

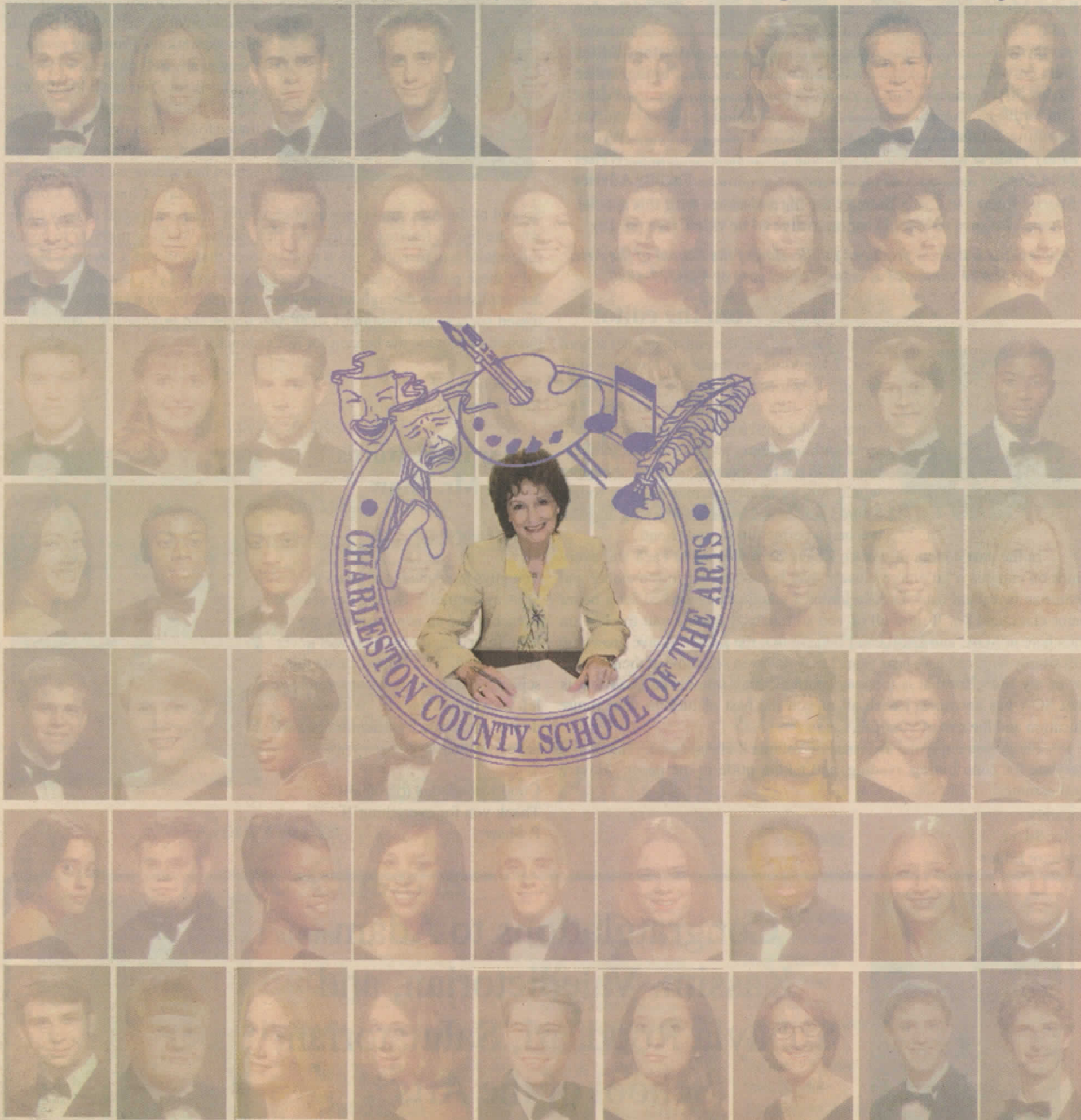
Applause

Volume 2 Number 6

Charleston County School of the Arts, North Charleston, SC

May 2001

A Tribute to the Charleston County School of the Arts First Graduating Class: The Class of 2001



"Where Talent and Vision Create the Future"

Editor's Page

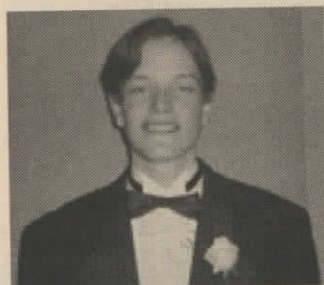
Applause Staff

- Loriel Brown..... Writer
- Kimberly Cozart.....Reporter
- Jacquelyn Glover.....Assistant Editor
- Jonisha HartWriter
- Jane LucasWriter
- Sarah McCoyProof Reader
- Emily MoebesColumnist
- Ian O'SheaAssistant Editor
- Staci Oliver.....Photographer
- Taylor SilverEditor
- Tim SmithReporter
- Tawanna TolbertWriter
- Emily WahrerWriter
- John CusatisFaculty Advisor

Special thanks to Craig Baurley for his assistance with this special issue. Be sure to buy his commemorative cd or video. (see pg. 18)

Applause is a student produced publication of the School of the Arts. We can be contacted at ccsoa@email.com or 843-529-4990.

A word from the editor



Here we are, the end of another school year. I would like to thank the *Applause* staff for all of their hard work this year. I would especially like to thank our advisor, Mr. Cusatis. Many of you do not realize the hard work and long hours he gives to this publication. With out his constant nagging, the paper would not be nearly as nice as it is today. Thank-you Mr. Cusatis, for being a good teacher, a perfectionist, and friend.

In the past couple of weeks, I have been looking at each and every senior on campus a little more closely than before, trying to remember and memorize faces and names. As a junior, I couldn't have asked for a better senior class, and I will miss all of you so much. I think about the last six years here at SOA, and I still can't believe that the people I have grown up with simply won't be here next year. I may not even see some of them for the rest of my life. But that is the way "normal" high schools are, and that is what SOA has become. I wish all of you the best of luck in your future education and the rest of your life.

I hope you enjoy the last issue of Volume 2 of *Applause*. Thank-you everyone for contributing, reading, and taking pride in the paper. Have a great summer!

Sincerely,
Taylor Silver,
Applause Editor



A word from our principal

A letter to our seniors

Six years and just look at you, our pioneers! You have demonstrated commitment in setting goals with high aspirations. From my perspective you are well on your way to attaining them. You have loyally endured, steadfastly supported and continued to learn through all of the past six years of growth and change this school has undergone to become, as we are today, Charleston County

School of the Arts, grades six through twelve. You are special as only those who are brave, fearless and trusting first can be. Working together to create this school has fused us into a mighty force that will last a lifetime. Hopefully these past six years of preparation will propel you toward successful accomplishments throughout your lives. Most surely, my wish for you is continued success and happiness in all you undertake in your life. Allow your passion to provide the beacon for life's choices.

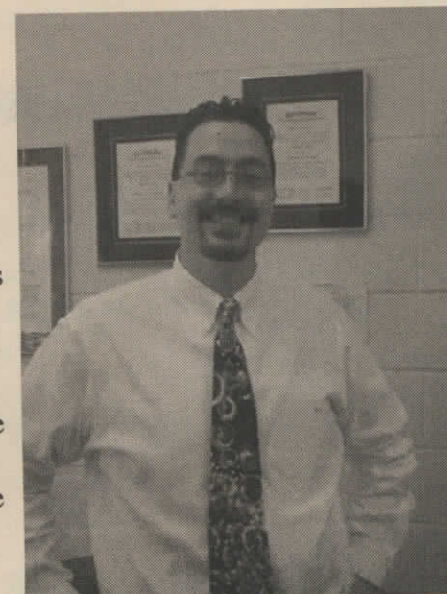
Sincerely yours,
Rose Maree Myers

A few more words from Mr. Shaw

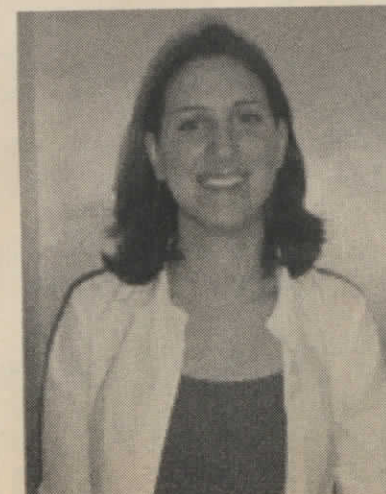
Dear Seniors,

You guys have made the years at SOA awesome!!! During my years as a teacher and an administrator, we have forged memories that will never be forgotten. You helped create this school, and the impressions you have left us will last forever. Without a doubt you are the best senior class we have ever had!!!

Good Knowledge to you all!!!
Thank you for everything!!!
P. Shaw



Congratulations to Adam Kassim, Valedictorian, and Sohayla Roudsari, Salutatorian, School of the Arts Class of 2001



Senior Survey

By what quote do you want SOA to remember you?

"Not all who wander are lost."(J.R.R. Tolkien) and "I'm not evil, I'm just misunderstood..... okay, I'm evil"- **W.P. Trompeter**

"Finite to fail, but infinite to venture"(Emily Dickinson)-**Nikki Griffin**

"Don't make me get ethnic!"- **Ian Lampkin**

"What?"-**Craig Baurley**

"I'm not crazy, I like taking 2 AP maths"-**Justin Babcock**

"Not everything is quite as black and white as they seem"-**John Fisher**

"Strive to be happy."(Abby Heston)-**Sasha Shaw**

"Everything happens for a reason" and "Shoot for the moon - if you miss you'll be among the stars."-**Tracy Cantwell**

"Make the best of every situation and always look to the brighter side"-
Jennie Leonard

"What time is it?"- **Marques Johnson**

"If I can help someone along the way, then my living will not be in vain."
- **Kristen Moore**

"It's casual"- **John Chritton**

"Don't stress, just relax."-**Derek Mosier**

"Life is too short to miss Dawson's Creek!"- **Ashli Bogart**

"Cheerio"- **Davis Auld**

"God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change. The courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference."-**NeToshia McCullough**

"I'm as free as a bird now, and this bird you'll never change."- **Suzanne Roane**

"No matter what, I always get older and wiser."- **Micheal Cardaronella**

"I love Beans..... Thank you God for making a Taco Bell!"- **Jessica Grantham**

"Only the strong survive"- **Brandy Richardson**

"I am a special combination!"- **Alisia Frazier**

"Cherish every second you have with your friends, because they go by too quickly."- **Bonnie Tumbleston**

"Before anyone else can love and care about you, you have to love and care about yourself."- **Lauren Fanning**

"Live for the minute, don't plan your life and things too far. While you are young do what young people should do; go clubbing, hit the parties, and live to the fullest before you turn into boring parents."- **Julius Jones**

"There will never be another Frank....Never."- **Frank Wright**

"If the world were a logical place, men would ride side - saddle."- **Liz Newell**

"Always keep your head up"- **Autumn Germroth**

"Renee: "often imitated but never duplicated." Always keep God 1st in everything that you do."-**Renee McDaniel**

"He who makes a beast of himself gets rid of the pains of being a man"(Dr. L. Johnson)- **Alan Strozier**

"Smile!"- **Brandi Bruorton**

"Life isn't supposed to be easy, it's just supposed to be worth it."(I.B. Thinkin)-**Michael Badger**

"I am but mad north-northwest. When the wind is southerly, I know a hawk from a handsaw." (William Shakespeare)-**Dustin Moss**

"Hey guys, guess what I did to my car this time!" "Defeat the Beast."-
Elaine Hume

"I was something that lay under the sun and felt it, like the pumpkins, and I did not want to be anything more. I was entirely happy." (Willa Cather)-**Chandler Jenrette**

"Dance as though no one is watching you, love as though you have never been hurt before, sing as though no one can hear you, live as though Heaven is on Earth." (Unknown)-**Benny Boutrouille**

"Run from the temptations that capture young people. Always do the right thing. Be faithful, loving, and easy to get along with. Worship with people whose hearts are pure."-**Christina Davenport**

"Dream your own dreams, for who other than you can read the face of your heart."(Sohayla Roudsari)- **Sohayla Roudsari**

"Here is the world, and you live in it, and are grateful. You try to be grateful." (Michael Cunningham)-**Alison Palmer**

"The hell with it--I'm graduating!" - **Hamadi Brown**

"Pointless parts to pointless points aren't pointless, because they have the point to make the pointless point, pointless!"-**Alfred Peeler**

"Have you met my two friends?"-**Rob DeCola**



Rachel Corbett, Laurel Coons, Katie McTighe, Jennie Leonard, and Derek Mosier cruise the canals of Venice.

What are your plans after graduation?

