



COMMUNITY  
SCHOOL

# Quick Notes

Tuesday, October 25, 2011

## School Calendar

(Please visit [http://www.communityschool.net/news\\_cal.html](http://www.communityschool.net/news_cal.html) for a more detailed school calendar.)

Wednesday	Oct. 26	7:30 pm	<b>The Hudson Trio Concert</b> (Fall into the Arts Series) Talmadge Recital Hall, Hollins University (Free babysitting at CS)
Wednesday	Oct. 26	12:15-12:45 pm	Lunch-A-Month (12:05-12:45 for middle school) Parents Welcome (mac & cheese, green beans, lemonade) Bake Sale (proceeds benefit the upper elementary classes)
Saturday	Oct. 29	9:00 am – 1:00 pm	<b>Monthly Parent Work Day</b> (Please see information below.)
Tuesday	Nov. 1		<b>Retakes for Student Pictures</b> (Rain date: November 2) Call the school office by Oct. 31 to schedule a retake.
Wednesday	Nov. 2	6:15 pm	<b>Board of Trustees Meeting</b> (Emilie T.'s room)
Tuesday	Nov. 8		<b>Conference Day (No classes)</b> Schedules attached. See additional information below.
Wednesday	Nov. 9	12:15-12:45 pm	Pizza Day (12:05-12:45 for middle school) Parents Welcome Bake Sale (sponsored by Keri's class)
Tuesday	Nov. 15	10:00 am	<b>Open House for Prospective Parents</b>
Wednesday	Nov. 16	12:15-12:45 pm	Lunch-A-Month (12:05-12:45 for middle school) Parents Welcome (tacos, chips & salsa, black beans, lemonade) Bake Sale (proceeds benefit the Bolivian Exchange Program)
Wednesday	Nov. 23	11:00-1:00 pm 12:00-1:00 pm 1:00 pm	<b>Student Art Show</b> (Ballator Gallery, Moody Center) <b>Thanksgiving Potluck Luncheon</b> (Moody Center dining hall) <b>Early Dismissal from Hollins University. No ASP.</b>
Thursday-Friday	Nov. 24- Nov. 25		<b>School Closed for Thanksgiving Break</b>

## Fall Open House

Tuesday, November 15, at 10:00 am

Our Fall Open House is one of our most important opportunities to recruit new students and a great chance for prospective parents to learn about our curriculum and philosophy. You can help our recruitment efforts by reminding your friends, neighbors, and co-workers about this event, giving out invitation postcards, and placing flyers around the Valley. You can pick up flyers, postcards, and referral cards in the main office. Remember: Current families can earn a \$250 tuition credit for referring a new student who enrolls at CS (details below). We have space in the middle school classes for mid-year transfers, and we are accepting applications for all levels for fall 2012.

The open house will begin with registration at 10:00 am in the drama room, followed by a brief information session at 10:15. From 10:35 to 11:45, current parents and students will lead tours through our classrooms. The tours will conclude back in the drama room with refreshments and a chance to chat with other parents and staff.

If you have any questions about this event or admissions in general, please contact Victoria (563-5036 or [victoria@communityschool.net](mailto:victoria@communityschool.net)). Thank you for supporting our extraordinary school!

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## Don't Miss The Hudson Trio Tomorrow Night!

**Date & Time:** Wednesday, Oct 26, at 7:30 pm  
**Location:** Talmadge Recital Hall, Hollins University  
**Tickets:** \$16.50 each, available on the CS website, from Pattie on the CS campus, and at the door  
**Babysitting:** Available for **free** on the CS campus for CS families



Enjoy a wonderful evening out and boost your child's musical education in the process. All proceeds from tickets sales for this concert benefit Community School's new MIE music lab. With your help, we hope to have the new lab in place for the 2012-2013 school year. We are already halfway to our goal. The general public is invited, so be sure and tell your friends about this great concert. If we sell 100 tickets, we'll have raised another \$1650 for the purchase of the music lab equipment.

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## CS Students Benefit from Master Classes

On Thursday morning at 9:30, the members of The Hudson Trio will teach three free master classes at Hollins University for those CS students who have already pre-registered for these lessons. Vladimir Valjarevic will work with piano students in one room, while Caroline Chin teaches violin and Robert Burkhart cello in other rooms. RSO Maestro David Wiley will provide accompaniment for the strings students. Each student will get at least 15 minutes of individual attention, but will also have the opportunity to listen in on the other lessons in their master class. CS invited students from Community High and several other local music programs to pre-register and attend these classes as well.

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## School Spirit Week This Week

Wednesday (10/26)	Character Day	Come to school dressed as your favorite book, movie, tv show or game character
Thursday (10/27)	Wacky Day	Put together a wacky outfit
Friday (10/28)	School Spirit Day	Wear your Community School shirts and show your school pride

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## Monthly Parent Workday This Saturday

**Date:** Saturday, October 29  
**Time:** 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Please email Michi Hines, administrative director ([michi@communityschool.net](mailto:michi@communityschool.net)) if you can help. You will be working with Gene Lurker, our maintenance and repair supervisor. Future parent workdays are scheduled for Dec. 3, Jan. 14, Feb. 11, Mar. 3, and April 21. Thank you for your assistance!

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## Conference Day on November 8

Please see the attached schedules for your child's conference time.

On Tuesday, November 8, CS will hold its first Conference Day of the year. There will be no school on this day, but children are expected to attend their conference with their parent or caregiver. Prior to conferences, students, with the help of their teachers, compile a portfolio of the work that best demonstrates their progress over the past nine weeks. Students evaluate their own progress, share how they feel about their work, and set goals for the upcoming nine weeks. Conference Day is an important component of your child's social, emotional, physical, and cognitive assessment. Please contact your child's teacher if you need to reschedule your child's conference.

