

VCS

FALL 2016

E-Alumni News



www.victorschools.org

2016 Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees Honored

Four former Victor Central Schools' athletes and one team were inducted into the Victor Athletic Hall of Fame at a special ceremony on Thursday, October 6th at the Burgundy Basin Inn in Bushnell's Basin.

This year's Athletic Hall of Fame recipients were Terry Cotton '70, Kara Priggon Turner '90, Michael Corey '98, Mike Taggart Russ '99, and the 2004 New York State Championship Baseball Team.



photo taken at this years Victor Homecoming Football game, Saturday, October 8th on Corbit Field



TERRY COTTON CLASS OF 1970

Terry Cotton's athletic legacy was built on three sports, football, wrestling and track. In football, Cotton was named First Team All Finger Lakes League halfback. In wrestling, he was a senior captain and in track, Cotton

was named First Team All Finger Lakes League for four years. Following Victor Central Schools, Cotton lettered in track at Alfred State College for two years. Later, while attending Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT), he lettered in lacrosse for two years. Cotton's excellence in athletics continued as a coach. Among his many contributions in this area were coaching RIT's JV Lacrosse team and acting as the Assistant Varsity Men's Lacrosse coach for two years. Cotton was also the director and coach for the Victor Youth Wrestling Program, a volunteer coach for Modified Boys and Girls Varsity Lacrosse teams and a volunteer coach for Victor JV and Varsity Wrestling for more than 15 years. In 2014 Cotton received the Genesee Valley Recreation and Park Society "Quality Youth Sports Award" for directing the Victor Youth Wrestling program. He was also inducted into the Victor Girls Lacrosse Hall of Fame with his wife, Barbara Cotton.



KARA PRIGGON TURNER CLASS OF 1990

As a two sport athlete Kara Priggon Turners made her mark at Victor Central Schools in cross country and track. From 1988 to 1990 she was named to the First Team Finger Lakes League in track. During those

same three years (1988, 1989 and 1990) she earned individual championship shields in track. Her athletic excellence did not end there. Turner was selected to the First Team Finger Lakes League in 1987, 1988 and 1989 for cross country. In addition to winning cross

country individual championship shields for four years, from 1986 to 1989, she was part of four cross country team championships. From 1989 to 1990 Turner was also named First Team All Greater Rochester, as well as First Team All-State (Class B) for cross country. To culminate her high school career, during her senior year, Turner was named Victor Central Schools' Outstanding Senior Female Athlete for cross country. After graduating from Victor Central Schools in 1990, Turner attended the University of Delaware where she excelled as a three sport athlete for four years. Kara's decision to attend Delaware marked the first time an athlete from Victor attended a Division I university for running.



MICHAEL COREY CLASS OF 1998

Michael Corey played football and baseball at Victor Central Schools, but he is best known for the incredible legacy he created in football. In 1996 and 1997 he was named First Team All County for football. Those same two

years he was named First Team All Greater Rochester for football. Corey holds the Victor Central Schools football record for rushing yards in a season. He also holds the record for most sacks in a season.



MICHAEL TAGGART RUSS CLASS OF 1999

Michael Taggart Russ was a force in three sports at Victor Central Schools, basketball, track and football, but it was Russ's football career that stood above and beyond all the others. In 1998, Russ was named First Team All

County, First Team All Sectional and First Team All Greater Rochester for football. This two time All Finger Lakes East linebacker scored 29 touchdowns in three years. During his senior year, he accomplished 1,107 yards rushing, 11 touchdowns and 90 tackles. After graduating from Victor Central Schools in 1999, Russ

The Victor Hall of Fame was founded in 1999 as a way to:

- Recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of outstanding athletes, coaches and Blue Devil supporters.
- Reconnect those individuals and their families with Victor Central School.
- Deepen the current student-athlete understanding and appreciation for the history of the Blue Devil athletes by seeking their participation.

attended Wyoming Seminary Prep School where he averaged 100 yards rushing and 12 tackles per game. After prep school, Russ attended Lehigh University where he was part of two Patriot League Championship teams in 2000 and 2001. Additionally, in 2002, he was named Second Team All Patriot League in 2002 and First Team All Patriot League in 2003. Over the course of his career, Russ had 213 total tackles, 18 tackles for loss, one interception, two forced fumbles and five fumble recoveries. During his 1996-1997 school year, Russ earned Victor Central Schools' Athletic Achievement Award for Most Improved Player. During his senior year in 1998-1999 he was an Urban League Scholar Athlete and won the Barney Lynaugh Male Athlete of the Year award as well as the Athletic Achievement Award for Football's Most Valuable Player.