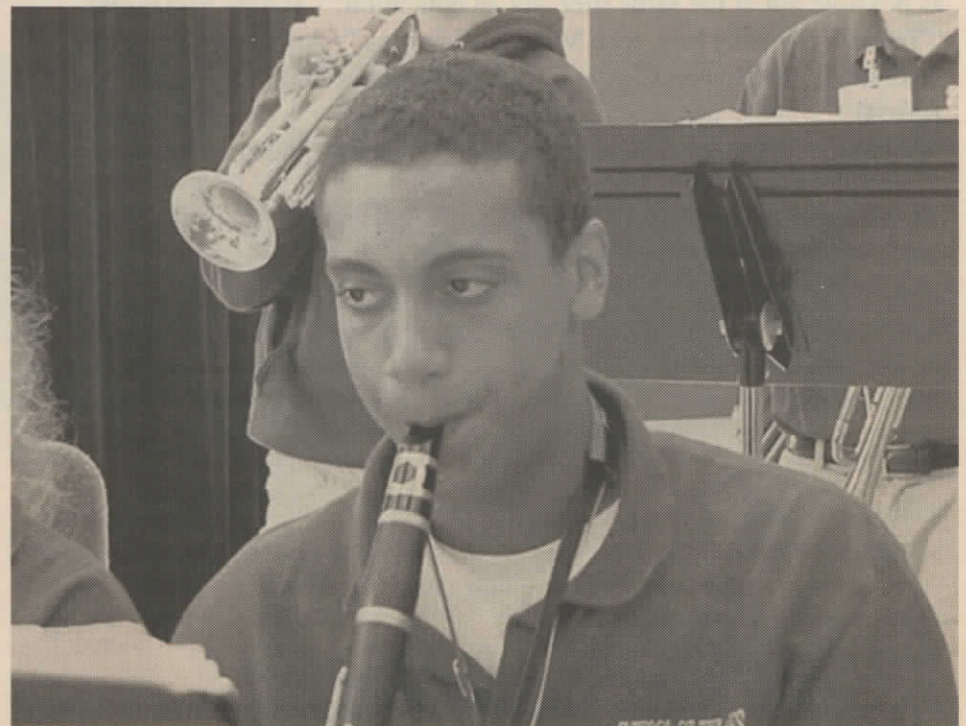
"I'm attending Furman University (full ride! - academic and financial aide) and majoring in biology/ Pre - physical therapy"-**Tracy Cantwell**

"Hopefully, I'll be on my way to the San Francisco Art Institute for a BFA in painting...(I'm still working on trying to find a place to live.... Anybody have friends in Oakland or San Francisco?...)"-**Sasha Shaw**

"I will be moving out of my parents house and moving in with a few friends. I will be attending the College of Charleston where I plan to take part in "Rush" and probably join the equestrian team."-**Katie McTighe**

"I plan to lounge around and sleep. I'm also going to try to visit my friend in MA."-**John Fisher**

"I plan on attending Clemson University starting fall 2001."-**Justin Babcock**



Ian Lampkin warms up.

Senior Survey

"Going to College of Charleston to major in Pre - Med."-**Ian Lampkin**
 "Work this summer, then go to Newberry College next fall."-**Nikki Griffin**
 "Work, college, seeking immortality and total control of the world."-**W.P. Trompeter**
 "Go to the beach and make lots of money and party, party and party some more!"-**Jennie Leonard**
 "Trident Tec. for 2 years so I can get the basic classes out of the way . Then transfer to C of C to major in Early Childhood Development Degree."- **Lauren Fanning**
 "I plan to go to college to become a music therapist"- **Bonnie Tumbleston**
 "Go to college and take care of my baby girl."- **Alisia Frazier**
 "To work full-time, spend time with my daughter, Shyla, and attend TTC in the fall."- **Brandy Richardson**
 "Work, work, and go to my last family vacation, Disney World..... Yeah! Oh, and go to East Carolina University.... the Pirates, Arg.....!"- **Jessica Grantham**
 "Attend Trident Tech and USC getting a 2 year Associates degree and a 4 year degree in criminal justice and Law enforcement and become a state trooper or a deputy sheriff."- **Micheal Cardaronella**
 "I'm going to Trident Tech to become a nurse."- **Suzanne Roane**
 "After graduation I'm going to attend a four year college to get a degree in nursing. I also want to become an entrepreneur."- **NeToshia McCullough**
 "I plan on attending Savannah College of Art and Design."- **Davis Auld**
 "I plan to attend the University of North Carolina in Wilmington."- **Ashli Bogart**
 "Summer is full of work at the Mellow Mushroom; Fall and on is College of Charleston; then it's time to visit the world."- **Alan Strozier**
 "Go to college, become a teacher and raise a family."- **Elizabeth Steele**
 " I plan on attending C of C after graduation, and sleeping." - **John Chritton**
 " Attending North Carolina Central University."- **Kristin Moore**
 "To become a money makin' millionaire."- **Marques Johnson**
 "I am going to Trident for my first year then hopefully transfer to College of Charleston."- **Brandi Bruorton**
 " I plan to attend Hampton University or Morgan State University and major in political science with a music minor. I plan to have as much fun as possible but at the same time get an education."- **Renee McDaniel**
 " To raise my baby boy, Jose Malachi Hawkins."- **Autumn Germroth**
 "Attending the Boston Conservatory, majoring in Musical Theatre."- **Liz Newell**
 "Going to College of Charleston or FMU."- **Frank Wright**



In the beginning: Jennie Leonard and Ryan Scott, SOA 7th graders in 1995.



"Film major at North Carolina School of the Arts - and soon thereafter off to LA."
-Craig Baurley

"Just chill, post - up on the block, and have fun with my home boys and lady friends."- **Julius Jones**
 "After graduation, I'll be attending Furman University. Originally I planned to study Computer Science for all four years, but in recent weeks I've discovered that I have absolutely no idea what I really want to do with my life. I suppose I'll find out. Whatever I study, though, I'll work hard to earn my Ph.D. in the field."- **Michael Badger**
 "To sleep, perchance to dream, to read my own stuff for the first time in 8 or so months. Oh, yeah, probably I'll go to college and get a good job."-**Dustin Moss**
 "To attend Tulane University in New Orleans; major in international political economy while working on a graduate degree in anthropology, and then go into the

Peace Corps."-**Elaine Hume**
 "To attend Reed College in Portland, Oregon."-**Chandler Jenrette**
 "I plan to go to NYU and then, hopefully, law school. I hope to become an international (specifically immigration) lawyer and a wonderful mother."- **Benny Boutrouille**
 "I'm attending Charleston Southern University and majoring in church music. I want to be a worship leader in the church."-**Christina Davenport**
 "Attend USC for 2 years, transfer to Furman in my junior year, then complete graduate school and eventually practice medicine." -**Sohayla Roudsari**
 "To attend Oberlin College in Ohio."-**Alison Palmer**
 "I will be attending the Honors Program at the College of Charleston."-**Keverlee Burchett**
 "Rest and make all the money I can to prepare for college. Oh yeah! I plan to attend either Wofford or C of C--you'll find out whenever I start."- **Hamadi Brown**

Do you have any advice for underclassmen?

"Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart." - Psalms 37:4 -**Michael Badger**
 "Not really, there's not too much hope for most of the underclassmen." - **Dustin Moss**
 "Always address your papers; play outside and don't take anything too seriously." -**Elaine Hume**
 "Don't stress out! Everything has a purpose! And most importantly, don't forget to laugh!" -**Benny Boutrouille**
 "This is an awesome, one of a kind school. Take advantage of this opportunity and devote yourself to your major. Make as many good memories as possible!" -**Christina Davenport**



Micheal Cardaronella performs

Senior Survey

"Work hard but don't overlook those moments when you begin to live, to see, to love. Make of life all that you yearn. Never hesitate. Keep dreaming. Trust yourself."-**Sohayla Roudsari**

"Enjoy life."-**Alison Palmer**

"Never have a big heart and say YES to everything (Kosher that is) because "No" will cause them to leave you alone. Live for yourself and "Gray hair" will never haunt you."-**Hamadi Brown**

"Love your seniors!!"- **Liz Newell**

"Within a second your life can change drastically, whether it be good or bad, don't let it get you down. Life goes on."- **Autumn Germroth**

"To juniors, begin college applications over the summer. Also begin a scholarship search. To all the rest do the best that you possibly can. Don't put things off until the last minute."- **Renee McDaniel**

"Work hard the first three years so you can slack off and enjoy your senior year. You will make it if you keep that attitude."- **Brandi Bruortan**

"Take advantage of everything that comes your way and live life to the fullest."- **Marques Johnson**

"Do not wait 'til your senior year to let your grades slip. Also, be all that you can be."- **Kristin Moore**

"Listen to the seniors. Or else."- **John Chritton**

"Be true to yourself and make sure you know who your true friends are."- **Elizabeth Steele**

"High school is only 10% of your life, but for now, it must be there to create the other 90%. It doesn't help to cry about it, but it does a lot to try about it."- **Alan Strozier**

"Be yourself or you will look pretty dumb trying to imitate someone that your not."- **Derek Mosier**

"Cherish every moment"- **Ashli Bogart**

"My advice for underclassmen is to be your own individual never let anyone block your paths in the decisions you try to make."- **NeToshia McCullough**

"I know sometimes it feels like school will never end, but once you get to the end, you look back and can't believe how last its flown by."- **Suzanne Roane**

"Always shoot for your goals. Don't ever listen to the put downs people say because they are always wrong."- **Micheal Cardaronella**

"Make sure you do well in your studies at the beginning of the year because after December, senioritos kicks in."- **Jessica Grantham**

"[Females:] Do not get pregnant until you are old enough and married"- **Brandy Richardson**

What is your most memorable moment at SOA?

"My most memorable moment at SOA would have to be 9th grade in French II class when I use to steal candies from Mrs. Lannie. I use to pick her cabinet locker and snatch all of the candies I could get."

- **Frank Wright**

"Well, when John Chritton first started going to school here last year, he and I had to work together on tech in theater together. One night we were working on the set for *The Importance of being Earnest* and we needed spray paint. Everybody knows that I am one of the weakest people in theater. I asked John to open the new can he, tried and and tried and tried. Well, I grabbed it from him and pushed that little thing you used to open it up with and "pop," the top came off. Kate and I will never let John forget that moment." - **Lauren Fanning**

"My most memorable moment at SOA was this year's vocal spring performance. The seniors were asked to speak back - stage to everyone. Almost everyone was in tears. We shared a moment remembering our past together. During the performance few of us were still in tears. I will never forget my last high school spring performance." - **Bonnie Tumbleston**

"My most memorable moment was when Christina Davenport, Amber Hood, Ramsey Winn, Bonnie Tumbleston and I dressed up as the Spice Girls and performed "If you Wanna be my lover" at the Cavalero. I was Scary Spice and all of us were half dressed. We had the crowd going crazy and we had so much fun because we got to know each other a little more and bring us together." - **Alisia Frazier**

"My most memorable moment was when me and one of my fellow classmates were outside wrestling and I had a skirt on and everyone got a little peek." - **Brandy Richardson**

"My most memorable moment is when Marques Johnson (8th grade) jumped up on the cafeteria table and began to serenade us with "Smooth Operator" and 'If you want my body and you think I'm sexy....' for quarters." - **Jessica Grantham**

Come Fly With Us

Charleston County School of the Arts
presents

Peter Pan

North Charleston Performing Arts Center
January 24 & 25, 2002

Student Matinee, 10:00 AM; Evening, 7:00 PM
Ticket Prices

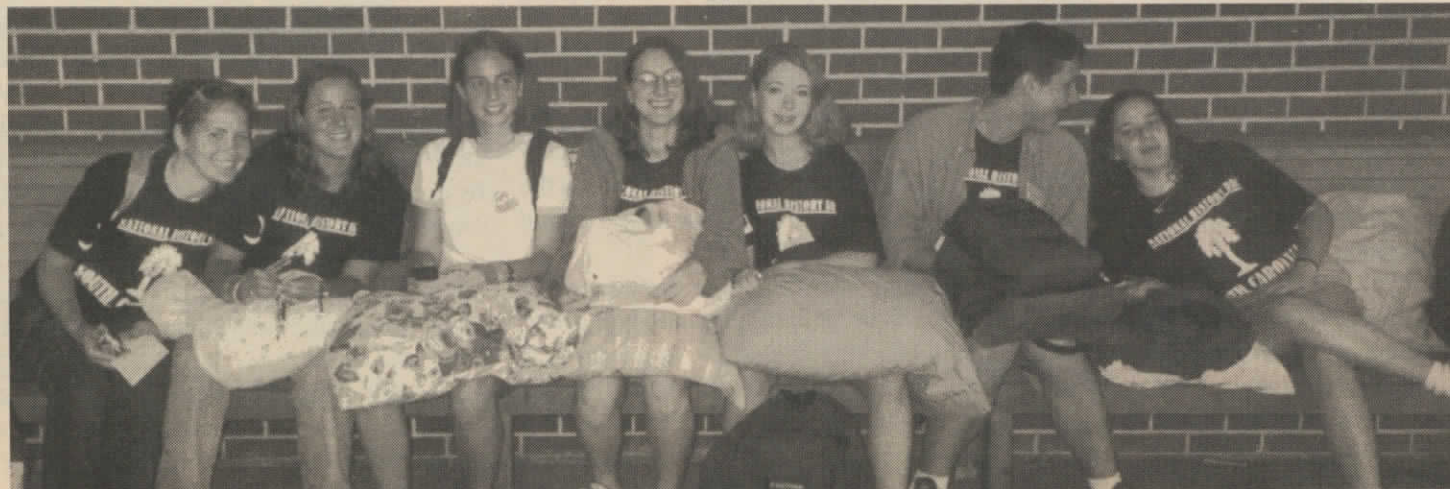
Student Matinee: \$3.00

Student Evening: \$5.00, Adult Evening: \$10.00

Great Fun for the Kid in All of Us!

