

VCS

FALL 2020

E-Alumni News



www.victorschools.org

Your New Alumni – VCS Class of 2020



senior class 2020, taken at pep rally, September 2019

Class of 2020 Fun Facts

Three Sets of Twins

Christopher and Anna Heltz
David and Jacob Kelley
Alexander and Isabel Newton

One Set of Triplets

Alan, Gene, and John Tolomay

Most Popular Boys Names

Alexander, Benjamin, Michael,
William, and Zachary

Most Popular Girls Names

Megan, Olivia, and Samantha

162 Females and 172 Males

One Foreign Exchange Student

Giulia Scocchieri from Italy who
went home in March.

Class Officers

Ijeoma Nguyen, President
Chloe Whittier, Vice President
Justin Graham, Secretary
Nicholas Mendola, Treasurer

Class Advisors

Tim Caughlin and Eric Waples

Continued on next page

Your New Alumni - VCS Class of 2020

Benjamin Abreu	Grace Cassady	Maxwell Dimarzo	Elizabeth Harris
Ginikachi Adjaero	Samuel Castiglia	Matthew Dirisio	Sophia Harvey
Acsa Aguilar-Rivero	Samantha Catholdi	Veronica Dominguez	Stephanie Hastings
Juliet Ahern	Daniel Caverly	Arabella Doyen	Camden Hay
Jared Alianell	Jakob Chittenden	Bobbie Drown	Sophia Hebert
Kaiden Andersen	Bailey Chudner	Timothy Duffy	Kaden Helmer
William Andre	Abigail Clar	Gary Effler	Anna Heltz
Samantha Appell	Alana Clar	Alexandra Ehle	Christopher Heltz
James Arellano	Graham Clark	Madison Eisenberg	Jacob Hogenes
Steven Armstrong	Tyler Clarke	Regan Endres	Pandora Holm
Taylor Ashe	Jeremiah Cohen	Austin Esparza	Jason Howard
Amar Atwood	Morgan Collazo	Jacob Estabrooks	Mason Howell
Jessica Avery	Lily Colucci	Benjamin Farrell	Megan Huff
Sierra Babcock	Gabrielle Constantino	Samantha Farrelly	Parker Hutt
Brooke Bagley	Noah Cooper	Paige Felix	Kristina Ingerowski
Alyssa Baird	Brock Corwin	Kayla Fetcie	Hannah Jaeger
Pieter Bartelse	Jadalyn Cox	Bernardo Figueroa	Garrett Johnson
Alexa Bellomo	Madilynn Cox-Bagley	Sydney Flaitz	Nicole Jones
Jordan Bem	Caitlyn Crane	Teresa Flugel	Asiimwe Kamara
Saranda Berisha	Alexis Cresswell	Nicholas Formicola	Vanessa Kapiamba
Alexander Bernhardt	Evan Crombach	Charles Fredericks	Calvin Kelley
Gabriella Bigger	Kaeleigh Cronin	Aiyana Fusco	David Kelley
William Bikowsky	Caleb Crouch-Pickup	Angelina Galante	Jacob Kelley
Zachary Birkemeier	Madison Cunningham	Holly Gamble	Timothy Keohane
Vincent Blackburn	Adrienne Cushman	Benjamin Gardner	Evgenia Keri
Allison Bowe	Tyson Dailey	Collin Gates	Shea Kinsella
Meghan Bowers	Ryleigh Dallimore	Jacob Gauthier	Hayden Kirk
Michael Bowman	Olivia Damico	Zachary Geer	Grace Kitterman
Anna Boyer	Megan Datz	Cameron Germain	Shane Kloos
William Brady	Josuan Davila	Collin Giess	Travis Knapp
Mariah Brass	Cooper Davis	Natalie Ginther	Keith Kolaczyk
Alexa Braun	Margaret Davison	Bryce Gisondi	Hope Kubinski
Thomas Brei	Raylynn Dean	Alexandra Goodrich	Lauren Kulesa
Samuel Bresson	Alexander Debattista	Nathan Gordon	Will Kurz
Devan Brown	Claudia Dedie	Derek Goselin	Brady Lafferty
David Bruinix	Elliott Dehollander	Justin Graham	William Laine
Hunter Burdick	Rylee Delaney	Connor Guarino	Benjamin Lake
Kassidy Burrows	Stephen Delph	Akul Gupta	Gabrielle Landry
Matthew Caggiano	Kyle Dempsey	Grace Guralnick	Amanda Lange
Michael Calianese	Thomas Devitt	Hannah Haines	Julia Lanning
Kymerly Camp	Gabriella Diaz	Joshua Hall	Olivia Larson
Jack Carlson	Sofia Dicarlo	Briana Hannan	Reed Lautenslager
Matthew Cary	Jersey Dillman-Hadlock	Abby Hannel	Gianna Leone