2004 BASEBALL TEAM NEW YORK STATE CHAMPIONS

Victor Central Schools' 2004 Varsity Boys Baseball team was inducted into the 2016 Athletic Hall of Fame for an amazing season, culminating in a State Championship. The 2004 team had a 23-2 overall record and a 7-1 League record. They clinched the Finger Lakes East League Champs for the fourth year in a row in 2004. The team's Section V Class A Baseball Championship was the result of a 9-1 victory over number two seeded Batavia at their home stadium, Dwyer. From there, Victor Varsity Baseball won Regionals with a 9-0 shutout win over Albion, the New York State Class A Semi Finalist game with a win over West Hill 2 to 1 and finally, the New York State Class A Championship with an 11-3 win over Lourdes.



2004 Baseball Team

David Ahonen, Nick Canzano, Jim Castner, Nick Cunliffe, Brad DePuyt, Eric Graham, Tim Henderson, Ed Kahovec, Nick Krajacic, Bobby Lenhard, Sean Marren, Jordy Maves, Pete Oburn, Gabe Schaub, John Soltys, Hunter Stewart, Jay Jay Vanderstyne, Adam Voci, Eric Wernert, and Jim Zobel

Coaches:

*Sean Rucker – Head Coach
Geoff Mandile – Varsity Assistant Coach
Jeff Onze – JV Coach
Mike Ferreri – Modified Coach
Pat Lawley – Modified Coach
Willie Hillberg – JV Volunteer Assistant*

"The 2004 Team was a ball club that had tremendous team chemistry and thrived on competition, getting better as the games got bigger throughout the 25 game season. Strong leadership combined with a sense of urgency from the senior class fueled their fiery style of play. They competed pitch by pitch with great passion and had numerous players step up in big situations to bring home the state championship, which was the first ever by a Section V public school."

– Sean Rucker, Head Baseball Coach



Class of '67 Reunion Committee Selects Weekend for Celebration of the 50th

August 18 – 20, 2017

Friday, August 18th

7:00 pm

Informal Evening Get Together in Victor Place TBD

Saturday, August 19th

6:00 pm – 10:30 pm

Reunion Dinner at Finn's Tap Room in Victor

Sunday, August 20th

2:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Afternoon Cookout

Duffy Keefe's House in Canandaigua

For more details, please contact Duffy Keefe at:

DKeeffe@grcc.us or 585.301.2433



WANTED! Your Reunion Information

Click on the link below to look for fellow alumni or post your reunion.

[ALUMNI RELATIONS](#)

The Class of 1966 . . . Fifty Years Later

On August 19th and 20th, the class of 1966 came together for a milestone reunion — its 50th.

Fifty six attendees, including significant others kicked off the weekend celebration with an information gathering at Eddie O'Brien's on Friday night. On Saturday morning, alumni gathered at Victor Central Schools for a special tour conducted by Superintendent Dawn Santiago-Marullo. Celebrations continued on Saturday night at a special banquet and dance at Finn's Tap Room. Reunion attendee, Chauncy Young said that while many classmates who live far away could not attend, Durston Dodge traveled more than 1,500 miles from Colorado to join his classmates. "Master of Ceremonies Bill Kocher asked each of the attending classmates to take a moment to think about what they were most thankful for at this moment." Answers ranged from 'just happy to still be alive after harrowing accidents or bouts with cancer,' to 'having lots of grandchildren to visit and enjoy.'" The weekend was a great success, even for those who could not attend, Young said. The reunion was planned by Rita Simonds Shuffstall, Susan Whitney Masseth and Carol Mandrino. Music was provided by Paul Stowe.



Class of 1996 Celebrates 20th Reunion

Rain could not keep the class of 1996 from celebrating their 20th reunion. In fact, more than 140 guests including alumni, spouses, kids, and teachers gathered at The Apple Farm, run by 1998 graduate Bejan Bahai, for this special event. Big Bear Barbeque which is owned by 1997 graduate, Mike Ulmer, cooked up some tasty barbeque while fellow 1996 graduate Kristen Ward performed a fire eating act. Kids enjoyed face painting, petting pygmy goats, and running around with their new friends. Attendees say it was two days filled with memories and laughter.



VCS Holds 121st Alumni Banquet

On Sunday, June 12th, Victor Central Schools' alumni came together at Ravenwood Golf Club to reminisce about their school days. In addition to recalling great memories from the past guests were treated to a presentation by former strings teacher, Pam McGary on the 50th Anniversary of the Suzuki Strings program at Victor Central Schools.

The 2016 Alumni Banquet boasted an attendance record for recent years with 75 attendees. Organizers say that they hope this annual cross-class reunion continues to grow.



VICTOR CENTRAL SCHOOLS 122ND ALUMNI BANQUET



SAVE THE DATE

Ravenwood Golf Club

929 Lynaugh Road, Victor, NY 14564

Sunday, June 11, 2017

6:30 p.m. Cocktails ~ 7:00 p.m. Dinner

for reservations call

Kay Cotton at 585.737.1408

WANT TO SHOW YOUR VICTOR PRIDE?

