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Upcoming Events

December 6:
TASC Competition

December 11-14:
Four students travel to
Harvard for Model UN
Conference

January 8:
Alumni invited to TSA to
talk about College life
(kbarnhart@sharonacademy.net)

January 15:
Panel Discussion on
Body Image and
Eating Disorders

January 22:
Thursday Night Café

February 12:
Panel Discussion on
Internet Safety

March 10:
Panel Discussion on Risk
Taking Behavior

March 27:
Middle School Circus!

Complete Calendar of Events listed
at: [www.sharonacademy.org
/calendar/](http://www.sharonacademy.org/calendar/)

News from TSA

The Sharon Academy Presents 'Guys & Dolls'

Friday, Nov. 21 and Saturday, November 22 at 7 p.m., the stage of Chandler Music Hall was transformed into the streets of New York City as The Sharon Academy presented "Guys and Dolls" as its annual musical. There was also an open dress rehearsal Thursday, November 22 at 7 p.m.



Often described as America's best musical, the show traces the romance of renowned gambler Sky Masterson and his love interest Sarah, a mission woman. Otto Pierce of Rochester played Sky, while Jeanelle Achee of Rochester was Sarah. Also featured were Adelaide, played by Raven Wert, whose 14-year engagement to Nathan Detroit is about to come to an end of one sort or another! Danny Moore of Hartland played Nathan.

The show has a number of songs familiar to audiences the world over, including "Luck Be a Lady," "Guys and Dolls," and "A Bushel and a Peck." In true Sharon tradition, the major numbers featured up to 80 students on stage! One number received its world premiere at the performance. Teacher Brian Tonks of Randolph wrote a special Caribbean piece to supplement the show's scene in Havana, where Sky takes Sarah for dinner.

Ultimately, any piece of theater is designed for performance, but much of what makes a show special occurs in the hearts and minds of *Continued on page 2*

Boys Varsity Soccer to State Championships

On October 25th, the Sharon Academy Boys' Varsity Soccer Team, headed to the Division IV State Championships with a 16-0 record. Playing against Black River High School in Ludlow, the boys played a solid game, losing in the end, 0-1. The following excerpt is a Letter to the Editor of the Valley News from the coach of the Black River team.

The Valley News, November 12, 2008
To all Sharon Academy "family" members:

As a faculty member and boys soccer coach of the Black River High School Presidents, I would like to congratulate you and your team on a fine season. All of my research in scouting your team was united in saying that your team was truly that, a team – a talented bunch of players with no real weaknesses was what opposing coaches would say.

What those coaches left out was the superior sportsmanship the players possess. Players were there to play the game the way it was meant to be played. Clean, hard, skillfully and relentless are just a few descriptors that come to mind. Coach Rob Stainton was a perfect gentleman, and I'm sure that is why his players exhibited similar traits. Your community has much to be proud of and your team has done you all a great service in spreading good will throughout southern Vermont. I, for one, will enjoy talking about how well your team played the game and how well the players handled what must have been a major disappointment – like perfect gentlemen.

Tony Valente, Black River High School, Ludlow, VT



Alumni Focus:

Interview with Todd Sensenich ('05) regarding his up and coming business: Northern Sound Studios, on page 2

TSA Kicks off 2008-09 Annual Fund

What?!? But I'm a poor college student! Why are you asking me to contribute?

Learn more about the benefits of the Annual Fund and why it is so important to TSA's health and sustainability: Page 2.

ALUMNI NEWS

Marriages:

Derek Lyman ('02) to Dr. Rachel Humphrey of Jericho, Vermont
Jed Putney ('03) to Diana Putney
Ryan Spittle ('05) to Randi Smith on September 6, 2008

Engagements:

Jana Thein ('05) and Levi Gray ('06). Congratulations you two!

Children:

Caden Miller Spittle born to Ryan Spittle('05) and Randi Smith on 9/14/ 2008



Alumni Focus: Todd Sensenich ('05)

Interview on November 24, 2008

Todd, you recently started your own company, Northern Sound Recording. What is the story behind your business?

After graduating from The Institute of Audio Research in NYC, I had my mind set on living in NYC and either working at a recording studio or a live music venue. For the next year I ended up being a freelance audio engineer and working with one of my professors from audio school. I gained a lot of experience and knowledge while working with him.