Your New Alumni - VCS Class of 2020

Paige Lind	Ijeoma Nwugwo	Aidan Ruffalo	James Tilley
Rachael Link	Aiden O'neil	Maxwell Ruscio	Marshall Todd
Alexander Lucas	Mark Oddi	Alec Russell	Alan Tolomay
Samuel Lyle	Ayeisha Otano Morales	Mackenzie Ruthven	Gene Tolomay
Andrew Magistrado	Julia Panzica	Mitchell Ryczek	John Tolomay
Bien Angelo Malijan	Samantha Parisi	Arianna Rylott	Krystal Torres Hernandez
Ana Malins	Ethan Pealer	Connor Salamida	Zachary Turner
Justin Man	Brad Pearson	Eli Samuels	Scott Ulatowski
Kaytlin Marshall	Benjamin Pennise	Cecelia Santell	Riley Urzetta
Andrew Martin	Megan Perrone	Dylan Sasso	Morgan Usselman
Marvin Martin	Austin Persaud	Nathan Saur	Michael Utter
Jomari Matthews	Joseph Pezzimenti	Brendan Scarsella	Corina Vandenberg
Jack Mccandless	Jared Phillips	Tessa Schopinsky	John Vander Linden
Megan Mccann	Michael Pierpont	Giulia Scocchieri	Alexandria Veitch
Rhianna Mccarthy	De Ja Ne Pile	Rachel Sears	Jenna Venturo
Katherine Mccombs	Hailey Pina	Fransheska Serrano	Jaelyn Verzella
Mikayla Mcfadden	Oliver Pineda	Cort Sherman	Heather Walker
Brennan Mcgory	Jasmyn Pitt Kuek	Kaitlin Sidare	Olivia Wasnock
Evann McGraw	Max Pogoda	Maxwell Slezak	Sydney Weimer
Daniel Mckinley	Brendan Popielec	Daniil Smirnov	Emma Wesley
Dean Mclean	Connor Powell	Olivia Soto	Ryan Westbrook
David Mendez	Mackenzie Presutti	Caitlin Sousa	Natalie White
Nicholas Mendola	Bennett Prince	Aiden Spampinato	Chloe Whittier
Renee Merriman	Kelsey Purcell	Katelyn Spath	Joseph Wilcox
Sophia Milazzo	Lucy Qian	Max Speranza	Isabella Willebrandt
Peyton Miles	Olivia Queri	Pierson Stamatis	Zachary Winters
Trevynn Miles	Ashar Rahman	Ayden Stanley-Barry	Jesse Woodard
Xavier Minnamon	Deamgielys Ramos	Ryan Stark	Samantha Woodhams
Madelyn Mitchko	Alicia Redington	Jaiden Steen	Matthew Woodworth
Ariana Montalvo	Evan Reid	Marlene Stimmel	Anne-Elise Woolsey
Alexander Moon	Jamie Reynolds	William Stone	Makenzie Young
Bryanna Moore	Liam Richards	Rachel Stonebraker	Emily Zazulak
Mckayla Moore	Mckenzie Rickey	Isabel Stowell	
Traci Moschiano	Erin Ritz	Brianna Sturgill	
Tanner Moszak	Tanner Ritz	Tristan Sulecki	
Georgia Mowers	Ethan Roberts	Carina Sulzbach	
Brayden Murphy	Owen Rodriguez	Elyse Sumarsono	
Alexa Natale	Alexis Rogers	Michael Swann	
Kyle Natrigo	Annalyse Roman	Zachary Taney	
Shea Newell	Kiara Roman	Alyssa Tarantelli	
Alexander Newton	Valencia Roque	Topanga Tevels	
Isabel Newton	Robert Rosato	Joseph Theede	
Aaron Nguyen	Jaxen Roth	Alyssa Thompson	

List of Colleges/Military 2020 VCS Graduates are attending

Arizona State University	Kettering University	SUNY Stony Brook
Baylor University	Keuka College	Syracuse University
Binghamton University	Lawrence Technological University	Texas Tech University
Brigham Young University	Le Moyne College	Union College-Schenectady
Bucknell University	Liberty University	UNITED STATES ARMY
Canisius College	Life Prep @ Nazareth College	UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
Clarkson University	Mansfield University	University at Buffalo
Clemson University	Marquette University	University of Alabama
Cleveland Institute of Art	Monroe Community College	University of California-San Diego
Creighton University	Mercyhurst University	University of Central Florida
Continental School of Beauty	Methodist University	University of Connecticut
Colgate University	Michigan State University	University of Georgia
College in Belgium	Morrisville State College	University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign
Cornell University	Nazareth College	University of Massachusetts
Daemen College	Niagara University	University of Massachusetts Dartmouth
Drexel University	Ohio State University	University of Miami
Duke University/ROTC	Pennsylvania State University	University of New Hampshire
Duquesne University	Pomfret North East	University of North Texas
Embry Riddle-Aeronautical University	Quinnipiac University	University of Pittsburgh
Fashion Institute of Technology	Rider University	University of Richmond
Finger Lakes Community College	Rochester Institute of Technology	University of Rochester
Florida Institute of Technology	Rutgers University	University of South Florida
Fredonia	Seton Hill University	University of Tampa
Gannon University	St. Bonaventure University	University of Texas at Dallas
Genesee Community College	St. John Fisher College	University of Vermont
Hilbert College	SUNY Albany	University of Pittsburgh
Hobart and William Smith Colleges	SUNY Alfred State	Vassar College
Houghton College	SUNY Brockport	Villanova University
Howard University	SUNY Cortland	Wofford College
Indiana University	SUNY ESF	Workforce
Indiana University of Pennsylvania	SUNY Geneseo	Xavier University
Ithaca College	SUNY Oswego	
Kent State University	SUNY Purchase	



Athletic Hall of Fame Cancelled for 2020

The Victor Athletic Hall of Fame was cancelled this year due to the pandemic. The committee is currently working on plans for next year's celebration. Last year's inductees featured three former standout athletes: Bob Dreeste (Class of 1980), Paul Nardozi (Class of 2003), and Jessica Cotton-Settimi (Class of 2004).

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.

ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

Nominations Sought

JUNE 5TH DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS

Victor Central School District is seeking nominations for the Athletic Hall of Fame Program. Any individual can nominate a potential candidate by completing a Hall of Fame nomination application. Applications can be completed online via www.victorschools.org/athletics/ahof. Paper copies can also be picked up at Victor's Athletic Director, Duane Weimer's office located in the Senior High School.

Through nomination and committee selection, the VCS Athletic Hall of Fame will recognize individuals who fall under any of the following categories:

ATHLETES

Individuals who were athletes in the Victor Senior High School and have been graduated a minimum of ten years.

COACHES

Individuals who have made a significant and extraordinary contribution to the Victor Athletic program.

HONORARY

An honorary candidate must have made a significant impact on Victor athletics and/or on sectional, regional, state, national, professional, administration or international levels of athletes. The honorary category may include but not be limited to counselors, faculty managers, scoreboard/book operators, cheerleading coaches, as well as local community supporters.