Order a custom t-shirt that says, "You can Take This Girl Out of Victor But you Can't Take Victor Out of This Girl! Shirts can also be altered for men. Shirts are unisex and available in sizes S-M-L-XL or XXL. The cost per shirt is \$10. If you're interested in placing a shirt order, email Kay Cotton at Kaycotton@aol.com. Shirts will be distributed at the 122nd Alumni Banquet at Ravenwood Country Club on Sunday, June 11th, 2017.



Gianna Stewart, '08 Features Artwork in Boston



projects here in Boston: *Toll With Me in Fort Point*, 8,500 bells hung on a fence; a ladder-like steel sculpture at the Fruitlands Museum in Harvard, MA; *Capturing the Sunrise* a video installation

What year did you graduate from VCS?

2008

What did you do after graduation from VCS?

Post VCS I went for a Bachelors of Fine Arts and minored in Art History at Seton Hill University. There I inundated myself with learning techniques from oil painting, encaustic, metalsmithing, and clay, to casting in aluminum. Seton Hill is one of the few schools that still has a foundry! I had an internship with a company that made dinosaur displays and showed at the Corn Hill Arts Festival and my mom's house.

After Seton Hill I immediately applied for graduate school, and was able to attend the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston/Tufts University. The two-year Masters of Fine Arts program was a conceptual whirlwind. Now in Boston, I am still connected with colleagues from that program and the inspiring professors I met along the way. Post graduation, I dove into public art. I started off with temporary

downtown; a performance on a Boston Harbor island; and currently on view is *Midden*, "The Local" commission for the Rose Kennedy Greenway. *Midden* is my biggest work yet; a dozen giant glass-like oysters glow at night over the site of the Big Dig in Boston, where middens were revealed. By the way, I learned what a midden was back in Mr. Siesto's AP World History class at Victor Senior High.

What are you doing now?

I am showing work in group shows around Boston, and am currently working on new public art project proposals. I'm excited for what's ahead.

In addition, some days I manage an established public art studio, The Harries/ Heder Collaborative in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Other days I am an educator at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston or the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum. I also work for other artists installing or fabricating work. Everyday I'm looking at the world through the lens of an artist, striving to make connections, and see the world in a new way.

What classes and/or teachers at VCS most inspired you?

My art teachers along the way were inspiring. They helped me prepare a portfolio to get into art school, and maybe got me out of PE once or twice! I remember classes with Mrs. Holtz and Mr. Denner being some of my favorites. The IB program teachers, especially Mr. Myers, cultivated an atmosphere for critical thinking. Today, I am also very appreciative of the writing skills Language Arts teachers instilled over the years at VCS. The VCS String teachers, Mrs. McGary, Mr. Nowak, Mrs. Kocher, and Mrs. Bechler were exceptional, too!

What advice would you give to an aspiring artist?

I think sometimes we have this notion of the solitary artist working away in their studio in the middle of the night. My advice is to get out in the world. Surround yourself with other artists, inundate yourself with all the art you can see, attend talks, screenings, work for other artists, collaborate, join a critique group. If there's not a group, start one. It's a journey made richer when you travel it with others.

For more information on Gianna Stewart, go to www.gianna.works.

2003 Alumnus selected Outstanding Teacher of American History



Andrew Purdie, Victor Central High School History Teacher and 2003 alumnus

was named an Outstanding Teacher of American History by the New York State Organization, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution. Purdie was nominated for this recognition by the Canandaigua Chapter.

After graduation from Victor Central, Mr. Purdie majored in history and secondary education at Hobart College, received NYSED certification, and completed his Masters in Inclusive Education at St. John Fisher College. He currently teaches Advance Placement US History to juniors, freshmen Global Studies, The World Today, (Current events and politics), and US History Through Multi Media for grades 10 through 12. In addition, he serves as the Academic Teams head coach at Victor that includes Academic Decathlon, MasterMinds, and National History Bowl teams.

To quote Mr. Purdie, "Education is about the modern American Dream of self-improvement, upward mobility, and each family's desire for just a little better for their

children. As an educator, I hope to be part of a springboard that provides the opportunity for the betterment that is the American Dream, no matter what betterment might look like for each individual."

How did VCS prepare you?

Victor prepared me so well for college with regards to reading, writing, and research. I was way ahead of so many of my peers in these areas and often had to help friends with writing, research methods and citation. VCS made my college transition very doable.

Victor Central Schools also prepared me for getting involved and managing my time. VCS offers so many opportunities for kids to explore various interests and get involved within the community. This does so much for getting kids involved in community much sooner and to a greater extent than is the norm. It also taught us good time management, without which we would have missed out on so many of the amazing opportunities VCS offers. VCS enabled me to do more with time, and is still doing so!

What VCS teachers influenced you the most?

Dan Olson, I took every course he taught. His passion for knowledge and defending liberty was infectious. However, I could do a paragraph on every teacher I had here and what an immeasurable difference they made on my life.

What advice would you give to a VCS student who wants to pursue a career in teaching?