For more information contact Evelyn LaDue at SOA (843) 529-4990

Keverlee Burchett, Abby Heston, Alison Palmer, Sohayla Roudsari, Tracy Cantwell, Adam Kassim, and Ann Carter travel to the National History Day Competition in Washington DC.



Seniors Reflect On Years at SOA

SOA seniors submitted the following essays to Applause reflecting on their time at SOA, the future, or a great teacher.



Sohayla Roudsari

After six years it's hard to remember what it was like as a seventh grader first enrolling in the School of the Arts. It seems in those early years that I was torn between my devotion for SOA and a yearning for the "true high school experience." So much has changed. We have redefined the "true high school experience," for how many schools can boast that they have a class of no more than seventy closely knit seniors who each specialize in a creative art. The subtle differences in SOA's Class of 2001 are what characterize SOA as a whole. We distinguish ourselves from others and in this way we create a unique spirit all our own.

Many people have described the relationships among the seniors at SOA as being much like that of a family. Perhaps it was the time span; I mean we have had since seventh grade to bond. It could have been that we were always the first- the trailblazers and in many cases the guinea pigs. Maybe it was the united- we-stand- protecting- ourselves- from- the- ghetto- which- encircles- our- school approach. More likely though, it was the common respect and appreciation for the arts that "married" us. A kinship exists among us, an unspoken connection of goals and spirit. We have looked to each other for inspiration on many occasions, for we have always been conscious of our link.

The most important ingredient in our Class of 2001 is the sense of community and in this way, we are unique. Each of us is creative, innovative, some are intense and even deviate from conventional "territory" on a regular basis, but essentially we all see the arts as a means of enrichment and value its presence in our lives. I'm not sure what in seventh grade made me think that I would be missing something in not experiencing the "true high school experience," but I think the "true high school experience" is what you make of it and I chose to make it my experience here at SOA, a decision I have never regretted.



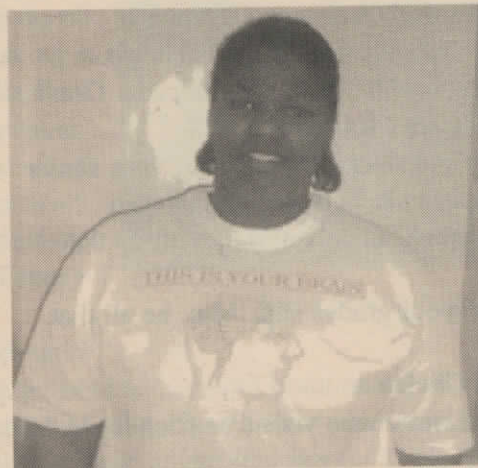
W.P. Trompeter

How does one reflect on six years of utter insanity? Does one simply think of the fact that one survived it, or perhaps that one still maintained some semblance of dignity during the ordeal? In my case, I can't do either. The six years I've spent at this school have been at once my best and worst times, easily memorable simply because of their absurdity. I've seen some of the most warped individuals in the history of mankind. I've seen bizarre

spectacles that would turn the heads of even the most stoic observer, and I've lived and laughed through it all. I wonder at times whether or not I would be the same person that I am if I'd gone somewhere else, and I realize that I'd probably be a much more bitter, boring person. I reflect on the year in which I participated in "Assailant," which was at the time the most anticipated "film" of the year. Oh, what heady days were those, when we strode about Mrs. Harvey's class like giants! Hardly a scream or a command to "sit down" ever touched our ears, so high in the clouds were we! Ahh...glorious days! Then came the venerable "Southern Beatdown," unchanged in all this time, standing like a dark, mysterious monument to our warped imaginations, never caring what the general populous believed, only that we laughed. Oh, how we laughed. We laughed, and then grew silent when the people looked at us in fear and wonder. Then, when they'd looked away, we started laughing again.

Anyway, enough of this blathering, I'm going to get to the point. I've thoroughly enjoyed going to this school, much more than I ever would going anywhere else. I feel that I've excelled academically and artistically, and I am very satisfied with where I am at this point in time. Indeed, attending this school opened up entire avenues for me to explore. Never in my life had I realized the intense time consumption that art required, nor did I realize how much of it was technical. Only after I'd mastered the technical aspect did I realize that the rest was up to me

and my imagination. Through the expert tutelage of the instructors in my school career, I've excelled beyond even my wildest dreams. Six years ago, I would never have imagined that I'd be where I am. At the risk of sounding like a complete sap, this school has made all my aspirations a reality. Suddenly, they don't seem so far away. Probably what means the most to me are the people that I've met along the way. I've seen people just as bizarre as I am, and I cannot possibly convey in words how refreshing it is to see this. They've made me laugh; they've made me scream, and they've made me nearly go completely mad. But it's been a great ride. So, to all my friends, here and elsewhere, I'll see you later on down the road.



Lakeisha Montgomery

As I reflect on the past six years here at SOA, I see things that I've done and wished I hadn't done, and I see things that I should have done and didn't do. I've made so many bad decisions (it happens to the best of us), but I've also made so many good decisions. I mean, one can never taste the sweet nectar of a good decision, a good deed, or a good experience until one has tasted the bitter juices of all the bad decisions, deeds, and experiences. Also, I've had so many doubts and questions, as there

always will be, about things that I do, don't do, or have done. The decision I've questioned most is was it a right choice in choosing to stay at SOA. However, that has proved to be a question only time can answer in complete detail. I do not regret my choice of staying at SOA, for the most part, because of a few reasons: one, the integration of an arts/academic curriculum; two, friendships; and three, opportunities.

For as long as I could remember, all I wanted to do was sing and make music, and I felt like I was very capable of doing that and doing it well. Also, being the eldest grand on both sides, I was pushed to do well in school so I could be the first to go to college. When I was given the chance to do what I loved and excel academically, I jumped. I have grown to respect so many other forms of music and I have grown to understand music as a whole and what some people go through for their love of music. I have also grown as a student and I've learned to expect much more from myself, from my peers, and from my teachers. Although my feelings toward both the musical, as well as the academic side of school have wavered, there is always that one thing that kept me looking ahead to the next day: friendship

Friends make the worst situations easier to handle. It's always good to have someone or some group of people to talk to. People who you can just sit around with and laugh, cry, sing, dance, or just sit. The friendships we make anywhere are very important, but the friendships made here are also very special. Since we are such a small group, an elite group almost, compared to our peers at other schools, we get to know each other better and faster, and we are all brought together by our love and respect for the arts, also our desire to learn more about the arts. With the special bond we develop and the special education we receive at the School of the Arts, we are given certain opportunities to excel in life, an advantage that the students at the other schools don't have.

You are responsible for what you make of the opportunities given you here at this school. Take the chance to get the extra exposure in your art area, take advantage of the exceptional teaching staff, and take advantage of the chance to be both exceptionally intelligent, as well as talented. Take advantage of the chance to get to know your peers, your upperclassmen (trust me, you'll need their help one day or another), and also your teachers, as you travel around the state, around the country, and around the world. Also, take advantage of the chance to enjoy life the way no one else can. Be open minded; be a risk taker. but most of all, be yourself, because if you don't, life can run away with you and it becomes too complicated to enjoy.

I would love to close this piece out with some words of wisdom but all I can say is take advantage of everything that has the potential to be worthwhile, make as many friends as possible, but choose friends wisely, and be sure to appreciate everything you've been blessed with and the experiences you will be lucky enough to experience. I know the past six years for me have been rocky, but the best parts of my journey have been on top of the mountain looking back into the valley at what I have overcome. I will never forget the good or the bad times I've had, and I will never forget SOA.

Best Wishes, Seniors!

Tracy Cantwell

You have the ability to become
all you are capable of becoming.
Forget problems that don't matter anymore
and worries that will wash away on the shore
of tomorrow.
Determine your own worth
by yourself,
and do not be dependent
on another's judgement of you.
Dare to dream,
and live those dreams
for it is then
that you can begin to realize
your true destiny.
Live life fully
with thankfulness and joy
for all the gifts
you have been given.
Love, Mr. and Mrs. B.

Ashli Bogart

Goals are dreams and wishes
that are not easily reached.
You have to work hard
to obtain them,
never knowing when
or where
you will reach your goal.

But keep trying!
Do not give up hope.
And most of all...
never stop
believing in yourself.

For within you
there is someone
special...

someone wonderful
and successful.
No matter what you achieve,
as long as you want it
and it makes you
happy,

you are a success.

Love, Mom and Dad

Adam Kassim

Keep within your heart
A place apart
Where little dreams may go,
May thrive and grow.
Hold fast- Hold fast your dreams!

Love, Mom

Patrick Trompeter

Patrick- you truly are a blessed individual. You are gifted with an endless array of talents and opportunities, a strong awareness of the importance of being you. Create your own moments and explore your gifts. Be yourself - if not, the world will lose a most precious gift. Your life is yours - an empty stage, a blank canvas - with you as the artist. Always remember the vast potential with which you have been blessed. We are so proud of the man you have become.

-Love Mom and Dad

Lakeshia Montgomery

Congrats! We love you and will miss you so much next year! Good Luck!
Love,
Amber Rosintoski and Kristen Granet

Craig Baurley

Dear Craig:

Good luck at NCARTS! We are proud of you. We hope everyone has the good sense to buy your SOA video or cd (and *Placebo & Assailant*) while supplies last.

Love, Mom & Dad

Class of 2001

"Never let anyone tell you what to do. Remember not everything in life is as black and white as it seems."
- John Fisher

To Dustin and the class of 2001:

Keep a brave spirit and never despair,
Hope brings you messages through the keen air...
Good is victorious, God everywhere.

Grand are the battles which you have to fight,
Be not downhearted, but valiant for right;
Hope, and press forward your face to the light.

You are my sunshine,
Love, Mom

To the Class of 2001:

Congratulations to a "1st class" first class.
-Ramona Middleton

The Guinea Pigs (aka The Seniors)

As Jerry Garcia once said:
"What a long, strange trip it's been!" And we took it together!
Love,
Ms. Miller
(Your first SOA Guidance Counselor)



Katie McTighe and Jennie Leanord

Seniors Reflect



Chandler Jenrette

My first day at SOA was my first day at a new school since I was six. Going from an all girls private school to a bus shared with Charlestowne Academy kids was shocking enough, but coming to an entirely new place was somewhat terrifying. I very clearly remember my first minute at SOA. I was searching for my homeroom when out of nowhere Michelle Beck ran up to me and gave me a huge hug. I'd met Michelle exactly once, for an approximately thirty second introduction months before, and suddenly here she is making me

feel like we were old friends. This experience sort of sums up the whole SOA atmosphere to me: you are welcomed with a warm embrace.

It's easy to break schools into the rather typical high school groupings and cliques. You separate everyone into their token crews--the popular kids, the athletes, the loners, and other various sitcom-cliches. But here you can't do that. Here people surpass those kind of boundaries a little more easily than they might at an ordinary high school. Here people get along together a little more easily and accept differences a little more. That's not to say that SOA is some sort of utopian society for uniqueness where everyone holds hands and skips. It is, however, much more open than most other schools around here: it is not likely that you could perform a thesis on the theater of the absurd or wear a gown to school at James Island or Wando.

SOA, while certainly not flawless, has been consistently embracing in my past three years here. The SOA environment seems to nurture the concept of making friends outside of the stereotype--I have friends here that I never would have had outside of this school. Being a student at SOA allows you to flaunt your differences a little more openly than you might elsewhere, and that makes it extraordinary.



Allison Menick

There isn't one adjective that would properly and fully describe my six years at School of the Arts. I will always remember my feeling of anxiety and excitement when I first entered the doors of SOA when I was only a small seventh grader. Since then my class has lead the way making SOA what it is today. Since we have been seniors every year we have played the part of the guinea pigs to see what works and what doesn't, and I wouldn't have missed that experience for the world. There have been tough times,

but that makes the good times even sweeter. Attending SOA has been the greatest six years of my life. I owe it all to Mrs. Myers, the teachers that have stuck with us, and the amazing senior class. Without all of our perseverance SOA might not be the success it is today.

Whenever I tell people that I go to School of the Arts, they either laugh, make fun of it, or think I must be some kind of dork. These people are just ignorant to how awesome this school really is. Yes, I would have to agree with them that SOA isn't the "normal high school experience," but thank God for that. I know SOA doesn't have a football team or Homecoming, but I would gladly trade that in for our school any day. One thing that makes me love this place so much is the closeness of the students. The senior class is especially fun and close. Many of my teachers have been wonderful and have become friends with us. There is so much more I could say about SOA, but it would never end. The relationships that I have had at this school have been wonderful and ones that I will never forget for the rest of my life. I guess the only other thing I can say is that I have an amazing experience at SOA and my hope is that other students will get out of it as much as I had.