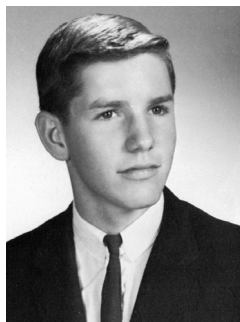
Inductees will be chosen by the VCS Hall of Fame Committee which is comprised of eight voting members representing coaching staff, administration, Board of Education, students and/or community residents. The Athletic Director will serve as a non-voting permanent member of the Committee.

The Hall of Fame was established in order to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of outstanding athletes, coaches, administrators and Blue Devil supporters. Through recognition, those individuals and their families will be reconnected with Victor Central School providing current student athletes with a deeper understanding and appreciation for the history of Blue Devil athletes.

Honorees selected for the annual Athletic Hall of Fame will be announced prior to August 1st along with an announcement of the planned celebration event.

For more information on the Athletic Hall of Fame program, please contact Duane Weimer, VCS Director of Health, Physical Education and Athletics at (585) 924-3252 ext. 1460 or weimerd@victorschools.org.

David Clover (Class of 1966) Inducted into 2020 National Senior Softball Hall of Fame



David Clover has come a long way since being a baseball player at Victor Central Schools in the 1960's but one

theme has resonated throughout his life - on and off the field – excellence.

What did you do after graduating from VCS in 1966?

I attended SUNY Cortland where I earned Bachelor's and Master's degrees. I also received a Master's from Kean College, New Jersey and a Doctorate from NOVA Southeastern, Florida.

I started my career as a physical education teacher in New Jersey, then moved to the central office as a school business official. In 2001, my wife and I retired from educational administration jobs at Paterson Public Schools in New Jersey. She was a superintendent and I was a business official. After retiring, we moved to the Phoenix area and within two years I was playing senior softball at the national level. In 2013, we moved to Delray Beach, Florida and I continued to compete at the national level. Over the last 17 years, the teams I played for have won 9 world championships at the

highest level, major plus. In 2018, I was elected to the Florida Legends Senior Softball Hall of Fame. In 2020, I was elected to the National Senior Softball Hall of Fame.

When did you start playing competitive softball?

I started playing competitive softball for the Second Marine Division All-Stars while in the service. This continued in New Jersey until men's fast pitch softball slowly went away. I switched to men's slow pitch and ran my own team in the Bernardsville Men's League for several years. I finished this league on a team of many of my students whom I had coached.

What VCS teachers and coaches inspired you?

Mr. Averill was my baseball coach and teacher. He taught me how to play the game correctly. Mr. Woodard, and Mr. Myktytn, in junior high, inspired me to teach. Mr. Ahonen made me want to teach elementary physical education. Miss Schantz inspired me to write better. I still remember most of my teachers and my classmates. Sports

were my driving force then and now.

How did attending VCS prepare you for life?

Attending a smaller school required many of us to participate in several activities for them to survive. This participation instilled self-confidence and the concept of teamwork to become successful. Victor was a great environment in which to grow.

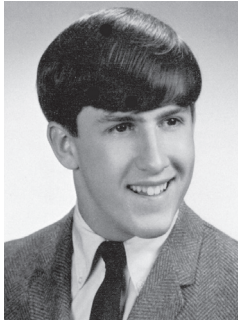
What do you like to do in your spare time?

My wife and I have experienced many areas of the United States with softball travels, but really enjoy our summer travels to Europe. We also managed to fit in some extended travel to Australia/New Zealand, China and South Africa. Retirement has been exciting and a continuous learning experience.



David Keefe (Class of 1967) Honored by U.S. Department of Energy

With nearly 25 years' experience helping fleets and stakeholders



realize the benefits of alternative fuels and vehicles, [Greater Rochester Clean Cities](#) Coordinator David Keefe

has become an influential figure in his regional transportation community of upstate New York.

On Tuesday, August 11, Keefe was honored for his leadership by being inducted into the [Clean Cities Hall of Fame](#), which places him among a group of Clean Cities coordinators who are ambassadors for alternative fuels and champions for fuel economy.

"We're proud to induct David Keefe into the Clean Cities Hall of Fame," said Mark Smith, technology integration program manager for the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy's Vehicle Technologies Office. "He's really committed and passionate about the role alternative fuels and advanced technology vehicles can play."

Smith made the announcement on the first day of the virtual Clean Cities Coordinator Training Workshop, where representatives from across the nation come together to share best practices, learn about the latest transportation

research, and recognize each other's successes.

Keefe has been the coordinator for the [Greater Rochester Clean Cities coalition](#) since 2007. But his involvement in clean transportation goes back to 1995, when he worked as director of fleet services for the City of Rochester.

While there, Keefe developed a program for alternative fuel vehicles, including compressed natural gas and electric options. Later, under Keefe's guidance, the Greater Rochester coalition spearheaded an effort to secure federal funding to help finance 62 propane and compressed natural gas vehicle. Together, the vehicles have helped reduce ozone precursors in the Rochester, New York, metropolitan area.

"David was instrumental in getting over \$1.75 million in Congesting Mitigation and Air Quality funds for alternative fuel vehicles projects in the GRCC territory," said Erin Russell-Story, the regional manager of the Clean Cities Northeast Region.

Keefe's sharp people skills have not only served his region's transportation goals though. The people who work with Keefe point to his collaborative spirit—his eagerness to be a team player—as a key trait that has helped him excel at creating opportunities in the common pursuit of the benefits of alternative fuel vehicles.

"[David] is well known for his interest in collaboration and is always eager to help other coordinators," Russell-Story said.