Remember some of the teaching materials and methods that resonated with you as a student. Start collecting tricks now so that your toolbox is already started when you begin teaching.

Pay attention to the teachers that students see as family members, there are many here at VCS. These teachers are doing intangible things that build true learning communities and lasting relationships. That is who you want to be as a teacher in addition to pushing curriculum.

Make sure you are learning for the long term and not just the short term exams in high school. Those pieces of knowledge will all become tools in your box that can be used later to accomplish tasks.

What do you do outside of work?

Outside of work I spend time with my family – wife, Alecia and children Addison, age 4, Liberty, age 2 and Abraham, age 1. I also enjoy the outdoors; hunting, fishing, hiking, gardening, and cooking are all things I am passionate about.

In addition, I am involved in local politics and often work on political campaigns.

2008 Grad Does Rotation at Victor Central Schools



Eight years ago, Christine Samoriski (Heib) graduated from Victor Central Schools.

Today, she is back as a dietetic intern from Cornell University. Victor Central Schools Director of Food Services, Alix TePoel says Samoriski was placed in our school district for her community nutrition rotation, which will run into the latter part of November.

Christine's competency goals while she is at Victor Central Schools revolve around research with regards to food choices made by students and what drives those choices. As a result, Samoriski is spending a lot of time asking students questions during their lunch break. She is also conducting nutrition education in classrooms.

What did you do after VCS?

After Victor Central Schools I went to Cornell and graduated in 2012 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Human Biology, Health, and Society. After graduation, from 2012 to 2016, I held a full time position as an Evaluation Assistant at Cornell working for an academic center of excellence – Assets Coming Together (ACT) for Youth – funded by the New York State Department of Health to support their adolescent health initiatives. I

worked to support the development and implementation of the large-scale evaluation of teen pregnancy prevention and positive youth development programming across the state. Within this role, I also managed various research projects, training sessions, and student staff, and wrote several publications for our information clearinghouse. Now I am in graduate school at Cornell in their Dietetic Internship supervised practice program working toward my Registered Dietitian certification.

What inspired you to want to study to be a dietitian?

I realized my strong interest in nutrition during my undergraduate senior year at Cornell when I took the course titled Nutrition and Disease. This was my first exposure to medical nutrition therapy. After graduation, while working full time with ACT for Youth, I continued to pursue my interest through courses at Cornell and online, a clinical internship working in an outpatient high-risk obstetrics diabetes clinic, an independently initiated clinical research collaboration with University of Rochester Medical Center's (URMC) Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, and an internship with the American Diabetes Association in Rochester, NY. Through these applied experiences, I learned that my heart is in clinical dietetics practice. I am passionate about nutrition, and love working with

people around nutrition through education, counseling, and patient care activities. As such, I developed a plan for completing my Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) requirements in preparation for a dietetic internship. To be a registered dietitian you must complete an accredited DPD program, complete an accredited dietetic internship, and then pass the national exam.

What is your dream job?

My dream job is to be a Clinical Dietitian working in an academic environment with research collaboration opportunities.

What VCS teachers, classes or programs inspired you?

I was a graduate of the International Baccalaureate diploma program. All of these teachers and classes contributed to where I am today!

What advice would you give to a current VCS student looking to go into the health services field?

Connect with mentors in the profession and look for opportunities to gain exposure to the field. It might uncover new interests or cement your reasons for pursuing a particular path.

2012 Alumnus Graduates from Air Force Academy

Ryan Redhead, VHS class of 2012, graduated from the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado this past spring. President Barack Obama presented diplomas to Redhead and his fellow graduates.

Ryan not only fulfilled all of the requirements necessary to graduate with a degree in Electrical Engineering, he also completed a Capstone project that enables the disabled to drive using eyewear. While at the Air Force Academy, Redhead lettered in fencing all four years and competed in the NCAA Championships twice. He also served as the Team Captain.

Ryan relocated to Florida this past September to further his education. He plans on serving his country as an Air Battle Manager.



Victor-Farmington Rotary Club Honors Urbanic

This past summer, Alina Urbanic a 2010 alumna, was awarded a prestigious Rotary Global Scholarship in the amount of \$30,000 for her pursuit of a Master in Public Administration degree at the SDA Bocconi School of Management in Milan, Italy. Urbanic is a graduate of George Washington University and served in the Peace Corps in Morocco.

New Full Time School Resource Officer Is No Stranger to VCS

Victor Central Schools' new full time student resource officer wore blue and gold long before he took on the role of our new full time School Resource Officer. Ontario County Sheriff's Deputy Nate Bowerman graduated from Victor Central Schools in 2003. He is a six year veteran of the Sheriff's Department where he has received numerous trainings and certifications.

Bowerman said he is excited about returning to Victor Central Schools as the new full-time SRO. "While there have been many changes since I graduated here more than 13 years ago it's good to still see some familiar faces. I look forward to working with the students and staff to make sure that we have a great school year. I bring an expertise in drug-impairment and recognition with my certification as a Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) as well as advanced training in emergency situations with my involvement in the Sheriff's



Emergency Response Team. My goal is to have a safe and productive school year. Go Blue Devils!"