During my time in New York I became more and more interested in recording. I started collecting recording equipment, and with the knowledge I had from working in New York I realized that all I needed was the space and the clients. So I made plans to renovate an old storage space above my garage in to a fully functional recording studio. I spent the summer of 2007 designing the studio, putting together a business plan and choosing a name for the company. After several name changes I was finally able to register the business with the state of Vermont as Northern Sound Recording Studios. I started construction on the space at the end of that summer and one full year later in August 2008 I officially opened the studio. Since then I have had a few clients but I am mostly working on advertising and getting to know more bands and musicians around Vermont and New Hampshire.

Why sound recording Todd? When did you realize this interest?

When I moved to NYC to go to school I was interested in anything that had to do with audio and sound. After learning about recording, that was all I wanted to do. I kept my options open for a while, but about a year later I decided I was going to be a recording engineer.

What gets you most excited about the work?

I love the whole process of helping musicians transform an idea for a song into music. The engineer's job is to manipulate and mix sounds together to create a feeling, the same way an artist paints a picture. I enjoy experimenting with different sounds and styles of music. But I think I enjoy the mixing process the most because its where the art meets the technology.

What are your goals with Northern Sound Recording?

My main goal is to help the Vermont music scene grow and make sure talented bands and musicians that can't afford large studios in New York or LA still have the opportunity to make records and get their music out to their fans. Right now I'm keeping my options open. There are many different ways I could take the company. I hope to develop a strong client base and eventually move into a larger space.

What is the most ridiculous item in your recording studio?

I would say my 3 foot orange tree.

Read more of this interview with Todd at www.sharonacademy.org/article/view/19219/1/2615

Guys and Dolls (continued from page 1)

those who participate. When asked what the play meant to him, senior Danny Moore of Hartland, said "It's another area where TSA students can relate to each other, so it's not just in the classroom or in the sports field."

This is the first year since ninth grade that Moore had been able to be in the show. During winter semester he leaves TSA to ski race competitively. This year, the entire team from the Killington Mountain School was in the audience to cheer him on.

Junior Libbie Pattison of Brookfield said, "It means stretching yourself, because there are always little things that you need to do for other people. We help each other out, and it just feels good to help when you're putting together this play and you get to see your work paying off. It definitely strengthens our community."

Faculty member Brian Tonks of Randolph noted that, "The best part is watching individual students take on leadership roles and follow through with a real result that the community gets to experience."

TSA 2008-2009 Annual Fund

The 2008-2009 Annual Fund:

- Covers the gap between tuition and the real cost per student.
- Sustains and improves academic programs.
- Supports teachers' salaries.
- Preserves our small school environment

Did you know that TSA has the **SECOND LOWEST TUITION** in the region, but this tuition **ONLY COVERS 90%** of our expenses?

12 oz. coffee at Starbucks:	\$1.05
Meal at the UVM Dining Hall:	\$7.50
Filling your tank of gas:	\$24.75
Tickets to Red Sox Game:	\$55
Book for Philosophy Class:	\$60
Gift to TSA (any amount!):	Priceless

Since our inception in 1996, The Sharon Academy has been dedicated to maintaining a low tuition in order to ensure financial accessibility for our families. We are proud that 83% of our current students are publicly funded and are able to access the educational opportunities and experiences we provide. This dedication to accessibility has undeniably shaped our community and makes TSA a truly unique model in education today.

The Sharon Academy is committed to maintaining financial accessibility, but this commitment comes at a price. TSA's current tuition only covers 90% of our operating expenses. In order to maintain our small class sizes, retain dedicated and engaged faculty, and offer the programs we do, The Sharon Academy is dependent on our friends and families to help cover the gap between tuition and the real cost of educating our students. Voluntary giving is essential to our sustainability.

2007-2008 Annual Fund Highlights:

- The largest gift to TSA's annual fund was \$24,000; the smallest gift was \$2. **Every Gift Counts!!**
- TSA's Annual Fund has doubled every year in the last three years.
- 18% of current and former TSA parents gave to the Annual Fund in 2007-2008.

How to Give to TSA

Pledge \$1, \$5, or \$10 a month for 12 months
 Set up an automatic withdrawal from checking
 Give by credit card: online at sharonacademy.org
 More Info at: www.sharonacademy.org

Keep in
Touch!

Update your current information with TSA: www.sharonacademy.org/alumni/
 Check out our Calendar for Upcoming Events: www.sharonacademy.org/calendar/
 Read the most recent School Newsletter at: www.sharonacademy.org (weekly newsletter)
 Check out TSA's Facebook Page at: www.facebook.com (search for The Sharon Academy)
 And stop by anytime!!! We would LOVE to see you!

