

Cambridge College Alumna Amanda Jones Wins Georgia Teaching Award

On February 29, 2008, Amanda Jones (M.Ed., '06) got the surprise of a lifetime: two Georgia State Representatives showed up to her classroom and presented her with the 2008 Georgia Teacher of Promise Award. The annual award—which is given to an individual among Georgia's 170 counties—recognizes an educator with less than three years of experience that shows exceptional promise in teaching.



“It makes me feel appreciated for all the hard work that I have done,” said Jones. “Teaching can be a thankless job and by my superiors acknowledging all the hard work I have done, it encourages me to keep giving 110% everyday to make my students educational lives engaging and fulfilling.”

Jones, who teaches high school science, was in the corporate world for seven years before she decided to start teaching. “Cambridge College gave me an opportunity to change careers,” she said. “I wanted something more out of life than a paycheck and Cambridge College opened those doors for me professionally.”

Upon receiving the award, Jones admits she couldn't help but get emotional. “Knowing in my heart that I have affected so many students positively made me cry!” she said. “I try new labs and activities all the time and wonder if they are effective. This has encouraged me to keep trying new things and not be afraid of not knowing all the answers the first time around.”

Jones added that Cambridge College helped her convert her love for science into a teaching degree despite her lack of experience in the field. “That was the reason why I chose Cambridge College,” she said. “Now my worst day of teaching is better than my best day in the corporate world. I am fulfilled by seeing students grow academically over the school year.”