Superintendent Dawn Santiago-Marullo said she is equally excited to have a full time school resource officer on campus, a move that was made possible thanks to Senator Rich Funke's support of our district. "Senator Funke's support of bullet aid for Victor Central Schools is what allowed us to go from a half time to a full time SRO," Santiago-Marullo said. In addition to more security coverage on campus, Santiago-Marullo said that Bowerman's presence will enable us to provide many positive, proactive educational programs, as well.

Greenhouse Product News Magazine Recognizes 2004 Alumna

Kim Whitman, a 2004 Victor Central Schools graduate was recognized by Greenhouse Product News in their annual 40 under 40 category. Each May, GPN recognizes 40 industry professionals under the age of 40 who are helping to determine the future of the horticulture industry. According to the publication, these individuals are today's movers and shakers who are already setting the pace for tomorrow. Whitman is currently a Technical Marketing Manager for Victor company, BioWorks® Inc.



Where did you go post VCS?

After graduating from Victor Central Schools I went to SUNY Cortland where I played Division III collegiate softball and majored in New Media Communications.

What are you currently doing?

I currently work in Victor at BioWorks® Inc. as a Technical Marketing Manager. Some of my key roles and responsibilities include developing and managing the company website and mobile applications, analyzing data, Customer Relations Manager (CRM) for sales and marketing, and management of Google Adwords/Analytics.

How did VCS prepare you?

VCS gave me a solid educational foundation in pursuing the next step in my life, college. It also made me appreciate the close knit community Victor has and strive to achieve it in other aspects of my life.

What VCS teachers influenced you the most?

Shelly Collins. She was my Physical Education teacher, as well as my softball coach. She taught me how important discipline and hard work are in achieving your goals. Standing only five feet tall, competing with six foot players, I made one of the top Division III college softball teams in the state. She taught me not to give up on my goals and size isn't everything.

I've since carried a lot of those core values into my everyday life, which have helped me succeed in my career over the years.

What advice would you give to a VCS student who wants to pursue a career technology?

My advice to VCS students pursuing a career in technology is to always keep learning and seek out opportunities to grow as an individual. Technology is an ever evolving field. You need to take charge of your professional development to stay current in trends and new programming languages.

What do you do like to do in your spare time?

In my spare time I enjoy playing softball, visiting my family cottage in the Thousand Islands, gardening (I have a small garden plot in Victor at Mary Blue Bird Haven), traveling and spending time with friends and family.

VCS Foundation Holds Second Annual Devil Dash 5K

On Saturday, October 8th, Victor Central Schools' Educational Foundation held its second annual Devil Dash 5K and Family Walk.

Two hundred and twenty eight men, women and children took part in this year's event. Top winners for this year's event were:

Overall Finishers

Female: Christina Smolnik-Smith . . . 20:46

Male: Matthew Frahm. 18:16

Age 15 and Under

Female: Allison Heltz 25:43

Male: Reed Lautenslager 19:13

Age 16 - 19

Female: Mary Allen 25:43

Male: Seth Nary. 33:37

Age 20 - 29

Female: Emily Heatherington . . . 26:12

Male: Tom Cheevers 22:16

Age 30 - 39

Female: Stephanie Schlueter . . . 21:20

Male: Chris Martusewicz 23:30

Age 40 - 49

Female: Katie McCarthy. 23:50

Male: Douglas Sheahan 19:03

Age 50 - 59

Female: Susan Manning 29:32

Male: Peter Lautenslager. 21:33

Age 60 - 69

Female: Karen Powers 29:01

Male: Carl Petito 35:43

Age 70 and Up

Male: Jerry Colyer 34:56

Click [HERE](#) for a complete listing of participants and winners.

All Devil Dash race proceeds will support the four main VCS Foundation Projects including Field Trips Forever, Technology for Today and Tomorrow, The Art of Teaching, and a general fund.

For more information on the Victor Central Schools' Educational Foundation, go to: Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/VCSEFoundation/> and Twitter - @VCSEF. You can also find out more about the Foundation by going to Victor Schools website at www.victorschools.org and selecting Educational Foundation on the left side under Quick Links.

The Victor Central Schools Foundation was started in the spring of 2014 by a committed group of VCS alumni in collaboration with Superintendent Dawn Santiago-Marullo.

Vision Statement - We envision an enhanced experience through increased opportunities promoting educational excellence for the VCS community.



Victor Central Schools Kick Off 50th Anniversary of Suzuki Violin Program

Orchestra Alumni Sought for Celebrations!

Last March, Victor Central Schools not only recognized Music in Our Schools' Month, a nationwide celebration of music in education sponsored by the National Association for Music Education (NAfME); they also commemorated another major milestone in the District's history, the 50th anniversary of the Suzuki Violin program.