Benedicte Boutrouille

The difference between reality and illusion is a concept that unfortunately takes many bruises and bumps to learn. Entering high school, it seemed to me that I had everything figured out. High school was going to be a walk in the park, full of fun and maybe just a little bit of hard work. Unfortunately, my idealistic views could not have been further from the truth.

During my freshman year, I quickly realized that I would be lucky enough to find even time to think about having fun. High school was filled with decisions, essays, projects, exams, etc. It suddenly dawned on me that

the person I was in middle school had to quickly grow up in order to even have a chance to adjust to this new environment. I suddenly found myself lost in the murky waters of high school, where who you hang with and how you act falsely seem to have a great importance in the social rounds of high school. By the end of my freshman year, any trace left of my middle school youth was gone, and I could barely tell who I was or who I had become. Friends who had seemed to be best friends only ended up being lost in the crowd as well. I was so utterly confused to the point that having priorities was as hard as deciding between vanilla and chocolate ice-cream. Everything around me that had any sort of appeal only came out to be sugar-coated, having no inner value. When reaching out, I only came up empty-handed.

Since then, I have recognized the importance of distinguishing between what is real and what is not; however, this is a task that is much more easily said than done. Even with this realization, I seem to slip up a little bit everyday. But, I guess you can say that I have just become a little more graceful at the routine. So this is my feeble knowledge that I have given to the underclassmen. Yes, high school is hard, but that is reality. No, you don't know everything, but you are not supposed to. Always, always asks questions! How else are you going to find out anything? Sort out the weeds from the grass and hang on to those friends that will stick by during those hard times. Shedding tears is normal; just don't forget to laugh! Last, know that you will probably make the same mistakes over and over again, but, hey, it wouldn't be high school if you didn't. Come to think of it, it wouldn't be life!



Christina Davenport

Well, it's finally here. The day we've been anxiously awaiting for the past twelve years. The day our parents have dreaded (unless you're one of those "problem" children). Can you believe it? The first ever senior class of SOA is GRADUATING!! We've sent out the invitations and secured our college plans. Now it's time to look back over the years and smile at all we've accomplished.

We began this journey together six years ago. We came from different places, but this school brought us together as a kind of family. Yes, just like all families,

we didn't always get along. And we had our very own SOA soap operas. But we stuck it out as a group and look where we made it! We made it through the beginning stages of SOA and set a high standard for the future graduates of SOA to follow. We did what a lot of people thought impossible. But what were our critics expecting? We're a bunch of strong-willed, determined, unique artists! There was no way we were giving up.

And now, six years after our first day at SOA, we've come to the end of our time here. We're moving on to a new stage in our lives. But, even though we're all going in different directions, there's one thing that each one of us will take away from our experience here: we'll never forget the laughs we've shared, the advice we've given (or received) and those priceless moments that only SOA can have. We've left our mark on this school- now wish us luck as we begin a new phase in our lives and begin leaving our mark on the world.

Recent Events

School of the Arts First Junior-Senior Prom 21 April 2001



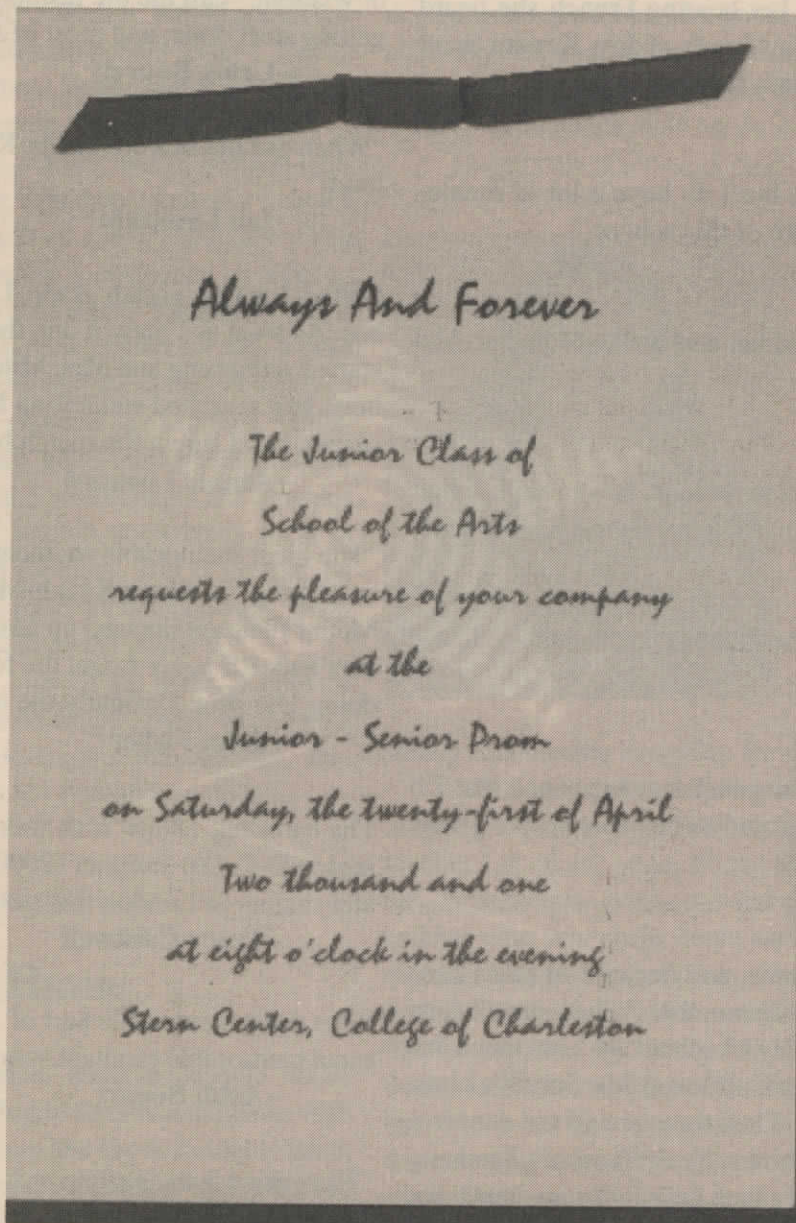
Stephen Soles and his date



Russell Paterson and Kristen Moore



Mr. Murray and Ms. Marshall



John Fisher and Rachel Taylor celebrate their one year anniversary.



Robbie DeCola and Deas Richardson show off the ladies



Tim Hiott and Traci Cantwell



Kate Colbert and Adam Kassim

"Always and Forever" Stern Center College of Charleston



Michael Badger and his lady

Seniors Respond

What was your most memorable moment at SOA?

"I can remember when NeToshia, Kendra, Russell and I were in the 9th grade and we were in French class. This was the day where we had a listening test that required a recording on the tape player. We decided it would be funny if we switched the tape. We put in "Come on Ride that train" by Quad City DJ's. Ms. Lannie went to press play on the tape recorder and the music blasted out so loud. We got up and began dancing all around the classroom."

- **Renne McDaniel**

"My most memorable was when we were in French class. One day Mrs. Lannie went to do the oral part of one of our French tests. When she went to press play on the cassette player instead of her hearing French she heard "Will the Circle be Unbroken" by the Mighty Clouds of Joy. Kendra Scott and I had already switched the tapes when class first began."

- **NeToshia McCullough**

"I don't have one most memorable moment, but I do have a lot of memorable moments that make up my whole picture of this school."

- **Derek Mosier**

"When Hamadi put on Mrs. Hart's jacket and hat and walked like her, and when Lakeisha's car was on fire."

- **Elizabeth Steele**

"Probably the theater majors senior thesis presentations. It was really great to see everyone pitch in to make it work; or anything involving Ryan Scott."

- **John Chritton**

"My most memorable moment at SOA was the first day. I remember it like it was yesterday!"

- **Brandi Bruorton**

"I don't have just one memorable moment, so much has happened that I'll always remember - like the people I've met, and the trouble we've gotten into."

- **Autumn Germroth**

"These past 2 years have been totally awesome, and because of that I can't think of one particular moment that's really "memorable." There are all sorts of things worth writing about like my first day of school, or how much fun Bonnie, Christina, and I used to have in vocal, all loved Mr. Smyth's class, but I hated Physics (I'm so BAD at Physics). Then there are all the concerts, plays, "pep rallies" (right....) and the talent shows (Yeah Hanson!). I remember in "Guys and Dolls" when I got that one - inch splinter in my hand, and how that play inadvertently got Todd and me to the International Thespian Festival. Basically, I have nothing but fond memories from my brief time at SOA, 2nd I'm glad that I've had so many good experiences here."

- **Liz Newell**



"Patrick slammed his lunch box on the lunch table and I opened a soda that was in there. It sprayed all over me and Kiwi (Kwayera Davis) laughed at me. This moment was made memorable by Kiwi's distinctive laugh that is louder than a fog horn. It was very funny."

- **Justin Babcock**

"It would be hard to point out one defining moment; certain instances over the years strike me as particularly amusing - but in their own ways meaningful if you were there. Watching Ryan's swim meet at late SOA, Frank's Bulece (s??) chronicles, the Mr. Big Dance, Patrick's Scottish rants, Justin's words of wisdom, "call me ole fashion!", stray dogs, Kowalski's distinctive way of getting stuff done, and most of ALL WILBUR: the art room goat. BAHHH!"

- **Craig Baurely**

"When our old bus driver Mr. Kashmirian called the police on us for being too loud."

- **Ian Lampkin**

"When I was in eighth grade, I was bored so I lit a match on Mrs. Mitchell's bus. As soon as I blew it out, the whole bus could smell the match. Everyone started screaming and Mrs. Mitchell got really angry and started yelling about book bag searched and telling Mrs. Bastian so that who ever did it would get suspended. I threw the match book out the window and never got caught."

- **Jennie Leonard**

"The most memorable moment at SOA that I can actually remember would be making "Southern Beatdown"!! Really, running all around Charleston and Mount Pleasant dressed up like Abe Lincoln was probably the most fun I've ever had. I'll never forget the forces of everyone who drove by us as we were doing the shot. Definately the most memorable."

- **John Fisher**

The traveling : New York was taken over by SOA in 1999! I went to Washington D.C. last summer (2000) for National History Day (lots of fun), Theater majors in London this past January was a blast!"

- **Tracy Cantwell**

"The most memorable part of SOA has been all the people I've met. But the most memorable moment was when we took a trip to New York."

- **Ashli Bogart**

"The time I was "authorized" to climb in the boys bathroom window by a faculty member to unlock the school for my fellow classmates after hours."

- **Rob DeCola**

"I have many favorites: Mr. Shaw ending every test with the question "What is my favorite beverage?" The time the cat ACTUALLY threw up in my printer and no one would believe me. The sight of Patrick trying to chase down Ryan (imagine a lemur being chased down by a hairy Buick). Madi going into seizures in class and nobody else noticing."

- **Dustin Moss**

"Becoming a Bubbette at Bowen's Island Bar. "It's just this moment of yes." Every moment involving Mr. Murray. AP English. Near death experiences on the way to and from school (every day). Throwing binders and outrageous fights with Lydia every day. That awkward question in Biology. Driving up and down Edisto with Sasha. Being late for every single band concert. Dissecting pigs and failing the exam. Mrs. Yartsco's 10th grade English class. Building the set for *Oklahoma*. Nervous brekdowns and heated arguments. May 26."

- **Keverlee Burchett**

Question of the Month

What is your most memorable moment from the past six years at SOA?



The Halloween that Russell Patterson and Justin Babcock came dressed as ladies.

- Ms. Miller
Guidance

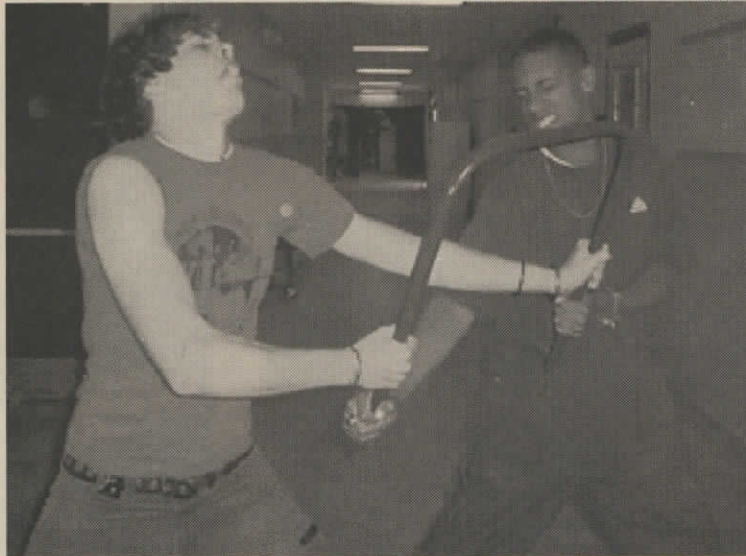
"Oklahoma," 'cause we didn't have class for 2 weeks.