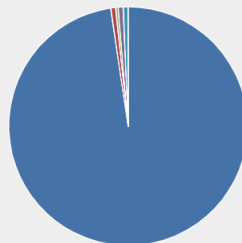
Keefe served for two years on the Clean Cities Coordinator Council and is a sought-after consultant in preparing studies for fleets on alternative fuel vehicles. He has also helped Monroe County, New York, build a resilient network of alternative fueling stations that dispense an array of fuels, including biodiesel, ethanol, compressed natural gas, and propane. Most recently, Keefe led efforts to develop an electric vehicle charging station plan for the entire Genesee Region, which highlights gaps in public

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Energy Use Impact*

Annual Energy Impact

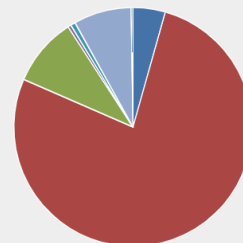
2,797,480 gasoline gallon equivalents



Alternative Fuel Vehicles
Fuel Economy Improvements
Off Road Vehicles
Electric & Plug-In Vehicles
Hybrid Vehicles

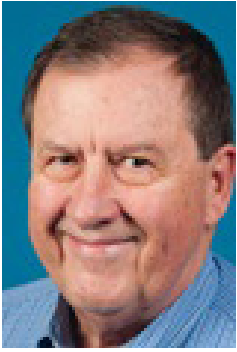
Annual Energy Impact by Alternative Fuel Vehicle Project Type

2,778,909 gasoline gallon equivalents



Biodiesel
Natural Gas (CNG)
Ethanol (E85)
Electric & Plug-In Vehicles
Hybrid Vehicles
Liquefied Natural Gas
Propane (LPG)
Plug-in Hybrid

David Keefe (1967) continued



infrastructure as the region establishes a comprehensive charging network.

Thanks to the Keefe's attention and leadership,

these efforts have allowed a diversity of fuels, technologies, and fueling stations to find a foothold in the transportation ecosystem of greater Rochester. In 2018, the coalition saw an annual reduction of over 4,500 tons of greenhouse gas emissions and an energy use impact of nearly 2.9 million gasoline gallon equivalents.

Greater Rochester Clean Cities Coalition is a designated member of the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy's Vehicle Technologies Office national network of nearly 100 Clean Cities coalitions. Clean Cities coalitions foster the economic, environmental, and energy security of the United States by working locally to advance affordable, domestic transportation fuels and technologies. For more information, visit cleancities.energy.gov and cleancities.energy.gov/hall-of-fame

Source:

US Department of Energy press release

DO YOU KNOW WHAT THIS PHOTO IS OF?



FIND OUT THE ANSWER IN THE SPRING ISSUE.

Class of 1982 Alumnus Releases new Jazz Recording

Last year, Alan Hood, a 1982 VCS graduate and 2013 Graduate of Distinction, released a new Jazz recording on the Aquarian Records label entitled *Jazz Muses*.

Hood, a world renowned trumpet player said the recording “met with several outstanding reviews and excellent airplay on national jazz radio (nearly 20 weeks), reaching number 14 on the Jazz Week charts, and ending the year at number 48 overall.”

Hood said the premise of the CD is all about ‘inspirations.’

“All of the selections were composed by my main trumpet influences, and in turn were compositions that those artists wrote which were inspired by women, either real, or alliterative. Hence the title, *Jazz Muses*, Hood said.

Hood, a Professor of Trumpet at University of Denver hails from Pumpkin Hook, NY and has been performing music for more than 38 years. He toured the world with the Phil Collins Big Band appearing at the Montreux and North Sea Jazz Festivals and New York City’s prestigious Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall. Hood is among featured soloists on the band’s live compact disc recording “A Hot Night in Paris,” on the Atlantic jazz label and appears on well over fifty other jazz, commercial and classical recordings. Appearing with the orchestras of Woody Herman, Glenn Miller, Harry James and performing on stage with Ray Charles, Doc Severinsen, Natalie Cole, Manhattan Transfer, Arturo Sandoval, the Richie Cole Alto Madness Orchestra, the Summit Brass, Jon Faddis, Conte Candoli, Clark Terry, Curtis Fuller and Wynton Marsalis, to name just a few, has rewarded Alan with an array of irreplaceable memories and a well spring of professional experience.

Jazz Muses can be purchased on Amazon: <https://www.amazon.com/Muses-feat-Hanson-Walker-Romaine/dp/B07N13VK72>



VCS Alumni Form Local Not for Profit Studio for Young Performing Artists



Judy (Bunker) Zanin, (Class of 1992), together with David Curry, (Class of 1994), John Kunes, (Class of 1991),

Jennie (Wnuk) Gilardoni, (Class of 2006), and Joanne Thomas, Administrative Assistant to the High School Assistant Principal, formed *Studio Z Performing Arts Conservatory* in April, 2017. *Studio Z Performing Arts Conservatory* is a 501c3 not-for-profit whose mission is held in the mantra: Train. Lead. Perform. The studio, geared for theatre artists grades 6 through college, teaches all aspects of theatre, on and off stage, and give students hands-on experience in all areas of the performing arts. *Studio Z* can either be someone's first experience as they dabble in drama, it can also be a supplemental experience to their academic theatre journey, or it can train them for BFA collegiate programs and lead them into a career.



David Curry and Judy Zanin on a tv interview at FOX Rochester.

The World is Your Stage

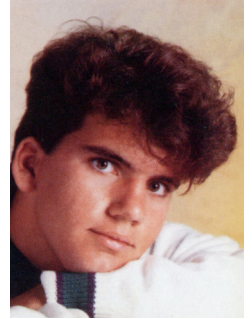
A Q and A With Studio Z Artistic Director, Judy (Bunker) Zanin (Class of 1992)

What motivated you to pursue a career in the arts?

