

CALENDAR REMINDERS AND UPDATES

April 20

Community Supper for Sawyer's and Ge's Team

All-Girl-Sleepover (details below) **TONIGHT 7:00 PM**

April 26

10th Grade Field Trip to Yale

April 27

Half Day - Staff Day

11:30 AM Release - Students depart before lunch

April 30

Pre-Exhibition Dinner **5:15 PM**

(Benefits The Academy's annual Mexican Exchange program - all are welcome, cost is \$6/person and desserts will also be available. Please contact [Jane Grant](#) or [Stephanie Purington](#) with questions about the dinner.)

Spring Exhibition **6:15 PM**

Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors will exhibit

May 2- May 4

Class Trips (details below)

Academy Staff Members Performing this Weekend:

April 21

Choral Director [Tracy Grammer](#) in Concert at
The Arts Block, 289 Main Street in Greenfield, 8:00 PM

April 22

"Four Toads in A Basket" (including Tracy Grammer and David Chalfant, Director of Music) in Concert at
[The Iron Horse](#), 20 Center Street in Northampton, 7:00 PM **(21+)**

June 4

Junior Leadership Retreat- Tom Brown's family place, Heath. (details to follow).

Reminder Regarding Tardiness and Absence:

Parents, please call the main office by 8 AM whenever your child will be late, or if he/she will not be in school due to illness or any other reason.

Important Safety Reminder:

For student safety and better traffic flow, please drop off and pick up students in front of Grinnell Hall (east building). Drive in at the east end and exit at the west end.

For other important dates and events, including athletics, please refer to the Academy's calendar, found on the website at <http://charlemont.org/newsevents/school-calendar>.

WELCOME TO NEW FACULTY MEMBERS

The Academy is pleased to welcome three new teachers to our faculty:

Michael Cardozo is currently an M.A.T. candidate at Smith College and will receive his degree in May. He received his B.A. in Biology from Wesleyan University. As a student teacher and tutor for the last two years, he has taught Biology, Environmental Science and Mathematics. Stephanie Purington says of Mr. Cardozo "Mike thoroughly engaged the students when he taught a biology lesson. He had them jumping up and down, literally, to introduce a lesson on cellular respiration. Mike was impressed by the engagement of the students and also by the sense of community here at The Academy."

Mr. Cardozo has significant scientific research experience and a depth of scholarship that supports both fluency in the language of scientific thought and deep content knowledge. He is an athlete and an accomplished musician. He will teach science and math courses, and will likely contribute in the studio blocks and on the playing fields.

Neale Gay comes to The Academy from Mohawk Trail Regional High School where he has been teaching History and English for nine years. He has extensive experience in interdisciplinary Humanities course development and teaching. During his tenure at Mohawk, Mr. Gay developed the school's International Exchange program. In his capacity as Advanced Placement Literature and Composition teacher, he worked with guidance counselors and students during the college process. Mr. Gay brings a passion for the arts to The Academy, having directed plays and also having been a founding member of the Mohawk Arts and Education Council, bringing theatre, live music, poetry and fiction readings, and fine arts to the district. He has a B.A. in Classics and an M Ed. from the University of Massachusetts, and will serve in the capacity of upper school Humanities teacher and College Counselor at The Academy.

Nancy Henderson notes that "Neale Gay comes to the Academy with a wealth of experience doing what we do best, delivering a classical education. I am looking forward to having him as a simultaneously seasoned and innovative colleague."

Caitlin Scudder will teach Spanish at The Academy and will also likely contribute in the studio blocks and on the playing fields. She received her B.A. in English and Spanish from Amherst College where she was recruited for the woman's basketball

team, and is currently enrolled in the M.A.T. program at Smith College, from which she will receive her degree in May. She has native-level fluency in Spanish and has lived and studied in Costa Rica. Jane Grant observed that when Ms. Scudder taught a Spanish II class during the interview process, "her lesson plan was well-crafted and, more importantly, the students responded well to her and her presentation." Senora Grant is pleased to know that she is leaving her "beloved Spanish classes to a teacher who will bring both affection for them and excitement for the joy and rewards of learning Spanish."