-Kelly Blohme
11th Grade



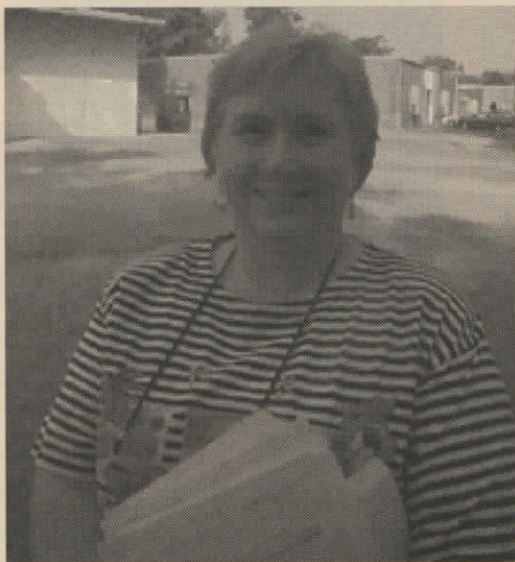
Ninja eyes in the band room closet, beating Charles mercilessly. And then Nostril City with Mrs. Frazier.

-Joel Hamilton (11th)
and Ian Lampkin (12th)



The Visual Arts teachers. First Kowalski, then Jaycie, now Moore. Never a dull moment.

-James Ulmer
11th Grade



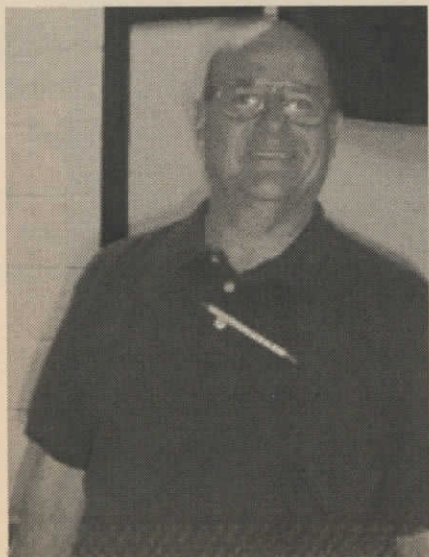
Probably what I enjoyed the most were the early Art Smart performances. And when the arts areas & academic areas were more cohesive.

-Mrs. Graves
Middle School History



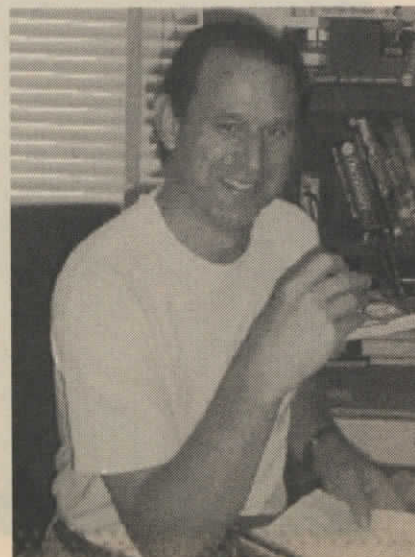
Italy. (This was the only consensus to be drawn from them.)

-Original Senior Art Class



Two things: the first meeting with all the students and the second thing was when the entire school participated in the "Giver" project; and the day when my Air Conditioner worked.

-Mr. Ritche
Middle School Band



The very first day, when I auditioned everybody at St. Andrews auditorium.

-Mr. Locklair
Theater

Congratulations



Lauren Fanning

We are so very proud of you. You have grown into a lovely, talented and extremely independent young lady. Our prayer for you is that God will richly bless you and the lives you touch as you move into this wonderful new phase of your life. We love you very much.
Love,
Mom, Dad, Rebecca, and Jacob



Congrats to a wonderful daughter, a great sister and a good friend, You are the best!
Love,
Mom, Dad & kids

Elizabeth Steele

Ian Christian Lampkin

Scholarly, athletic, musical, gifted, successful, outstanding, wonderful, creative, faithful, spiritual, confident, buddy, artist, son, brother...As a family, we have the honor of using words that are descriptive of our SOA graduate, Ian. There really are no sufficient words to express our PRIDE.



We are so proud of you, congratulations, with all our Love, Nini, Popi, Grandma and Grandad

How will we get to school next year?
-Matt, Mike and Emily. We love you.

Keverlee Burchett



Keverlee, you are the best daughter and big sister a family could ask for. We are tremendously proud of you. Congratulations!

Love, Bill,
Mom, Felicity,
Mallory, and Will.

Michael Badger

Michael,
We are so proud of you! You're still the best kid we know!
Love,
Mom and Dad



Jessica Grantham

You've come a long way baby! Baby-Cake or Jesse-Cakes or Cakie-du-flopper! We are so proud of all you have become. Praying blessings for an exciting future!

-The Grantham Girls

Christina Davenport

Christina,
We are very proud of you and who you have become and of all your achievements. Keep your focus and know that we love you very much.

Daddy, Mama, and Caroline



Congratulations

Chandler Jenrette



The Princess of France



But the ARE Blanche, aren't cha?

Ah bah boo From The Dwindling Party



The sun is a mass of incandescent gas



It's a Beautiful Dayyyyy!



she was so changed, he did not recognize her



I have a string? Do you have a string? I have a string.



My, how the tables have turned. Love from Elliott, The Superior Child



"I'm 51," says a burly auto mechanic "I never even went bowling until I went nude bowling."

Bah By



Nikki Griffin

With all that determination, we know you will succeed at anything you do. Congratulations! We love you!

-Mom and Mike



Josh Pape

Congratulations - You made it! We love you and will always be here to support you and your dreams. "Eabokey"

-Dad, Mom, Tim and Rebecca
It has been real!



Alli Menick

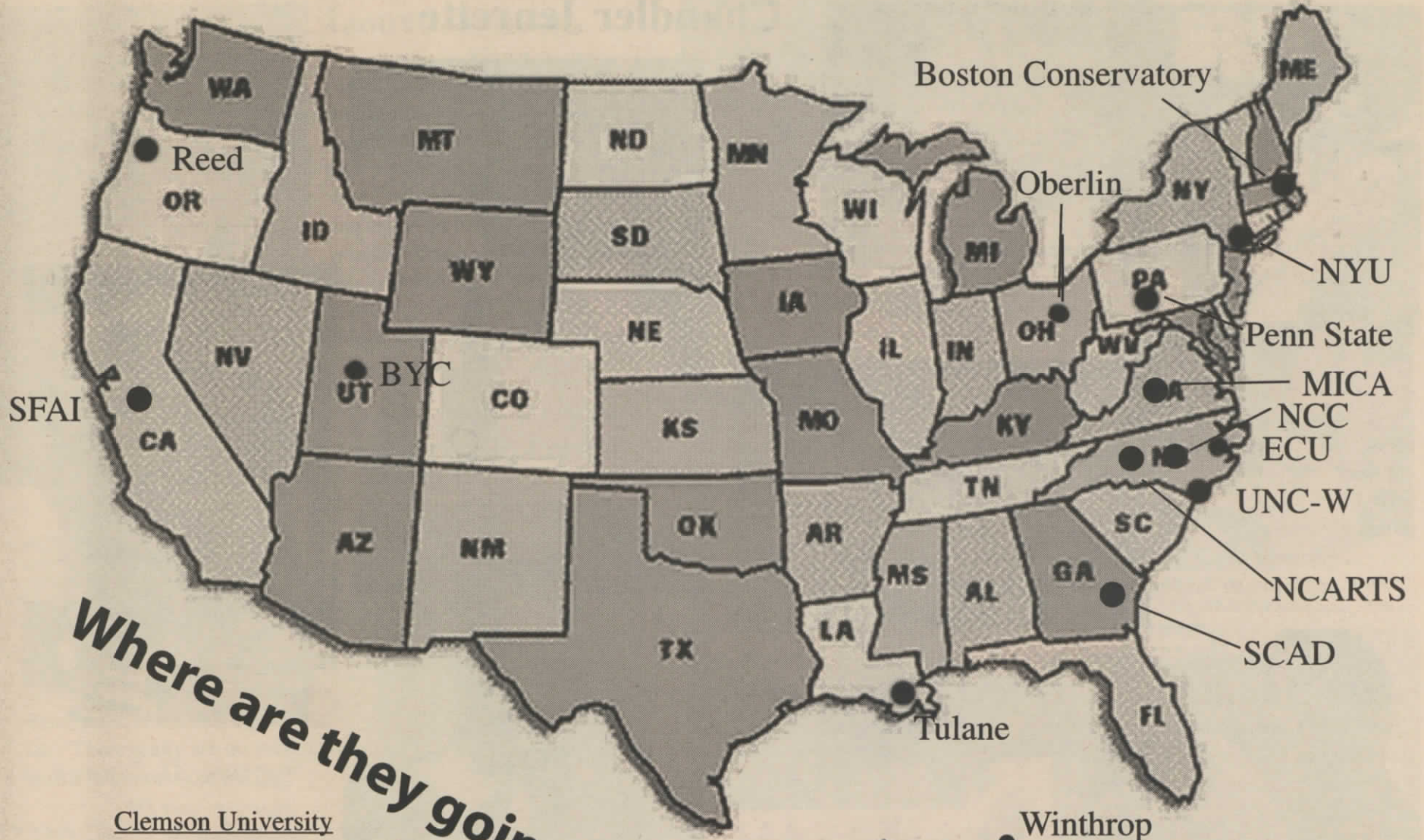
"Sigh no more ladies, sigh no more Men were deceivers ever; One foot on shore, and one on sea To one thing constant never. But sight not so, and let them go Converting all your sounds of woe Into hey nonny, nonny!"

-William Shakespeare

Alli--We have been blessed to be a part of your prologue--We're looking forward to Act I! Congratulations and Much Ado About You!

Love, Mom and Dad

College Choices



Where are they going?

Clemson University
Dustin Moss Justin Babcock John Fisher

Furman University
Tracy Cantwell Michael Badger

North Carolina Central
Kristen Moore

University of South Carolina
Robbie DeCola
Sohayla Roudsari

Pennsylvania State University
Todd Adamson

Eastern Carolina University
Jessica Grantham

North Carolina School of the Arts
Craig Baurley

Brigham Young University
Scott Adams

Newberry College
Nikki Griffin

Boston Conservatory
Liz Newell

Charleston Southern University
Christina Davenport
Bonnie Tumbleston

College of Charleston
John Chritton Keverlee Burchett Shannon O'Shea Alan Strozier
Patrick Trompeter Katie McTighe Ian Lampkin

New York University
Ann Carter Benedicte Boutrouille

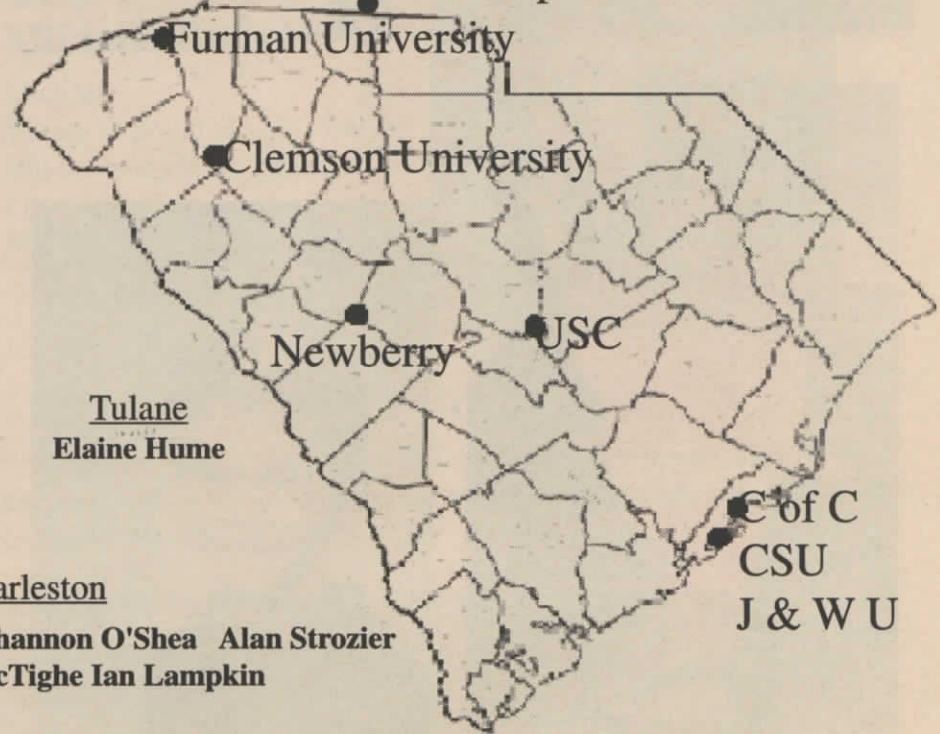
Maryland Institute College of Art
Rachel Corbett

San Francisco Art Institute
Sasha Shaw

Reed College
Chandler Jenrette

Savannah College of Art and Design
Jennie Leonard
Davis Auld

Oberlin College
Alison Palmer

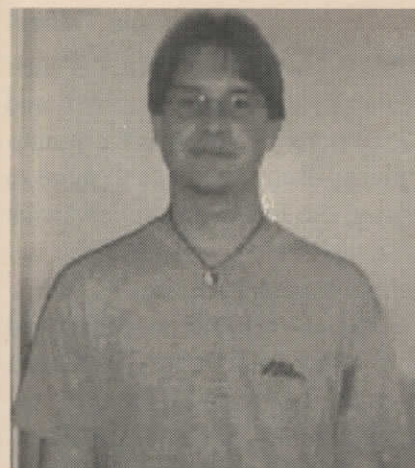


University of North Carolina-Wilmington
Ashli Bogart

Johnson & Wales University
Kendra Scott

Winthrop College
Hamadi Brown

Seniors Reflect



John Fisher

In the year 2011, I'm not quite sure what I'll be doing. I can sure tell you where I hope to be, though! I hope to be living in Japan writing game music for Video Games. Now I know what you're probably thinking, "Video Games? Geh, that figures!" And you know what? It probably does. But, there's a lot of money in that kind of a profession! Admit it, where are all the good music composers today? Doing entertainment work, and that includes

movies and video games! Getting there, however, will be half the fun.