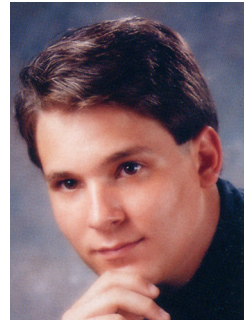
Well, my career at VCS was the start of it all, for sure. I was a very shy child/adolescent and theatre brought me out of my shell. If it wasn't for Susan Goldman Moore "making" me audition for my sophomore production of "Pajama Game" directed by the late Mr. Gary Thomas, I would have just stuck with selling tickets for productions and working backstage. Ironically, I would much rather be off stage than on though. But I went on to get roles in the next two musicals, "West Side Story" directed by Gary Thomas and "Fiddler on the Roof" directed by Sarah Frank. Sarah is who pushed me out of my comfort zone further. She cast me in her first director role at VCS in "The Curious Savage" and gave me the largest role I have ever had, still to this day. When I auditioned for the fall play my senior year, "The Diary of Anne Frank" I thought I "nailed" the audition, to have Sarah call me at home the morning the

cast list was going out, telling me she purposely didn't give me a part and wanted me to be her assistant director and stage manager. I was devastated, hung up the phone, and cried my eyes out. Then I called her back, and accepted the position. That changed me forever. I

was a History major with a directing minor at SUNY Potsdam for my Bachelor's degree. There, Kimberly A. Bouchard, was my mentor and shaped my future, encouraging me to become a director as opposed to a stage manager. After taking a year off from college to grad school, and working at Geva Theatre as their Artistic Administration Intern and helping to shape what is now the Geva Theatre Conservatory in its inaugural year (1997 - the same inaugural year for Artistic Director Mark Cuddy and Education Director Skip Greer), I went on to SU Drama for my MFA in Directing Theatre. While at SU Drama, the one and only Mr. Robert (Bob) Moss, theatre director and innovator, artistic director at Syracuse Stage, Playwrights Horizons, and The Hangar Theatre in Ithaca as well as a former Tony Award Committee member, was my teacher and mentor and still



John Kunes
Class of 1991



David Curry
Class of 1994



Jennie Wnuk,
Class of 2006

Continued on next page

Performing Artists, continued

serves in that capacity for me to this day; he will always be there for me when I need his advice and instruction. My career at SU Drama is still changing my life to this day. My thesis was just accepted for publishing by SU Press (I literally just got word today that it has been scanned in and is getting loaded into their system as we speak!) And, I have been able to work with former classmates and students of mine who are now pros in the world of theatre. Collaboration with fellow SU alumni invigorates my soul in so many ways! In my opinion, there is NOTHING like theatre. It brings diverse peoples together, shows how we can live as a community, strengthens our hearts and souls, and provides an emotional release for anyone involved. The communal response that is generated between actor and audience, artistic/design staff and theatre staffers, and everyone in between is second to none. I came alive in theatre, found myself, and have been able to now share my passion and love with students and adults all over the world. I wouldn't change it for a second, and I have literally given most of my life to this exceptional art form.

How has the pandemic affected your business?

Well, it hasn't been easy, but we are trying to persevere. We were able to secure our 501c3 not for profit status with the Federal government in August 2019. I was just starting my student teaching requirement at Nazareth College for Fall 2019. So, we waited and I started teaching a class and private lessons by January, 2020. We had planned to launch a huge summer program in June

2020. We worked for over a year to secure a space at Asbury First United Methodist Church on East Ave in Rochester during Fall 2019. By March, all my classes and lessons went online and my kids did great. The students took the opportunities afforded them and ran with it. We had really clever scene work that evolved from it when I ended classes in May. But by June we realized that summer programming was out of the question; the church was closed. As of now, Asbury is still closed to outside groups and worship services are all online. I was supposed to have a semester of 5 classes this fall that I have had to cancel due to lack of enrollment and lack of space. It has been quite sad and even though we collaborated this summer with BOOM: Broadway Official Online Masterclass, bringing young actors to actually work with and "meet" Broadway professionals online, which was beyond invigorating and satisfying as a teaching artist, it hasn't allotted for any registrations for classes when we have no physical space to hold them in person as of yet. We are very hopeful for the summer 2021 and are planning camps now for students of all ages. Younger performers' camps (ages 7-12) will be led by myself and offering internship and teaching opportunities on and off stage for older high school and college-age theatre artists, while a more BFA college prep camp will be held and operated as a fully produced musical, again, with opportunities for the serious theatre student both on and off stage. I am still hopeful that we will make it through this, somehow. My son is a senior in high school this year at The Harley School, and is applying

early decision at NYU as well as other colleges for a BFA in Musical Theatre Performance. I am hoping he and his peers will be the wave of the future for our art form.

What VCS classes/activities or teachers inspired you?

I actually LOVED all my teachers at VCS! I think I liked my teachers more than my peers! I am friends with many of them on social media and recently as Covid hit, my keyboarding teacher, Debbie Nothnagle, met me at Wegmans to give me some supplies that my son needed for an online activity day! That's how awesome the teachers are/were at VCS for me!

But, I obviously loved being in Drama Club. I worked at the Bookstore for my first two years. I was in field band, concert band, senior choir, art club, and on the JV tennis team. I was involved in all the shows both on and off stage for all four years of high school - selling tickets, serving as student producer, student director, and stage manager. I also would hang lights and sound equipment for hours on end! Mr. Glenn Simpson and Mrs. Eileen Hosler-Simpson were (and are still) instrumental in my passion for technical theatre and production. Mrs. Susan Goldman Moore was so encouraging to me, and still is to this day. She has always said I had an amazing singing voice and was a natural onstage (I've never believed that myself, but I love her for it!). Sarah Frank who was my director for my last 3 shows at VCS - who I wish I could get in contact with - made me start the career I have now as a director. If

Continued on next page

Performing Artists, continued

I ever got a Tony, which I doubt, I would definitely list her on my thank you's! Mr. Gary Thomas who was an energetic and patient soul as our director, but also as our accompanist on all our concerts gave me my first on-stage role. Also amazing teachers who really listened to me, helped me find myself, and were super supportive like: Jim Strauss, Frank Rychlik, Jerry O'Dell, Eric Everhardt, David Bills, Linda Armstrong, Beth Thomas, Dave Babcock, Ross Amstey, Carol Martin, and so many more! I know I'm going to inadvertently leave some amazing people out!