Victor Central Schools was one of the first public school districts in the nation to implement the Suzuki violin method into its curriculum in 1966 after veteran strings teacher, Betty Kocher attended the National Suzuki Conference at the Eastman School of Music during that summer. After seeing Shinichi Suzuki demonstrate his method, Kocher was so inspired she convinced the Board of Education to allow her to start a Suzuki program for 80 first, second and third graders. In 1967 Dr. Suzuki actually came to the Victor Primary School four times to work with Mrs. Kocher and her students.

Since 1966, the Victor Central Schools' Suzuki program has grown to include as many as 110 beginning second and third graders. Victor Primary School Suzuki teacher, Joanne Lowe says the solid foundation provided by Dr. Suzuki's teaching methods is responsible for the vigor of the District's string/orchestra program today. In fact, nearly 96% of Victor students who begin playing the violin using the Suzuki method continue to play through the 12th grade.

"It is a real privilege to work in a district that is so dedicated to preserving such an important and historical program. Even during very difficult economic times, our program is valued and supported. I am now teaching the second generation of children whose parents had their first lessons with Dr. Suzuki himself," Lowe said.

Victor Central Schools will celebrate the 50th anniversary of its Suzuki Violin program all during the 2016-2017 school year. If you are a graduate of Victor Central Schools that played a string instrument and would like to help us celebrate at one of our upcoming events, please contact Lauren Beikirch at beikirchl@victorschools.org.

Then and Now



The THEN photos were taken from the 1964 BAGEL of the Senior High building (now the Junior High) during construction. As you can see by the photos on the left, it was hard to get the same angle because of the classroom additions. We had the same issue while taking the photo from inside the building. The photo on the bottom right was taken from the addition looking out in the same direction.

We Need Your Help

Original Kindergarten Classroom Photos Wanted

Room 109, the original Kindergarten classroom in the current Victor Early Childhood School has seen a lot of changes through the years. We would like to find photos of its changes. Do you have any photos of Room 109 when it was the Kindergarten classroom or office?

If so, please send them to Sherri Lasky or Liz Welch at laskysh@victorschools.org or welche@victorschools.org.

You can also drop them off in our office which is located in the Superintendent's office in the District Office building.

Thank you in advance for your help.

Academic, Athletic and Artistic Distinctions

- ~ In June, 2016, 99% of our students graduated with a Regents Diploma, 66% percent earned a Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation.
- ~ This past spring, Victor Senior High School was ranked 265 out of more than 4,700 top high schools in the nation in the 2016 Newsweek High School Rankings. There are 26,407 public secondary schools and 10,693 private secondary schools across the United States.
- ~ This fall, five seniors were named National Merit™ Scholarship semifinalists. Congratulations to Victor seniors, Nathan Baker, Ryan Bellinger, Kyle Bensink, Paul Kopp, and Jacob Lichti
- ~ This summer, the New York State Public High School Athletic Association, Inc. (NYSPHSAA) named Victor Senior High School a 2015-16 Scholar Athlete School of Distinction. VSH was on the prestigious list of only 32 schools in New York State to earn this honor. Schools earn this Distinction when 100% of their varsity teams earn a 90.00% grade point average or higher.
- ~ This fall, 13 students were inducted into the prestigious Tri-M Music Honor Society.
- ~ Last spring, Victor's FIRST Robotics Team 1559 Devil Tech was part of the winning alliance at the Greater Pittsburgh Regional event which qualified them for Worlds in St. Louis, Missouri.
- ~ This past spring 20 Junior High students took part in the New York State National History Day competition in Cooperstown, NY. Four students, Justin Graham, Alexander Newton, Akul Gupta and Emmanuel King, also qualified for Nationals in Maryland this June.
- ~ Victor Central Schools' Boasted Several Sectional and State winners:
- ~ **Spring 2016**
 - ~ Track and Field
 - Erika Tillotson - 400 meter hurdles and triple jump, 4X400 meter relay
 - ~ Rebecca Roth - high jump
 - ~ Jenna Strickland, Payton Elliott, Carly Oddi and Erika Tillotson, 4X400 meter relay
 - ~ Girls Lacrosse Team - Section V, Class B Champions
 - ~ Boys Lacrosse Team - Section V, Class A Champions
 - ~ Last spring, the Boys Lacrosse Team also won their second New York State Championship.
 - ~ This past spring, the Varsity Winter Guard and Indoor Percussion Ensemble took home State championships in their respective divisions.
- ~ **Fall 2016**
 - ~ Girls Soccer Team - Section V, Class AA Champions
 - ~ Diver, Erin Norton - Section V Champion
 - ~ Tennis, Emily Stanley - Singles Section V Champion
 - ~ Tennis, Ajla Karabegovic and Sarah Marro - Section V Doubles Champions
 - ~ Varsity Football Team - Section V, Class AA Champions

Senior High Named a Top School in Nation

Victor Senior High School was ranked 265 out of more than 4,700 top high schools in the nation in the 2016 Newsweek High School Rankings released earlier this month. To put this honor in perspective, there are 26,407 public secondary schools and 10,693 private secondary schools across the United States.

