

LES FABLES FABULEUSES DE LA FONTAINE

In late October, the honors students (French II, III, IV, and AP) of Charlotte Christian School spent the day in a French immersion camp at the International House, a non-profit organization dedicated to serving the international community of Charlotte by encouraging cross-cultural communication. Organized by AATF member and French Teacher Dawn Young, the camp was designed to improve the French-speaking skills of her students who spent the day singing, dancing, and interacting around “Les Fables fabuleuses de la Fontaine.”

Students were split into four teams and spent the day rotating among four different workshops. The workshops included: Arts & Crafts—where the students made character masks based on Aesop’s Fables; Skits—school actor Evan Marcey directed three *Fables* in French for the students to act out; indoor games—students played Scrabble and Taboo in French; and outdoor games such as *Canard, Canard, Oie* (Duck, duck, goose).

AP French students Alexa Dexter, Evan Marcey, and Rachel Moreau acted as the camp counselors and led the workshops with the help of native French speaker Ayrton Vencatachellum, a French IV student. Young arranged for several native French speakers (among them AATF member Alan Singerman and a couple of members of the local *Alliance française*) to be on hand to monitor how well the students did in speaking French throughout the day. The monitors interacted with the students by helping them recall words they needed as well as engaging them in conversations. Prizes were awarded to students and teams whose members exhibited the spirit of the event by speaking French for the entire day.

Freshman Chase Howard, a French II Honors student, enjoyed the day. “It was a great experience,” said Chase. “The camp forced me to put what I know into action. It showed me that I knew more than I thought I did.”

Kelley Burch