How did your VCS education prepare you for what you're doing today?

Well, I graduated with a LOT of credits and had a double major and I think 2 minors? I majored in both English and Social Studies - and now that I am a certified Social Studies and Special Education teacher, plus I am an Assistant Professor at Nazareth College in the Writing Center where I help mainly graduate students with their papers and theses, I think VCS definitely paved the way for this. My English and Social Studies teachers were all outstanding and dedicated educators. As I said before my MFA thesis is published and that is a 500+ page book (with appendices). My MA in Theological Studies from CRCDS (Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School) entitled, "All the World's a Stage: Theatre

as Society, Theatre as Mission" are both a culmination of my passions for history and writing, as well as theatre and performing arts. Teaching is in itself a performance on a daily basis as any educator would attest, so I truly think it has all come full circle and it all began at VCS. The course offerings were rigorous and the instruction followed suit. I wasn't always the "smartest" student, I felt, but I worked really hard and practically lived at the school, especially in my high school career.

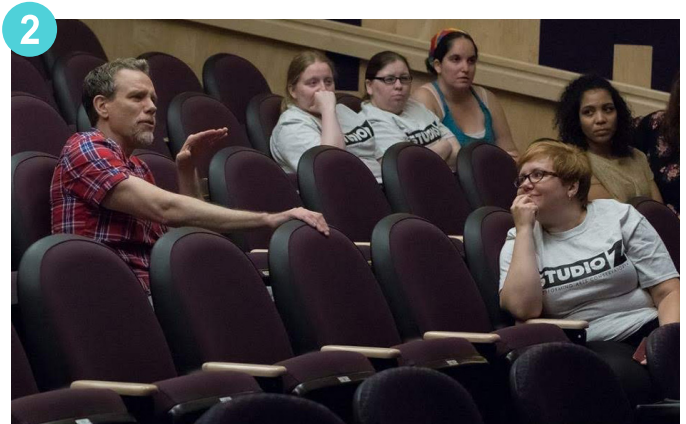
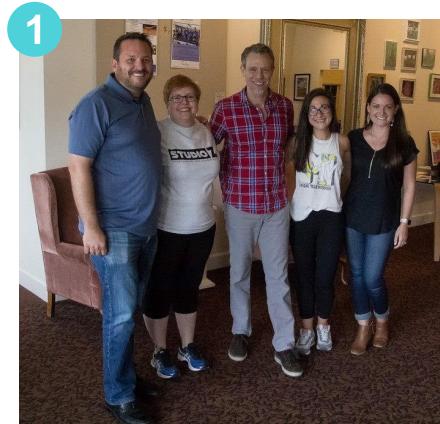
What advice would you give a VCS graduate interested in the arts?

I will give this a two-fold answer -

one that was my "go to" answer for decades and the new answer I have now during our current pandemic.

1. If you want it, and you are willing to work, in any theatre job, no matter what, you will always be employed in theatre. No acting or tech position is too small to say yes to. Ever. You may not always get the job you wanted, but it will still be a job, and it's about the craft, not anyone's ego. No job is too small or less important than another. Theatre is truly a 100% collaborative art, and therefore, every single position is critical to the art that is ultimately created. Whenever I have wanted a job in theatre, I have always had one. Period.

2. Now, in the pandemic, when theatre is now closing still and



Continued on next page

Performing Artists, continued

Broadway is closed until May now, at least, I honestly wouldn't change what I just said. Remember, things may "look different" now, but I have worked with about 20 Broadway and theatre pros in the last few months who are doing just that - making art HAPPEN - in a whole new facet of ways, and thinking outside the box. Just like is the theme of the movie *Field of Dreams*, "If you build it, they will come." Sometimes, you just need to figure out how and where to build it. Perseverance is key. Theatre artists are improvisational by nature, we think fast on our feet and can change with a drop of a hat. This pandemic is no different. We just need to use our out-of-the-box thinking to keep our art alive.

If you are able to be flexible and think outside the box, you will make it as theatre artist. No matter what. And know that "making it" takes MANY forms, not just one. Not everyone is supposed to be on Broadway, and many would prefer not to be! There are so many ways to create, let the WORLD be your stage!

Photos on previous page:

① Adam and I reflecting and collaborating on student work during the master's class he taught for us; ② David Curry (1994), myself (1992), Adam Pascal, Jennie Gilardoni (2006), and our vocal director Jessica Volpe; ③ Our cast of *RENT* and Adam Pascal the original Roger in *RENT* on Broadway.

More about Zanin:

Judy Zanin holds her Masters of Fine Arts in Directing Theatre from Syracuse University, a Masters in Theological Studies from Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School, her NYS Teacher Certification from Nazareth College, and a Bachelors of Arts in History from SUNY Potsdam. She is a member of SDC (Stage Directors and Choreographers Society), the professional directors and choreographers union, and a member of Theatre Communications Group. Judy is currently a dramaturg and collaborator with Allyson Garaio Hernandez on a new musical, Woman of the Century. In addition to this, Judy also currently works as an Adjunct Professor at Nazareth College in the Charles Mills Writing Center and is a Special Education teacher at Geneva High School.

Locally, Judy has directed and assistant directed many productions for Geva Theatre, Syracuse Stage, Syracuse University Drama Department, as well as student productions at local Rochester-area schools. Victor Senior High School's production of Anything Goes received a Rochester Broadway Theatre League Stars of Tomorrow award for Best Dance Ensemble under her direction. Palmyra-Macedon Middle School's production of School of Rock was received with millions of views on Facebook and YouTube, and acknowledgement of the production's success with the show's creator, Sir Andrew Lloyd Weber, as well as members of the original Broadway cast.