Newsweek, in conjunction with the independent research firm, Westat, conducted the nationwide analysis. Schools were ranked by an achievement index based on performance indicators such as proficiency rates on standardized tests. They were also graded on factors such as college acceptance and enrollment rates, SAT and ACT participation and performance; AP, IB and AICE participation and performance, Dual enrollments and number of counselors.

Victor Central Schools' Superintendent Dawn Santiago-Marullo lauded the ranking saying it speaks to the strength of not only every member of our staff but also our entire student body and community. "This is a Pre-K to twelfth celebration. This type of accolade doesn't happen overnight, it represents the journey that begins when students first come to Victor Central Schools."

16th Annual Senior Citizens Ball



Free and open to ALL
Victor Central School District
Senior Citizens!
(55 and Older)

Presented by
VICTOR CENTRAL SCHOOLS
Office of School & Community Relations
and the Senior High Key Club
Special Thank You to the Kiwanis Club

Scenes from our 2016 Ball

ENJOY
Dinner & Dancing

AND ENTERTAINMENT BY
Western New York Big Band

Saturday, May 6, 2017
5 – 7 p.m.

Victor Intermediate School Gymnasium

Reservations required, call School & Community Relations at 924-3252, ext. 1407 or e-mail weiche@victorschools.org and laskysh@victorschools.org

Victor Junior High Musical:

Cinderella, at 7:00 pm on November 18th and at 1:00 and 7:00 pm on November 19th at the Junior/Senior High Arts Center. Tickets can be purchased at the door.

Upcoming Music Events:

December 5th

5th Grade Chorus &
Band Holiday Concert,
7:00 pm,
JH/SH Arts Center

December 6th

6th Grade Chorus,
Band & Allegro
Orchestra Holiday
Concert
7:00 pm,
JH/SH Arts Center

December 7th

VJH Choral Concert,
7:00 pm,
JH/SH Arts Center

December 12th

VSH Choral &
Symphonic Band
Holiday Concert,
7:00 pm,
JH/SH Arts Center

December 13th

Intermediate Beginning
& Vivace Orchestras
and Suzuki Group
Holiday Concert,
7:00 pm,
JH/ SH Arts Center

December 14th

VPS 3rd Grade
Holiday Concerts,
6:30 and 7:30 pm,
VPS Auditorium

December 19th

VSH Band and
Orchestra Holiday
Concert, 7:00 pm,
JH/SH Arts Center

December 20th

VJH Instrumental
Holiday Concert,
7:00 pm,
JH/SH Arts Center

FREE Yearbooks

VCS has a variety of old yearbooks from various years available at no cost. For more information contact, Chuck Callari at 924-3252, ext 2130.

1948	2	1963	2	1988	1
1949	1	1964	1	1989	1
1950	2	1966	2	1990	2
1951	1	1967	1	1992	1
1953	2	1968	1	1993	1
1954	2	1970	2	1994	1
1955	1	1971	3	1996	1
1956	1	1974	1	1997	1
1957	2	1978	1	2000	1
1959	1	1979	4	2001	1
1960	2	1985	4	2002	1
1961	1	1986	1	2003	1
1962	1	1987	1	2004	1

Victor Central Schools Kick Off 50th Anniversary of Suzuki Violin Program

Orchestra Alumni Sought for Celebrations!

Victor Central Schools will celebrate the 50th anniversary of its Suzuki program all during the 2016-2017 school year. If you are a graduate of Victor Central Schools that played a string instrument and would like to help us celebrate at one of our upcoming events, please contact Lauren Beikirch at beikirchl@victorschools.org

VCS Seeks Names of Distinguished Graduates

Do you know a Victor Central School alumnus or alumna who has made a significant contribution to society? The Graduates of Distinction program honors such individuals. Applications are currently available in the Office of School and Community Relations or on-line at www.victorschools.org. Alumni selected for this honor will be recognized at a special Graduate of Distinction Day next fall.

Nominees to the Victor Central School District Graduates of Distinction program shall be selected based upon the following criteria: A. Nominees must have graduated from Victor Senior High (or have attended Victor Schools BEFORE there was a high school in the case of Honorable Recognition) at least 15 years before they are eligible for selection. The committee may waive the graduation time limit requirements in certain circumstances, as it deems necessary; B. Significant achievement after attending Victor Schools which include: (1) Educational achievements; (2) Professional achievements; (3) Job-related achievements; (4) Honors, awards, professional affiliations, publications; (5) Civic or community involvement; (6) Other appropriate qualifications which the committee believes merit consideration;

Nominations must be submitted by Monday, January 9, 2017 to:

Graduates of Distinction Committee

c/o The Office of School and Community Relations

Victor Central Schools 953 High Street, Victor, New York 14564

Send Us Your News

If you are an alumnus of Victor Central Schools, we encourage you to e-mail us at **alumni@victorschools.org**.

