 2014-2022 — 50 hours weekly, 1 week annually

Participant for 8 years in a 5-day Christian teen leadership program which teaches the history and principles of government, includes interaction with senators and representatives, and instructs how to lead well as young Christians in a hostile world. In 2022 was elected by peers as one of three senators from a competitive class of 50.

Farm Work — 2016-2022 — 8 hours weekly, 50 weeks annually

Regularly assists with many chores on family's hobby farm, such as wood splitting/stacking/hauling, gardening, mowing, animal care, and farm equipment repair.

Chess Club — 2020-2022 — 1 hour weekly, 15 weeks annually

Helped establish chess club at large homeschool group, served as the inaugural president, and treasurer the following year.

Software Development — 2018-2022 — 20 hours weekly, 52 weeks annually

Enjoys building and contributing to open-source software and designed and built enterprise server and network which hosts over 80 active services.

Martial Arts — 2019-2020 — 1 hour weekly, 25 weeks annually

Took Jukido Jujitsu at a local dojo, but stopped when the program halted due to COVID.

Music Lessons — 2012-2022 — 5 hours weekly, 30 weeks annually

Studied piano for 10 years with a private teacher, and recently started guitar lessons. Enjoys both instruments immensely and enjoys playing both old and new pieces alongside dabbling in composition and arrangement.

Podcast Host — 2020-2022 — 4 hours weekly, 40 weeks annually

Co-hosts podcast with two close friends, titled Rhetoric in Retrospect, where they discuss literature, art, and whatever else tickles their fancy through a Christian lens whenever their schedule permits.

EDUCATION

Homeschooled with Classical Conversations since age 5, though took 6th grade at home only due to moving to a new home. The program includes:

6 years of Latin, including Caesar, Cicero, and Virgil

Physical science, biology, chemistry, and physics

3 years of Debate

Ancient, American, British, Shakespeare, and world literature

Philosophy and Theology

6 years of math, pre-algebra through calculus

Formal and informal logic

Music theory and poetry

Geography, culminating in drawing and labelling world from memory

American, world, and western cultural history

Annual formal etiquette event

Mock Trial, Science Fair, and Senior Thesis

HOBBIES

Ben is an avid bibliophile, and enjoys reading or listening to as many books as he can get his hands on (571 at time of writing, though some have been re-read up to 12 times).

Ben likes to find Christian symbolism in his favorite books such as Harry Potter, The Lord of the Rings, The Space Trilogy, The Hunger Games, the Narniad, The Brothers Karamazov, anything by C. S. Lewis, The Wingfeather Saga, Dragons in our Midst, The Count of Monte Christo, 1984, Ender's Game, all of Shakespeare, The Green Ember, and many more. See his Goodreads page for the full list and detailed reviews.

When not occupied by a good book, Ben fills his other free time with programming, running, listening to music or audiobooks, spending time with friends, playing music, talking, learning, philosophizing, sitting, thinking, growing, driving, acting, typing, writing, sleeping, praying, speaking, eating, and flaunting excessive comma usage.