Judy is the recipient of the 2016 Robert G. Boehmler Community Partners for Education award as well as the Canandaigua National Bank Excellent in Teaching award for 2006. Her master's thesis, "Fool for Love: A Comprehensive Analysis," from 2011 has been recently published and is available at SU Press.

In 2017, Judy attended the Broadway Teachers Workshop where she took master classes with directors, stage managers, and designers from Broadway's Phantom of the Opera, Miss Saigon, Newsies, and more, as well as Tony nominees: Sheryl Kaller, Marcia Milgrim Dodge, Seth Skylar-Heyn, and Paloma Young.

Judy has studied and worked closely with theatre legend and director, Robert Moss, as well as directors Timothy Douglas, Mark Cuddy, Skip Greer, and Christopher Gurr. Judy has also had the distinct pleasure of working with: Adam Pascal, Justin Sargent, Patti Murin, Eva Noblezada, Austin Scott, Kara Lindsay, Donna McKechnie, John McDaniel, Micah Young, Steven Hanna, Bret Shuford, Nick DiCola, John Jeffrey Martin, Tim Hughes, Gabby Bernstein, Adam Gertler, Michael DiLiberto, Robb Sapp, Kimmy Gatewood, Haneefah Wood, and Kyle Louder among many other leading theatre professionals.

Judy LB Zanin

Artistic Director Studio Z

she/her/hers

www.studiozconservatory.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/studiozconservatory/>

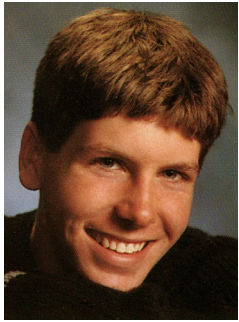
Instagram: @studiozconservatory

Twitter: @PerformingZ

TikTok: @studiozperformingarts

585-451-1413

Following Faith



*Father
James
Purdie
(Class
of 2000)
Discusses
His*

Religious Journey

What did you do after you graduated from VCS?

After graduating from VCS, I attended Muskingum University in Ohio. Then, I went on to Pittsburgh Theological Seminary (PTS) where I earned my Masters of Divinity (M. Div.). During my time at PTS, my wife and I got married and we became Orthodox Christians. I was a stay at home dad of three little ones while working part time as the pastoral assistant at St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church in Pittsburgh, PA. I also served as a chaplain to the Orthodox Christian students at Carnegie Mellon and University of Pittsburg and had a brief stint as chaplain to the Orthodox patients at the Kane Hospital facilities in and around Pittsburgh. Meanwhile, I was ordained to the priesthood in 2010 and picked up a Masters in applied Theology (M. TH.).

What are you doing today?

In 2012, I was assigned to St. Basil the Great Antiochian Orthodox Church, Hampton, VA, where I continue to serve. Once we arrived the Church worked with me to

shore up its finances, parish council, and to attract new members. In 2014, we purchased a 7k sq. ft. building, gutted the interior and made it into a functioning Church with office space and class rooms. All done by the labor of our own people.

The liturgies and services of the Church anchor my weeks. In between worship I hear confessions, provide counseling of various kinds, attend meetings, teach and prep for weekly classes, Bible studies, and sermons, make hospital/home visits to the sick or to mothers in the maternity wards, and all sorts of things that pop up. You never know!

What inspired you to become a religious leader?

What inspired me to become a religious leader was an ongoing sense of the Divine and various experiences of God. Being a priest combines so many of my passions,

such as interior prayer, caregiving, teaching, art, studying, being with people on one hand and being alone on the other. One moment you're lighting a candle before an icon while praying, and the next you're in the social hall making the rounds with parishioners and catching up with their lives. Crying with someone in confession one day and teaching a class the next.

How has pandemic affected you?

Due to the pandemic our church was greatly affected. Initially, we were limited to about 10 to 20 people at our worship services. This meant we had to quickly figure out how to live stream everything. Sunday school classes and adulthood were canceled. Then, somewhere in the middle of Lent we had to reduce the number of attendees to no more than five, including myself. It had to be the same five people. So myself and four other people went through



Continued on next page

Following Faith, continued

half a lent and all of Holy Week and Easter. In our tradition this is very intense- full of many services, which are very long. The limitations also meant we had to hold off on baptisms, and weddings.

We have since been allowed to open back up, but with social distance requirements we cannot fit everybody into the church at once. This means we've had at services during the week to get people into worship and receive the sacraments. We do this by sign-up sheet. Sunday school and other classes have begun again but are primarily done online.

In the midst of all of this, our church was hit by a car, which took out our electrical room. With no power, and a gaping hole in the building, the city temporarily closed our building and we have moved to worshiping at a local memorial park's Chapel.

It has been interesting to see people's reactions to church life in the midst of a pandemic. You have people who are not ready to come back and I was concerned that they might get sick, or pass it on to their loved ones. Some people won't come back because they don't want to wear masks. Others have just stopped coming because they have gotten out of the habit.

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

The teachers at VCS were all so great. They all managed to inspire me or impart some lesson even if they didn't realize. Dan Olson and Frank Rychlik from the history department taught me to take responsibility for my own

learning. Anexie Portalatin's love of art helped me use that side of the brain. Everyone from the Physical Education Department (Bob Thompson, Jim Andre, and Sean Rucker), Glenn Simpson, and Frank Gacioch. Mrs. Bowerman from the lunchroom, and Diane Blankenship from the halls. Beth Thomas and Tim Smith have a special place in my heart, too. They were always in my corner.

How did your VCS education prepare you for what you're doing today?

Somehow VCS imparted the example of when to be flexible and when to hold the line, which is something I am still learning. Teachers and classmates paved the way by presenting diverse situations, perspectives, and people. This is something religious leaders face every day. They have to minister to all and help maintain the unity-multiplicity that characterizes a community. Practically speaking, I learned about leadership, received a foundation on how to write and formulate an argument. Having a firm foundation in history and social sciences has been immensely helpful and important. Likewise, how to read and interpret narratives and symbols of our culture allows me to communicate with people. I am still working on that!