Ms. Scudder has tutored and taught both English and Spanish speaking students. She designed a summer Spanish literacy program for middle school students, and established a grassroots literacy program and public library in a rural Costa Rican village. She is also a poet, photographer, and outdoor enthusiast.

We welcome Mr. Cardozo, Mr. Gay and Ms. Scudder to the Academy community.

INFORMATION ON CLASS TRIPS, MAY 2- MAY 4

The annual class trips are a tradition to mark the end of each school year. Please click on the grade level below for details about each trip.

[7th Grade](#)
[8th Grade](#)
[9th Grade](#)
[Sophomores](#)
[Juniors](#)
[Seniors](#)

ALL-GIRL SLEEPOVER AT THE ACADEMY, APRIL 20-21

Calling all Academy girls: come be a part of the first sleepover in Academy history! The sleepover is hosted by Senior Gracie Hall as part of her Senior Project exploring friendships, relationships, social pressures and the teenage girl experience. There will be a potluck supper, movies, games, karaoke, temporary tattoos and more!

All Academy girls are invited and encouraged to attend. Grab your sleeping bag and a pillow and join in the fun! Girls should plan to go home at the end of the school day and return for the the sleepover at 7:00 pm. Pick up will be Saturday April, 21 at 10:00 am.

ZEPHYR FIELD TAKES SHAPE

Having acquired the hillside hay fields adjacent to its main campus in 2007, The Academy created access and leveled a playing field last summer. Through largely volunteer efforts, and the generous contributions of family and friends in memory of beloved alumnus, Zephyr Rapinchuk '10, the intention is to dedicate "Zephyr Field" later this spring (details to come). The JV team will play The Academy's first-ever home baseball game there on May 10.

Academy parents, neighbors, and friends have designed and installed the infield and will construct dugouts. Students have helped, too. In an interesting re-use of materials, river silt that has been stockpiled at the neighboring Indian Plaza since the aftermath of Hurricane Irene was trucked to the site of the field to create the infield. The silt was tested and analyzed and proved perfect for this purpose. A backstop, infield fencing, and foul posts will be installed soon.

The Academy hopes to make this field a community resource, particularly given the shortage of appropriately-sized playing fields in the area available for middle and high school-aged league play.

In honor of Zephyr and his extraordinary spirit, the broad community has been instrumental in helping to create a playable field for this season. In addition to time and expertise donated by Academy families led by Tom Shaw, Kamal Souccar, and Jim Rapinchuk, The Academy is grateful for the generous assistance of the following individuals and local businesses: W.R. Hillman & Sons (Dick Hillman), ST&I Services (Mike Skalski), Mile Long Farm (Doug Dean), the Indian Plaza (Harold Roberts), West County Equipment Rental (Craig Sessions), Ava Hunkler, Jim Brink, and Ladies Landscaping.

See photos of the field in progress in an April 11 post on The Academy's [Facebook page](#), and be sure to walk up there next time you're on campus!

PIZZA SALE A SUCCESS

Thanks to parents Jill and Vickie Selleck, Monica Pulci and Cynthia Allen for organizing the Hillside Organic Pizza fund raiser. The sale netted \$1,000 for The Academy's Annual Fund,

and the Little Awkward Thunderbolts sold the most pizza, etc. so they will be enjoying an ice cream sundae party courtesy of the parent organizers.

BENEFIT CONCERT THANKS

The Sweetback Sisters' concert was a wonderful event and a great showcase for Academy students. A good time was had by all. The Academy is grateful for the vision and direction of Gayle Kabaker and the efforts of the concert committee: Patricia Donohue, Phoebe Walker, Sara Wein and Neal Anderson, Liz Jacobson-Carroll, Sally Loomis, Heidi Arnold, and all of the parent bakers, chefs and volunteers who made this event possible.