First of all, I plan to get a good education, starting with Clemson University as a computer science major. Believe it or not, computer science will probably actually help me in landing a job as a VG composer. You know? I mean, you have to know how to operate a computer in order to program the music right? Of course! Next, I'd probably transfer to a college that has a good music education program. The reason for this would be to better my understanding of different theory and the different kinds of combinations you can have with the various musical instruments. Basically, I would do this so I can learn what sounds good with what, and how I could use these to my fullest extent. After that, I would begin the rigorous job hunt. I'd probably apply to some well known companies such as SquareSoft, Capcom, or maybe even Working Designs. But of course, I'd also apply to other companies as well which aren't as well known. Hey, you can reach for the stars, but that doesn't mean you'll make it.

Well, that's what I want to do, and that's how I'd get there. I know it may not seem like the greatest job or the most profitable, but it would be a good job for me. I certainly think that I would enjoy a job like that. Regardless, come find me at our reunion and see if I was able to do it!



Elaine Hume

I remember middle school: SOA seemed so big in the seventh grade; with dark hallways and the formidable brick building it was much more "school-like" than the downtown Baptist school I'd attended since first grade. Soon, however, the intimidation factor faded and I fell into easy patterns of middle school life. I remember Friday afternoon mad-

ness. We ran around like fiends, reveling in freedom and our own energy. We spent major time talking about anything but creative writing. My friends and the people I wanted to be friends with were more important than any short story. Rather than enjoying the opportunities I was given, I plowed through middle school with a typical middle school mentality.

Then there was high school: I struggled with the limitations of our course offerings. I wasn't sure if I wanted to keep writing. The pettiness of social interaction intensified. There seemed to be an overall consensus that SOA wasn't a "real" high school. Without sports, varied academic offerings, and a set reputation, SOA wasn't appealing to many students anymore. The novelty of an arts school wore off when we were faced with the issue of dedication.

After ninth grade it seemed SOA suffered a mass exodus. Our classmates left for other schools, where they thought they would benefit from more "opportunities." But those that stayed, and did because they enjoyed the atmosphere, the dedication of their peers, the unique situation, helped create an environment that I'll always remember. Much of what exists at SOA today is the result of persistent student action. In addition, the students who have stayed, and those who have come in over the years have proven their ability and desire to achieve and create.

I challenge the younger students at SOA to question everything. Why are you here? Do you love your major? Are you dedicated to the pursuit of the arts and education? Are you willing to deal with and change situations that don't meet your expectations? Will you, when friendships falter and teachers disappoint, remember why you made the decision to come here? Can you take advantage of everything that SOA has to offer and will you make your own contributions? Good luck, all.



Ann Carter

"I'm not here to be your friend. I'm not here to be your buddy. I'm not here to be nice. I'm here to be your teacher and teach."

I looked around the semicircle of students to see their intimidated faces. It was the first day of seventh grade in a brand new school and this teacher was laying down the law with a fist of iron and voice of flames. Every corroding seventh grader feared what the next year would be like,

seeing this teacher everyday for theater class.

Six years later, nearing the end of my senior year, I look back and laugh at the memory of my first day in theater. Mr. Locklair, my theater teacher for all six years of my SOA education. He scared everybody that day, which seems both eons and moments ago. Who knew that the towering teacher who sent chills down each student's spine would really be the most compassionate, most caring, most loving teacher in my twelve years of school. Lock, as his students affectionately call him, is not the conventional theater teacher. He teaches by doing, not by writing or by lecturing. By doing, Lock has taught every theater major more than they could ever imagine. I look back and remember one activity, which at first seemed like just a day relaxing in front of a movie, with Lock talking in the background. However, it becomes obvious Lock is not just talking, but making remarks on the movie. It's amazing to think that a simple activity, such as watching Hamlet and listening to Lock's running commentary, could create my standards for critiquing a play or movie. Some students walked away from Hamlet, having seen the movie. I chose to walk away with more, because Lock offered more. I respect Lock for making his students the ones who chose to learn. It was never that hard. Lock's lessons were always there to be taken, but someone had to care enough to want to take it, to want to learn. My hope is that Lock knows that I cared enough. Most students wouldn't care if a teacher knows his/her dedication, but Lock is not only a wonderful teacher but a wonderful friend as well. As a friend, I want Lock to know how much he has taught me, how much he has meant to me, and how much I will truly miss him. For six wonderful years with a dedicated teacher and a devoted friend, I thank Lock with all my heart.

Visit SOA on the web at
www.ccsosa.com

Arts

Featured Teachers

Academics

Mrs. Slowinski: THE GRACEFUL SWAN

by Loriel Brown

"I didn't like school, only liked to dance. I didn't want to talk, only wanted to move. My feet didn't get as mixed up as my mouth did."



Ms. Slowinski with her class.

The first time I met Mrs. Slowinsky was in the summer of 1994 at Space Camp. A year later when I came to the School of the Arts, there she was, standing, greeting students as they entered. One of the best feelings a person can have is to reunite with someone from his/her past and I was

elated to know that I would have her for the last years of my education.

Loriel Brown- I personally know that you started extremely early in your dancing career. What type of training did you receive?

Mrs. Slowinsky- I first trained at the New York Harkness where I danced with the youth ballet in 10th grade. I lived by myself in a residency home when I was fifteen so I could go to dance school.

Loriel- You lived by yourself! You must have been very serious about your goals.

Mrs. Slowinsky- "The only way you could do it is to move." I was disciplined. At 8:00am I got up and went to ballet class. Then I would go to school, come back to dance class and take two more classes (point and modern). I then went back to school. After school I had to go to dance rehearsal until 8:00-9:00pm. If I had homework, I did it when I got home. That is what I did everyday.

Loriel- When you got older what companies did you dance for?

Mrs. Slowinsky- I danced for the Dance Radio City Ballet (known for the famous "Rocketts" and New Jersey Ballet).

Loriel- Did you achieve all your goals?

Mrs. Slowinsky- No, I wanted to dance with a larger company for a longer amount of time. I also would have liked to travel more. However, I did achieve a great accomplishment. At the age of 25 I opened a dance school in Brooklyn. I always liked teaching.

Loriel- You said that you wanted to dance for a longer length of time, that leads me to my next question. Why are dancers' careers so short?

Mrs. Slowinsky- The body is our instrument and by dancing all the time we put a lot of stress on our knees, hips, etc. The body wears out, so our careers are not that long. However, there are still some people that are fortunate enough to be born with natural strength. Their dancing careers continue longer than the average.

Loriel- Try not to be modest and tell me why you were chosen to be the first dancer instructor at SOA.

Mrs. Slowinsky- Mrs. Myers was looking for someone who had a strong ballet background. To become a dancer you have to have a strong ballet foundation; It builds core and strength. At the time I had just completed a Masters Degree in Choreography from UN Greensboro. I had the ability to teach modern dance, ballet, and choreography.

Loriel- How have you seen the school change since you have been here.

Mrs. Slowinsky- It has grown. I miss the smallness of the school. I used to know everyone that passed me. Something positive that has happened because of the growth is new faculty. Mr. Anderson and Ms. Fisher have been wonderful additions to the dance department. They are dedicated, professional, and great team members.

Loriel- There has been one question that everyone has always wanted to ask you. It is obvious that you love kids, so why haven't you had any?

Mrs. Slowinsky- I love kids and have always wanted some, but when I found the right man, it was too late.

One thing that I hope Mrs. Slowinsky will realize is that she already has kids. She is loved by the students here at SOA.

Follow the yellow brick road

by Tawana Tolbert



Mrs. Olson and Mr. Shaw

Move over Mrs. Caldwell there's a new muchkin at SOA: Mrs. Jean Olson teaches 9th and 10th grade College Preparatory English and Commutation for the Workplace. But there's much more to know about Mrs. Olson, "so follow the yellow brick road."

Tawana : Where were you born and raised?

Mrs. Olson: I was born in Olney, Illinois and stayed there to attend Eastern Illinois University in Charleston [Illinois] majoring in English.

Tawana: What brought you to Charleston, SC?

Mrs. Olson: I came to Charleston because my husband was in the Navy and got stationed here.

Tawana: Was South Carolina the only place your husband was stationed?

Mrs. Olson: Oh no, we moved all over the world 18 times in 23 years.

Tawana: So where all did you and your family live?

Mrs. Olson: We lived in Hawaii, California, Connecticut, Tennessee, Guam, England, and many other places.

Tawana: Did you enjoy living in all these different places?

Mrs. Olson: Yes, especially England because I visited Stratford and discovered many interesting things about Shakespeare.

Tawana: So is Shakespeare your favorite writer of all time?

Mrs. Olson: Shakespeare was one interesting man but Geoffrey Chaucer is one of my favorites. I really enjoyed reading *Canterbury Tales* because it was typical of times.

Tawana: Do you have any children?

Mrs. Olson: I have two beautiful daughters that are 24 and 28.

Tawana: Are you daughters taller than you?

Mrs. Olson: I was expecting them to be much taller than me but they only have me by a few inches.

Tawana: How do you feel about all your students being taller than you?

Mrs. Olson: It really doesn't bother me as long as my students aren't rude and disrespectful.

Tawana: When standing near Mr. Shaw I feel like a midget, how about you?

Mrs. Olson: I think it's fun standing near him because of the difference in height.

Tawana: Would you ever switch places with Mr. Shaw and become vice principal?

Mrs. Olson: Being a principal and vice principal are the toughest jobs in the world, and I commend Mrs. Myers, Mr. Shaw, and Mr. Davis for taking on that role.

Tawana: Out of all the schools in Charleston County why did you decided to come to SOA?

Mrs. Olson: The School of the Arts is a very unique place because the students have many talents and are exposed to the fine arts.

Tawana: What inspired you to become a teacher?

Mrs. Olson: Well, my mother and grandmother were both teachers, and I knew I was going to become one also.

Tawana: Are your daughters teachers also?

Mrs. Olson: No, my daughters didn't follow in the family's footsteps because it wasn't their interest and I didn't want them to because they need to find their own passion.

Tawana: So what are your hobbies and interests?

Mrs. Olson: It's hard for my students to believe this, but I enjoy singing in my church choir. I also enjoy traveling (of course), reading, and historical events.

Tawana: What event do you believe had a great effect on your life?

Mrs. Olson: The assassination of John F. Kennedy was quite touching because he meant well to our country.

Tawana: What advice do you have for us wild and crazy kids?

Mrs. Olson: An Education Is The Ticket To The Future!

Seniors Respond

More Memorable Moments

I think the coolest thing that's happened to me in all the years here at SOA was probably anytime I had the opportunity to read my "Little Mishaps" short stories. (Don't worry, this isn't a product plug; it's the real deal!) Every time I've read that story in the last few years, people have laughed and talked about it for a long time afterward. The praise isn't what really puts a smile on my face, however. Though shy, I have always sought to entertain, and hearing laughter of an entire crowd the first time I ever read that story let me know that I could write something that would bring joy to others, and made me want to write even more. Humor is an important part of my life now, and I really have fun making others laugh.

There were other moments, too. Ryan Scott climbing out of a cardboard box (half naked, if I recall) in the middle of Ms. Tisdale's class was kinda hard to forget. Seeing the completed "film" Assailant was memorable - and hilarious in its own stupidity. And the Prom was a fabulous experience that made me wish I'd attended SOA dances more often.

Overall, my experiences at SOA (for the most part, at least) were wonderful. These have been a great four years and I hope to stay in touch with all the people that made the School of the Arts such an outstanding school.

-Michael Badger

Pulling up to school the first day of 7th grade and thinking that I was at the wrong place; stealing journals in Creative Writing; Chinese food and cheesecake with Alison and Jacki; The Polar Express; ode to the Asian Porn Stars and branding Shannon on the plane back from New York with Chandler; "The Math of Monopoly;" APBC--cottage cheese; Dustin's "I like fire;" Randy and Sandy in Venice; "than" twins; Mr. Murray's digressions; water balloons and funny hats; that uncanny way Mr. Cusatis relates everything to Bob Dylan and J.D. Salinger; being God; the effects of...