Feel free to tell us about accomplishments or events in your life such as a wedding, birth of a child or grandchild. Whether or not you have visited campus lately, participated in a recent alumni event, or browsed our directory, you are sure to find information instrumental in helping you maintain a connection to your alma matter and other Victor graduates.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Deborah Palumbo-Sanders, *President*

Timothy DeLucia, *Vice President*

Karen Ballard

Kristin Elliott

Gary Gilbert

Trisha Turner

Michael Young

Maureen Goodberlet

District Clerk

Dawn A. Santiago-Marullo, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools

Liz Welch & Sherri Lasky

Office of School and Community Relations

alumni@victorschools.org

TEN WAYS TO MAKE IT A

Blue Devil Day!

1 Be a Cheerleader! Attend any one of our hundreds of yearly sporting events.

2 Support the Arts! Take the family to a school musical, play or art show.

3 Get in Tune With One of Our Music Programs. Go to a band, orchestra or choral presentation.

4 Play! Take some time with your children after school or on the weekend and play on one of our great playgrounds.

5 Get Involved. Volunteer in your child's classroom or for a special event or organization.

6 Jump In! Take a dip in our swimming pool during open or family swim times.

7 Make a Difference. Take part in one of the District's food drives or community service efforts.

8 Take a Walk. Our new campus fitness trail makes for great exercise.

9 Show Your School Pride. If you are a VCS alumni, get involved in the VCS Alumni Association or attend your class reunion.

10 Stay Connected. Check out our website on a regular basis for the latest news and information at

www.victorschools.org

**SAVE
THE DATE**

Victor Central Schools Educational Foundation

Barnes & Noble Bookfair



Sunday December 4, 2016

9am-9pm

Barnes & Noble Pittsford, NY

**Come join us for in-store entertainment including musical performances,
art displays, storytime!**

**Holiday shopping and gift wrapping in support of providing educational
opportunities for our students and staff!**

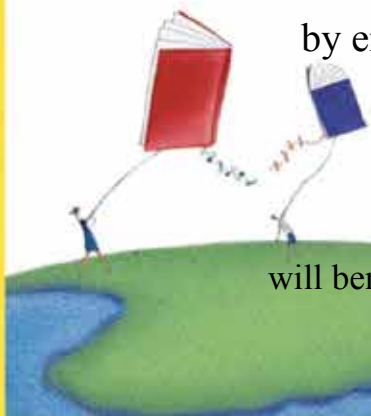


Can't attend our bookfair at Barnes & Noble?

Visit **bn.com/bookfairs** to support us online from 12/04/16 to 12/09/16
by entering Bookfair ID **12033122** at checkout.

For those of you living outside the Victor area, you may use
the above code in any Barnes & Noble store on 12/04/16.

A percentage of your Barnes & Noble purchases
will benefit the Victor Central Schools Educational Foundation.





Victor Central Schools Seeks Archives

"Students can benefit in several ways from researching their school's history... This is history that is near at hand and that has a direct connection to their lives."

~ Larry J. Hackman, Director, Truman
Presidential Museum and Library; former
New York State Archivist

Do you have photographs of the victory garden that students in our school planted and tended during World War II?

Does an old box or filing cabinet hold copies of letters that students wrote concerning our country's involvement in Vietnam?

Did the science curriculum at Victor Central School change during the formative years of the personal computer revolution?

Schools produce rich historical records. Yearbooks, school lunch menus, flyers promoting dances, student elections, musicals, plays, photographs, letters, issues of the school newspaper, and other items document not only the history of the school, but often reflect the history of our community, state, and nation.

We have developed a school archives in our records center, housed in room 130 of the Primary School Building. Hopefully, this archive, or historical collection can serve two primary purposes:

1. Be a repository for the collection and preservation of historically valuable documents relating to the history of our school, which would otherwise be lost.
2. Constitute an important element of programs for teaching research-related skills to students.

As a key element in establishing this archive, we are urging the public to help support our endeavors by donating artifacts to the archives that they may have in and around their homes, which may otherwise be lost to future generations. We are particularly interested in:

Student handbooks

Student newspapers

Photographs

School lunch menus

Course catalogs

Student term papers about the school or Community

Artifacts (trophies, flags, uniforms, memorabilia)

Older Newspaper articles from the local newspapers

Special awards received

Records of special school programs

Audiotaped or videotaped oral histories

Scrapbooks

Videotapes of school performances and athletic events.

Perhaps you don't wish to part with your piece of history. You can still help our efforts by loaning us the article to copy, scan, or photograph. We look forward to your response. We also plan on having the artifacts exhibited from time to time. By the way, does anyone have a school bell from one of Victor's many one-room school houses? We'd love to hear from you.....

**Contact Chuck at callaric@victorschools.org or 585-924-3252, ext. 2130*