HOST AN EXCHANGE STUDENT

There are many opportunities available to those who may be interested in hosting an international student. In addition to the students from Mexico who have been on campus this week, we are welcoming four other international students for the remainder of the year: tenth graders Saskia Inzaurrealde from Switzerland (hosted by the Donohue-Meyer family) and Philip Bles from Germany (hosted by the Browns), and ninth graders Alex Sarage from Bolivia (staying with his grandmother Linda Sarage in Greenfield) and Marine Secchi from France (hosted by the Poirier-DiLeo family). Many thanks to these host families for allowing us to have these terrific young people at The Academy.

Remember Katha and Niklas? Next year we will again welcome two tenth grade students, a boy and a girl, from Erding, Germany for the months of November and December. The acceptances will go out to these students next week. We would prefer families with a tenth grader for these students. This is an excellent way to try hosting without committing to a whole year.

Thinking of hosting an international student? Sandy Warren is actively recruiting host families for next year and would be happy to explore the possibilities with you.

The students are: a senior boy from The Netherlands for second semester, and full year placements for a junior girl from Thailand, a junior boy from Mexico, a sophomore girl from Spain and probably two girls from China, a senior and a junior. Generally we look for families with students in different grades than the international students. International students add immeasurably to school life and to lives of families who host them. There are modest family stipends in some cases, but the experience is priceless!

A summer hosting opportunity is available through Ann Newsmith, our contact at our partner agency PAX. Expand your family's horizons this summer by welcoming a student from Spain into your home through the STEP -to - U.S.A. program. These boys and girls, who range in age from 14 to 17, arrive Wednesday, June 27, for a 3 ½ week home stay. Host siblings are welcome to join the students in a variety of weekly activities. Two families could share hosting for one student, too!

Please contact [Sandy Warren](#) for more information on any of these programs.

CSA FARM SHARE OPPORTUNITY

Windy Ridge Farm of Hawley has leased two acres of land from The Academy on the upper field, where organic veggies will be grown this summer. They offer for CSA produce shares and will arrange for a regular pick up at school if there is sufficient interest. More information can be found at the [Windy Ridge Farm](#) website.

SUMMER PROGRAMS AT THE ACADEMY AT CHARLEMONT

For 2012 The Academy will offer a variety of exciting programs including soccer for elementary and middle/high school aged students, drama, and art. For more information and registration instructions, [click here](#).

NETWORK OF COMPLEMENTARY SCHOOLS

If your family would like to host visiting Network students in the future, please contact Network advisor [Sabine Mauri](#). This is an excellent way to learn about a different part of the world and for you and your child to make one more connection with interesting and diverse young people.

This summer, The Academy and The Putney School are going to co-host the annual Network conference. Twenty advisors and their families will come to visit the Academy, learn about our school and take a campus tour. Visit the [Network of Complementary Schools](#) website to learn more.

TUTORING SERVICES AVAILABLE

Daniel Pac's tutoring services are now available to Academy families. Mr. Pac, who has previously taught physics and statistics at the Academy, offers one-on-one tutoring in Math, Science, English, and History. Tutoring sessions may also focus on study skills, organization, and developing academic strategies for students with ADHD and other diagnosed learning challenges. Whenever possible, Mr. Pac will tutor

students at school during a free period. Please [contact him](#) directly for more information.

HBH MENU APRIL 9 - 20

Click [here](#) to view the HBH menu for the next two weeks.

The Academy is on Facebook!

Keep up with what's happening at The Academy on our [Facebook Page](#). "Like" us to stay up-to-date and join the conversation.

Lost and Found

In an effort to keep lost clothing and other items to a manageable minimum, parents are requested to label children's clothing, lunch boxes, water bottles, etc. Initials or a name on the collar or waist would be helpful. We donated four bags of unclaimed clothing to the Salvation Army last year. Unclaimed Lost & Found items will be donated after graduation.