-Elaine Hume

Mrs. Miles reading The Polar Express and never making it all the way through without crying; Alison in the SOA bathrooms--either pulling back her hair or in various stages of undress; Writing on Shannon's stomach with eyeliner on the plane back from New York with Elaine; Planning to take a poll with Alison and Keverlee at Waterfront and only polling one person because we were too scared; "I don't know, dwarves aren't very big right now;" "Nature jumped!;" Dustin invading my personal space everyday; asking Mr. Cusatis to carry books to get signed on every trip he went on; Nabokov is a Russian writer; "I have a really good sense of direction;" Plans of moving to Alaska with Shannon and keeping our farm in North Dakota, near Fargo; Opening up a can of TAB and hearing the sounds of cancer with Alison and Alan in writing; "Does anybody know you?;" Defeat the Beast. "You're French?--I thought you were just retarded;"

-Chandler Jenrette

*My first day at SOA--It was like I was entering a world all of its own.

*Prom night--everyone was smiling and laughing. Everyone looked beautiful.

*London-One night just the seniors took Lock out for dessert and talked to the man, not the teacher.

-Benedicte "Benny" Boutrouille

1. Asking the guy at the Double Tree Inn in NY to call a cab for us b/c we didn't know what we were doing. (Bonnie!)

2. 1-2-3, Movie!! (vocal majors understand)

3. "Guys, guys, wait up! This is a new sweater!" (only some will understand)

-Christina Davenport

Mr. Murray's combustion demonstration--nearly torching the top of a sixth grade girl's head; The strings party when we had a water fight; My last concert with the SOA orchestra; My most memorable: The night after a concert in my 7th grade year when I was given the message "I love you," and I laughed--in love after two days. Four years later I called him up and after pouring my heart out realized I should have said "I love you." It was in my heart except that it was too late. Now I don't laugh so readily. I've learned. To him: I love you still.

-Sohayla Roudsari

My most memorable moments are:

a. In eighth grade when Ryan Scott stole a garbage bag full of "Lost and Found" clothing and wore it to school; he had to take off a whole outfit on the bus on the way to school--shirt, pants, and all.

b. When I had to break the bad news to Sam Millen in eighth grade about Ryan S. not wanting to go out with her anymore while he hid in the corner of the storage room behind the coats.

c. In eighth grade when Teia Manigault wore that hot red plastic outfit with a black and red reversible turtleneck to school in 86° weather. At lunch the same day she was written up by Mrs. Caldwell for straightening her weave on the table while everyone was eating.

-Hamadi Brown

My most memorable moment at SOA will take place on May 26th sometime in the afternoon.

-Alfred Peeler

2001 National Scholastic Writing Awards

SOA dominated the Scholastic Writing Contest again this year, winning 85 awards in the North Carolina-South Carolina regional competition and seven coveted National awards. The winners, who will attend the National Awards Weekend on June 15-16 in Washington, D.C., are as follows:

Sara Saylor	American Voices Award	"Working Age"
Tamera Butler	Gold - Short Story	"Liberation"
Meredith Jones	Gold - Poetry	"I love Wet Things"
Dorsey Seignious	Gold - Personal Essay	"When You"
Emily Wahrer	Silver - Humor	"Spiderman vs. God"
Cameron Tumbleston	Silver - Short Short Story	"Camels"
Jessica Gibbs	Silver - Poetry	"Burden"

A special note of congratulations to **Mrs. Miles** who was chosen by Scholastic as one of the nation's top two creative writing teachers. She and her students will be part of a video that will be shown at the ceremony. Mrs. Miles was also written up in an article by Harvard professor, Dennie Palmer Wolfe, and that article will appear in Scholastic Art & Writing Awards 2001, the prestigious publication that will be available at the award ceremony.

SOA Reflections



Justin Babcock

The year is 2011. The month is Marchuary (March and February were combined in 2002 for reasons that need not be known). The day is Montuesday (just don't ask). The time is 8:00 AM. I am walking out the door when all of the sudden I

appear in my office at my chair behind my desk. Damn those anti-late-to-work transporters. I look at myself and realize that I am wearing an orange suit with a red tie. Stupid transporters. Oh well. I wander over to the coffeepot and reach for my mug. As I reach, my hand disappears. "Whose stupid idea was this!" I yell. I pull my hand back and it re-materializes. I notice the continuum transfunctioner sitting next to my mug. "Ha, ha. Very funny. When will you people learn to stop using the laws of quantum theory for pranks and put it to good use." Just another day on the job.

It is doubtful that in 10 years our everyday lives will be that much different. We will still be driving cars (albeit possibly electric ones), we will still drink coffee, and we will not have teleportation capabilities for at least 50 years. Many things will change though. Ten more classes will have graduated from SOA, some of our current teachers will have retired, and a whole new set of faces will be occupying SOA. One thing is certain though. I will always remember the class of 2001.

A word from Mr. Cusatis

Applause Faculty Advisor

"Sports and gallantries, the stage, the arts, the antics of dancers/
The exuberant voices of music, / Have charm for children but lack nobility;
It is bitter earnestness / That makes beauty; the mind / Knows, grown adult."
-Robinson Jeffers
from "Boats in the Fog"

Those who have never stepped foot into the School of the Arts or one of its performances, readings, or exhibits may think the concept of our school is simply "charming." And perhaps a sixth grader is attracted to it for the same reason. But if one were fortunate to attend a senior theater thesis performance or a senior creative

writers' thesis reading, he observed something beyond charm. He observed this "bitter earnestness," this "nobility" alluded to in the above lines. He observed "the mind ... grown adult" with a sincere appreciation for beauty.

An underclassman asked me the other day what good will it have done him to have attended the School of the Arts? The answer to that question lies within each student. One can just as easily ask, "what good will it have done me to have lived at all?" Judging from the essays that fill the pages of this paper, many of our graduates have seen the value of an arts education. They have realized that such an education is a privilege and have not taken the privilege for granted.

In reflecting upon their experience in a fledgling school, some seniors refer to themselves as "guinea pigs." I prefer the metaphor Mrs. Myers uses in her letter on page 2: "pioneers." While a guinea pig is acted upon, a pioneer acts. This distinction makes all the difference.

It is interesting that we name the passage from high school "graduation." *Graduation* is defined as "a mark on an instrument or vessel indicating degrees or quantity." It is as if the primary and secondary educational experience is confined to a test tube with neatly inscribed gradations within which one ascends: *first grade, second grade, third grade ... twelfth grade*. Now what? A very fundamental question. One that has been answered for you to a great extent up until now. The quality of that experience has been up to you, but the quantity has not. Now you are emerging from the test tube and the circumference of your education is infinite and the gradations are no longer painted on its edges. You must paint them on, not in years, but in goals. There will be no more bells to indicate the changing of classes or the beginning and end of the day. Your summer vacation is the beginning of the rest of your life. And when the gradations are no longer there, it can go very fast. That is why a better term to mark this passage is Commencement, 'beginning.'

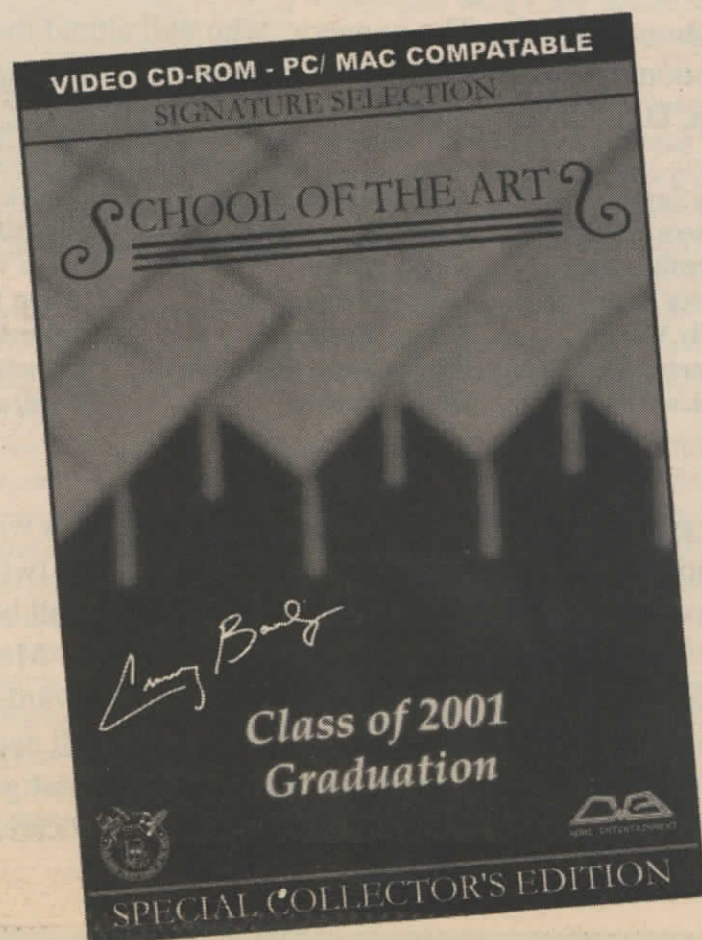
At the School of the Arts the dimensions of that test tube are expanded to allow the outside world to seep in. Though most do, one should not underestimate the importance of the Arts. What is extracurricular in most schools is core-curriculum at our school, as it should be. Professor Keating tells his students in *Dead Poet's Society*: "Medicine, law, business, engineering, these are all noble pursuits and necessary to sustain life. But poetry, beauty, romance, love, these are what we stay alive for." At the School of the Arts our students spend their day not simply learning things that will help them sustain life, but also allow them to enjoy life. It makes sense. School and Life are not kept in separate rooms. Learning is not just a means, but a beautiful end in itself. And the more of the world one becomes aware of, the richer one's journey will be.

Farewell, pioneers. May you sculpt beautiful lives for yourselves.

Sincerely,
John Cusatis

School of the Arts

CLASS OF 2001 GRADUATION CD-ROM



As part of the graduation ceremony, Craig Baurley has produced a video commemorating the senior class over the past 6 years. It will be shown at the North Charleston Performing Art Center with the ceremony on the 26th. The video is also for sale both on VHS and CD-ROM formats. The CD-ROM version will include countless bonus features outlined below.

- ◆ Feature Class of 2001 Graduation Video (10 minutes)
- ◆ Photo Gallery (1000 + images)
- ◆ MP3 Original Music (band, vocal, etc)
- ◆ Visual Art Work
- ◆ Creative Writing Samples
- ◆ Senior Class portraits
- ◆ Placebo Trailer
- ◆ Dixie Inferno - short feature

The VHS version is \$20.00 while the CD-ROM version is \$12.00. Make checks payable to Craig Baurley or Jaycie Rappold (art instructor). Copies will be delivered on the last day of school and more sold at graduation- supplies are limited so if you want one, reserve it now. If you are unable to contact us in person send checks, money orders, or cash to:

Craig Baurley
2035 Presidio Drive
Mount Pleasant, SC 29466

IF YOU NEED DELIVERY INCLUDE \$3.00 FOR SHIPPING!

contact:
resinart@hotmail.com
(843) 881 6448

Student Art

Visual Artists display work at local gallery by Tim Smith

The seniors in visual arts here at SOA recently displayed some of their art work at the Dana Coleman gallery in Mt. Pleasant. The work displayed is part of their senior thesis. On this page I have included a piece of art work from each of the Seniors projects. Their work was consisted of paintings, drawings, and sculptures. Each senior was asked to make a portfolio containing sixteen peices. The portfolios were sent to a near by college board to be reviewed. The portfolios were judged on three important criteria: quality, concentration, and breadth. Quality refers to excellence demonstrated in original art works. Concentration refers to time the artist has put into the work.. Breadth refers to a demonstration done showing one's experience and accomplishments by using different art forms, concepts, and techniques. The seniors concentrations ranged from Realistic Abstraction to Southern Style. Each student has his own style of work and concentration.