Remember:

1. No regular classes on Tuesday, November 8.
2. Bring your child to his/her conference.
3. Please arrive on time and please respect the appointment, staff lunch, or planning time that follows your child's conference.

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## New Student Welcome

Welcome to Sophia Z. (Tulie's class) and her parents David and Andrea. Their contact information is available in the main school office.

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## Alumni Updates

Parents sometimes wonder if a school with such a strong emphasis on the arts and language can also excel in math and science. Rest assured! Our students receive a very strong foundation in math and science, as demonstrated by the success of our alumni in these fields. And, in spite of the fact that we are a noncompetitive school that does not field athletic teams, we have some very successful athletes among our students and alumni. Read on for a few recent examples:

- 1) CS alumna Becca M., now Becca Allred, (Seminar class of 2002) was featured in a recent Associated Press article on young women changing the face of the so-called STEM fields (science, technology, engineering, and math). In case you missed it, this article was picked up by *The Roanoke Times* and appeared on the front page of yesterday's edition. Becca, currently a second year doctoral student in chemistry at Yale University, started in the CS preschool program and continued all the way through, ending up as one of the first students at the new Community High School. Read the article at <http://www.crescent-news.com/ap%20general%20news/2011/10/18/women-making-slow-sure-strides-in-science-math> or pick up a copy of yesterday's local paper. As you read, note that Becca earned a 5 on her AP Chemistry exam and went to college on a track scholarship. Becca's older sister, Rachel M., also a CS alumna (Seminar class of 1997) earned an engineering degree from Virginia Tech.
- 2) Congratulations to Joseph H. (Seminar class of 2007) on recently being designated an AP Scholar with Distinction for having earned an average of 3.5 on five or more AP exams, including scores of 5 on his AP Biology and Calculus tests. Joseph graduated as valedictorian from Hidden Valley High School in June and is now a freshman pre-med student at Virginia Tech.

- 3) CS alumnus Peter T. (Seminar class of 2008) was featured on the front page of the September 28 edition of *The Fincastle Herald*. Pete, now a senior at Lord Botetourt, has set a goal of running in the 2012 Paralympic Games in London next summer. A double amputee below the knee, Pete is currently ranked number 6 in the world in the International Paralympic Committee Rankings for the 400 meters. He was named a 2011 US Paralympics Track and Field High School All-American. When he was a CS student, Pete appeared before the Virginia Assembly speaking in support of legislation requiring insurers to cover prosthetic limbs. At the time, he was the youngest person ever to speak before the assembly.
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### CHS Receives Grant for Folk Opera

"Miss Lucy," the folk opera premiering at CHS in November, has received a \$5,000 grant from Freedom First. The major roles have been cast, including professionals such as tenor Benjamin Bongers, who sings frequently with the San Francisco Opera, among other venues (his website: <http://benbongers.com>). Bluegrass musician Tom Ohmsen, who teaches theory classes at CHS, and jazz pianist William Penn have written the music for "Miss Lucy," and CHS theatre instructor Les Epstein is directing and wrote the libretto. The opera is based on the story of Lucy Addison in the days of segregated Roanoke.

Are you interested in singing and acting? CHS can use four to eight more young singers and four more adult chorus members, with opportunities for small solos. Contact Les ASAP at [les@communityhigh.net](mailto:les@communityhigh.net) if you're interested.

### Visit our Staff Bulletin Board

This week's featured staff: Beth (lower elementary teacher), Louise (drama teacher), and Sue (business manager). Come by to learn all about us!

It's always funny to see a student's reaction when they meet a teacher or staff member outside of school! We really don't live on campus. We have families and pets of our own, and we all have interests and hobbies that keep us busy. In order to introduce the faculty and staff to you and to the children, Holly has created a bulletin board on the 2<sup>nd</sup> story of the big house. Each week, information on three staff members will be displayed.

### Save \$250 on Your Tuition Bill!

Community School families are eligible for a \$250 tuition credit for referring a new student who enrolls full time at CS. To qualify for the credit, you must submit a completed referral form or e-mail the referral information to Victoria **before** the family has submitted an admissions application. If multiple current families refer the same student, the \$250 credit is divided evenly between the referring families. The credit will show up on your account in the semester that the new student enrolls. Referral credits are not given for siblings of current students or for talking to prospective parents who are visiting CS if you did not previously refer those parents -- that includes talking to prospective parents while you are a substitute teacher, volunteering at CS, or just hanging out on campus. Please note: Your referral will stay active for only two years. After that time, you need to resubmit the form. Referral forms are available in the office and on the admissions page of our website (<http://www.communityschool.net/apply.html>). You can reach me at [victoria@communityschool.net](mailto:victoria@communityschool.net).

With our fall Open House fast approaching, now is the perfect time to submit your referrals. There is no limit on the number of tuition credits that you can earn. One family received 3 credits this semester—a substantial tuition savings!

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## Class Community Service Project

Keri's students are currently taking donations for Angels of Assisi. Please help us help them. They are in need of the items listed below. If anyone would like to donate any of these items, please send them to Keri's classroom. Thank you!

Sam's Club gift card	Kitty litter scoops	Sponges & scrub brushes
Purina cat, kitten, dog and puppy foods (dry)	Dog & cat toys	Window cleaner
Regular kitty litter	Paper towels	Bleach
Rabbit food	Small rags for cleaning	Laundry detergent
Rabbit shavings	Towels	"Scrubbing Bubbles" cleaner
Cat towers		

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## Family Handbook Relocated on Website

The Community School Family Handbook can now be viewed on Community School's website under "News and Calendar" instead of under "How to Apply."

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