What advice would you give to VCS graduate interested in a religious studies and/or becoming a religious leader?

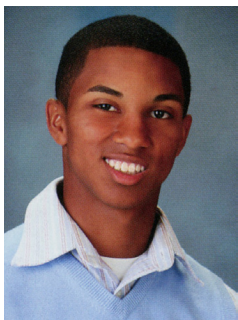
Make sure you're doing it for the right reasons. There isn't much money in it. Don't make the work about you. Be flexible. Work through your own issues and allow yourself to be in process. Pray. Also, what you learn in seminary classrooms won't teach you about people, won't prepare you to manage an office, can't help you work through budgets. In fact, most of the ministry is learned on the job.

What do you do in your spare time?

Life with three growing kids looks like sports, music lessons, school work- we have all been there. We enjoy trips to new places, visiting family, game or movie nights. I try to exercise. I find joy in maintaining the lawn and construction projects around the house. A good laugh and a good beer, too!

And, He's Off...

Jockey Rey Gutierrez (Class of 2013) Takes On the Track with Respect and Humility



Horses run in Rey Gutierrez's family. He has a couple of uncles who are jockeys and his father is a horse trainer.

Despite his family's rich history with horse racing, Rey is forging his own path. This past summer, at the young age of 23, he made his debut in the 2020 Belmont Stakes, just two and a half years after earning his first career victory at Finger Lakes. In his first full year as a rider, Gutierrez was named an Eclipse Award finalist for Outstanding Apprentice, horse racing's version of Rookie of the Year. And, he's just getting started.

What did you do after graduating from VCS in 2013?

I attended SUNY Cortland from 2013-17 and graduated with a degree in exercise science. I started my career as a jockey in October 2017.

Why did you become a jockey?

I became a jockey because I love horses, and it just came naturally to me. I have a couple uncles who are jockeys and my father is a horse trainer. I'm in my third year as a jockey and I've won about 250 races. I missed a couple months this year due to the pandemic cancelling

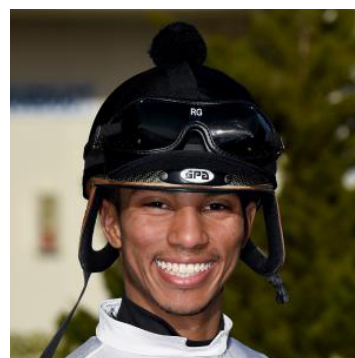
races. My first big win was the Tom Fool Handicap with a horse named Do Share. It was a Grade 3 race with a 250k purse.

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

I loved all my classes at Victor and all of my time there surrounded by the great staff the school has. Mrs. Ryan, Mrs. O'Rourke and Mr. Cain were definitely my biggest influences from the teacher-student and coach-athlete point of view. They are selfless, hard-working, humble people who, as I grew older, I often thought of how they would react to certain situations. Mrs. Ryan encouraged me to run for student treasurer in the 8th grade and I'll never forget her because becoming the treasure gave me my first taste of that self-esteem to believe in myself and be whatever I strived to be in the future.

How did your VCS education prepare you for what you're doing today?

My VCS education provided me everything I needed, most importantly, respect - respecting teachers and peers. None of the teachers expected all of their students to get A's. They pushed us to do the best we could, but you never felt that pressure. All the teachers did expect that we respect one another, didn't matter which class, this was expected and it prepared me for today. It doesn't matter if the horse I ride is good or bad, or the race I ride is national or local, I respect my competition, the horse, the people working with the horse, and the fans!



Then and Now



1987



Marching Blue Devils



2019



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.

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www.victorschools.org/community/alumni

VCS

Substitutes Needed

Apply at victorschools.org
Full-Time, Part-Time, with Flexible Schedule

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.
(updated 11/12/2020)

1948	1950	1951	1952	1953
2	2	4	2	2

1954	1957	1959	1960	1985
2	2	2	2	3

Visual & Performing Arts

HALL OF FAME

Do you know a Victor Central School alumnus or alumna who has made a significant contribution to the arts?

The Visual and Performing Arts Hall of Fame honors such individuals.

Nominees shall be selected based upon the following criteria:

- A. Graduated from Victor Senior High School at least (10) years ago. Nominee may have or may not have been affiliated with a VCS arts program.
- B. Staff member, parent or community member who made significant contributions to the VCS arts program a minimum of (5) years.

Suggested "types" of artists that could qualify would be ***Creators ~ Performers ~ Practitioners ~ Contributors***

Go to www.victorschools.org for more information.

Nominations must be submitted by Tuesday, January 26, 2021 to:

Visual & Performing Arts Hall of Fame committee
c/o The Office of School and Community Relations
Victor Central Schools
953 High Street, Victor, New York 14564
or by emailing laskysh@victorschools.org

VCS Seeks Names of Distinguished Graduates

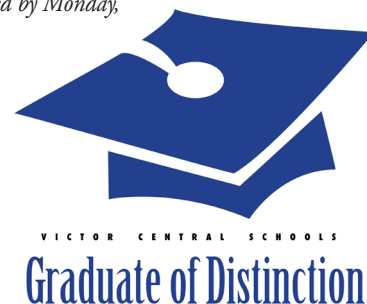
Do you know a Victor Central School alumnus who has made a significant contribution to society? The Graduates of Distinction program honors such individuals. Applications are currently available in the Office of School and Community Relations or on-line at www.victorschools.org. Alumni selected for this 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 25, 2021 to:

**Graduates of Distinction Committee
c/o The Office of School and Community Relations
Victor Central Schools
953 High Street
Victor, New York 14564**



WANTED! Your Reunion Information

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

[Victor Central Schools Alumni](#)

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

For more information contact the School and Community Relations Office at 585-924-3252, ext. 1407



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 @victorschools.org or 585-924-3252, ext. 3130*