ABOVE
Abigail Heston



ABOVE:
Marques Johnson



RIGHT Craig Baurley

LEFT: Andre Harrison



LEFT:
Billy Conyers

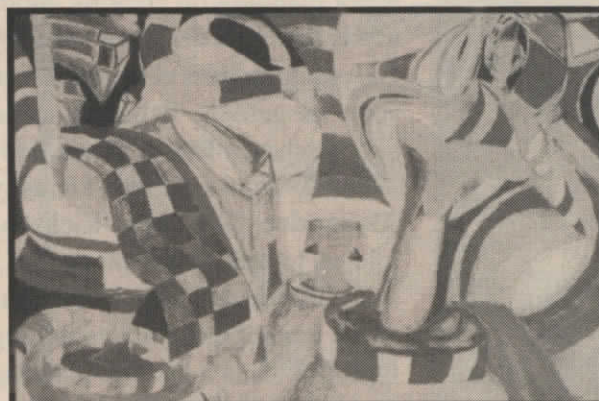


BELOW:
Davis Auld



LEFT: Rachel Corbett

RIGHT
Patrick Trompeter



LEFT:
Seth Furchgott



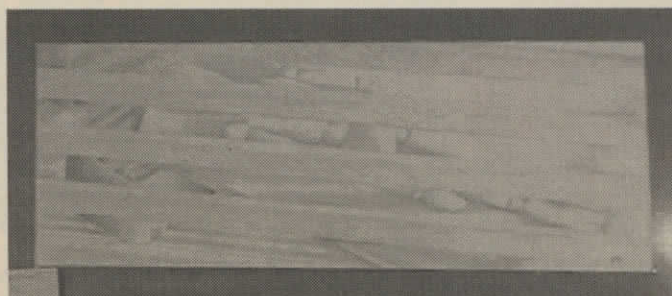
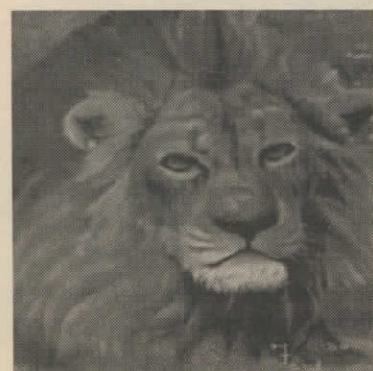
ABOVE & BELOW:
Frank Wright



LEFT:
Sasha Shaw



ABOVE:
Patrick Trompeter



ABOVE: Jennie Leonard



LEFT:
Andrae Harrison

Features

Mrs. Rickson's geometry class beautifies SOA

by Sarah Ann McCoy

On Friday May 11th, SOA's "Graduation Garden" was officially dedicated to Mrs. Myers. We (Mrs. Rickson's geometry classes) have been working on getting the garden planned and planted since the second-nine weeks of this school year.

At the beginning of the garden project, Ms. Rickson announced to us that we were going to be placed into groups, and that we were to create a planting plan for a garden that would be placed out in the front of the school. After weeks of discussing the plants and the layout with the group for several weeks (and taking a

see saw breaking field trip to Magnolia Gardens), we all threw together our projects. After the judges came in, and judged all of the various layouts, "Graduation Garden," designed by **Ricky Bickerstaff, Mallory Lipton, Laura Benson, and Emmy Harkins** got the final OK.



Tiffany Talley

Well, after blood sweat and tears pouring from Mrs. Rickson trying to get her hands on our grant money, we were finally able to order the plants in the garden that include Bee Balm, Japanese Maples, Tea Olives (which smell great when blooming), Mexican Zinnias, Heather, parsley, and many many other red and gold tinted plants. It was time to begin planting! Anyone driving by, or walking on the sidewalk in front of the school was destined to see a bunch of sweating geometry students ripping up the old unwanted plants and replacing them with newer pretty ones. Upon finishing the garden, I asked Mrs. Rickson her thoughts on the garden. "I am so proud of my geometry students. They have made this garden theirs, and I hope they keep it forever...this garden is absolutely beautiful." Then Ms. Rickson screamed a very loud "nooooooo" and pounced on a weed.

This garden project has served as a wonderful tool in helping SOA students realize the other wonderful job opportunities that are out there. "I think this is really fun. It was great when we were weeding, and the weeds were just flying all over the place. That was funny," says **Ben Fine**. Unfortunately, though, Mrs. Rickson has said that she, at this time, is not planning on creating another garden next year, she needs that well deserved break.

I asked students at the garden party what they had to say about the garden. "It turned out better than I had expected," says freshman **Brian Black**. However, my favorite comment was from freshman **Lindsay Alexander**, "She [Mrs. Rickson] told us to talk to the plants, so I said, 'Please don't die.'" Personally, I am not quite the gardening type, but when it came to planting pretty things while listening to Ms. Rickson's little crank radio with

sophomore **Tiffany**

Talley, the whole project seemed to take on its own little splendor.

A special plaque proclaiming the dedication of the garden to Mrs. Myers can be viewed out in the garden. Among people that were given awards of appreciation were **Eleanor Shaw, Robert Hollings, John Tarkene, and Bob Lewe**. Once more we would like to thank these people for volunteering their time to teach us how to make our garden look its best.

Perhaps Mrs. Rickson's own reaction to the finished project sum up the garden best: "Now *that* is cute."



Anna Marcelle works with the rest of the class



Greg Swenson hoes away at the dirt



Caleb May and Ms. Rickson



Recent Events

National History Day
by Kimberly Cozart

NHD
NATIONAL
HISTORY DAY

Each year students from across the nation participate in the National History Day Competition. The competition began at the regional level on March 24th with School of the Arts winning seven medals, a tie for the highest number of awards. Students created individual or group entries in four categories: historical paper, video documentary, performance or three dimensional exhibit.

Participants from around the region assembled at the College of Charleston campus. All entries were judged on historical quality, clarity of presentation, compliance to rules, and relation to theme, which was "Frontiers in History: People, Places, and Ideals."

In both the group and individual performances, SOA easily surpassed the competition and snagged first place. **Allison Orvin** performed the title role in "Eliza Lucas Pinkney: Planting the Seeds on the New Frontier" - a one woman show which she wrote, produced, and performed. **Loriel Brown, Joel Hamilton, Jennifer Allbritton** and **Brian Batten** created a Greek chorus-style performance entitled "The Declaration of Independence: A Frontier in Freedom," which, as one judge stated, "used music in a novel approach to explore the historical process."

SOA was also awarded in both the individual and group video documentary category. **Craig Baurley, Justin Babcock, Patrick Trompeter,** and **John Fisher,** better known as "Placebo," used excellent primary source film in their production, "Aerial Photography: A Frontier in History." **Caroline Bailey** explored mustangs and more in "Ford: Car for the Ages."

Carissa Hanagriff and **Benedicte Boutouille** represented SOA in the individual exhibits. Benny's "Isadora Duncan" display entertained as well as informed the reader on the icon of American Dance. Carissa's exhibit, "Telecommunications on the American Frontier: Operator, Get Me Information," showed a truly unique design by displaying information on a winding telephone line which made SOA stand out from the tri-fold board crowd.

Allison Menick received an award in the often dreaded historical research paper category. Her report, entitled "Adia" was written as a series of journal entries on Cystic Fibrosis. The journal interwove facts concerning the disease and it's impact on one persons life.

School of the Arts was extraordinarily represented at the Regional History Day Competition and the winners continued on to compete at the state level. On April 21, 2001 at The South Carolina Archive and History Center **Loriel Brown, Joel Hamilton, Jennifer Allbritton** and **Brian Batten** won the coveted first place medal. Of the over 300 students present, they were selected to represent South Carolina's group performance division during the National History Day History Competition that will take place at the University of Maryland, June 10th through 14th.

Allison Orvin received awards for best topic on South Carolina history from the University South Carolinian Society and an award for best entry with a women's history topic. With a silver medal win, she may travel to the capital as an alternate. Congratulations to all these SOA students who won on the regional level and our continued support to those continuing on to Washington D.C.

Band travels to Washington D.C.

by Taylor Silver

Last year, SOA's high school band was nominated by Jay Watkins, the director of bands at CSU, to attend a national competition called the



The Wind Ensemble plays for the NAI judges.

National Adjudicators Invitational. Although the SOA wind ensemble did not meet the requirements set to compete in the NAI, the board of the festival invited them to play anyway because of the great things they had heard about their band program. So off the band went to Washington D.C.

In order to get to D.C., the band had to first endure a ten hour bus ride. "The floor was surprisingly comfortable," said SOA senior, **John Fisher.** The first place the band went to see was the University of Maryland. The director of bands held a two hour clinic with the them in which he listened and gave help to the wind ensemble and jazz band. Then they traveled to the Lincoln, Vietnam War, and Korean War memorials. "I can't believe how small Lincoln's top hat was!" said SOA sophomore, **Andrew Pearlman.**

To finish up the day, the band went to see a dinner theatre followed by the ceiling of their hotel rooms. The next day, the group visited the White House, the U.S. Archives, the Capital, Union Station, the Smithsonian, and the largest attraction in Virginia, Potomac Mills, a mall that is nearly a mile wide. That's a pretty busy day. The band was exhausted and many had come down with illnesses. Nerves were running short and people were getting involved in fights. The following morning **Mr. Kerr** announced that there would be two additional hours of relaxation time at the hotel. "No one has to say anything. I can tell from your faces that this is something you all need," said the empathetic Mr. Kerr.

After the rest, the band was off to the competition. The performance went well, and after talking with many of the people listening, hopes were high. The wind ensemble achieved a superior, the highest rating possible, and also captured the Most Outstanding Brass Section award. Freshmen **Luke Reed** talked to one of the girls from a different group. She asked, "How large is your brass section anyway?" Luke replied, "We have 1 tuba, 1 baritone, 3 trombones, 5 french horns, and 7 trumpets." "And you got best brass!?" It just



The band on the long bus ride

goes to show that what the SOA wind ensemble lacks in numbers, it makes up for in hard work and talent. Congratulations to the SOA wind ensemble on their appointment as one of the best bands in the nation.

Seniors Reflect

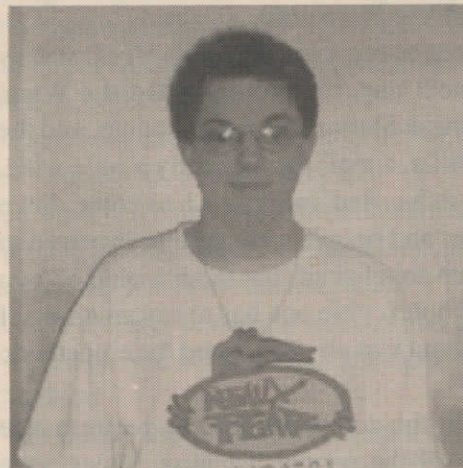


Abigail Heston

*"SOA sucks!"
"If you don't like it, leave."
-as read on the bathroom wall of the green building*

Spending six years at SOA has been an interesting and unique experience, to say the least. Though every one of us has questioned our choice of middle and high schools at some point, I believe that all of us have come to the conclusion that SOA is, in the end, the best choice for us. And those who didn't find that to be the case left. And it was sad, and different, but it made the remaining 60-

odd students that much closer. And I think that that's one of the many things that makes SOA special: our closeness. Though many of us have cursed how small our class is (and how quickly things are spread because of it), the size of our senior class has led to a situation not possible in larger school: every student knows his classmates. And not only knows of them, and can call them by name, but in most cases has talked to them, knows what they think. I've come to love the size of SOA because it had led me to interact with people that, had I gone to St. Andrews, I certainly would not have. And this interaction between us had led to an increased respect for our peers that carries over into a respect for their art. And that is one thing unique to SOA: that every student has been exposed to every art area, and respects and appreciates what their peers do for the first 100 minutes of each day. And that's certainly something to be proud of, and one of the most special things that SOA has given us.



Michael Badger

What will I be doing in 2011? How will my days be occupied? What will I be doing to get by?

Maybe I'll get that job I've been planning on for years, and work in software development. Low physical activity, high pay, and a nice comfy lifestyle ... Sounds good to me. After all, I've been working with computer for most of my life, and I have an awful lot of experience with other technology, too. I'm pretty good with logic, so I shouldn't have too much difficulty learning to program. And with Math Math. I completely forgot about Math. Maybe Computer Programming isn't the best idea.

Maybe I'll go into Psychology. I'm enough of a headcase to understand how others work and what they think. I'm a pretty good listener, I think, so that should come in handy. I can fill out forms, too, and I take pretty good notes. I can definitely take notes. But conversation should be more highly valued. Actually ... Now that I think about it, I get nervous talking to people. Sometimes, anyway. And why am I thinking about forms? I hate paperwork! What does being "good at paperwork" matter? Maybe Psychology won't quite work.

Well, what about Law? Heaven knows I love to argue. I'd like to fight for the "Little Man," too, and maybe do some real good for someone. Nevermind. I sound like a Politician running for office. And don't get me started on Politics. I have to know about Law, History, Government, Economics, and everything else - just like Law. I will never be a Politician.

Artist? Can't draw. Musician? Haven't picked up a violin in years. Archaeologist? Again, I have to commit human history to memory and go into the field every day in hostile environments. Teacher? After my Mom's substitute teaching stories? Don't get me started.

So what is there? Is there really anything I can do? Isn't that what College is for? To study a particular field and decided whether or not it's best for me? And if it doesn't work out for whatever reason, I find another field and experiment right? Right.

There's an old saying I've grown to like: "Worry about today's problems today." The truth is, I have no idea what I will be doing ten years from now. And if anybody else says they do, they're lying. No fortune teller can tell me where my road leads, and nothing I can dream up with my imagination will be a sure-thing. It's the same thing for everyone else, too. We have to take our futures one day at a time, instead of trying to prepare ourselves for anything that might come our way.

Worry about today's problems today. Destiny will reveal itself over days, weeks, months, and years, and trying to plan for everything takes all the fun out of life. Today I worry, but I know that all through my years at Furman University and ten years from now, I won't be worrying about any obstacle or crisis that rolls my way until it's right in

front of me.

Keeverlee Burchett

I considered the value of an SOA education and what I would be if I had not come here. The thing is, a school doesn't make you who you are. Or it may allow one's nature to flourish or fade. In the case of SOA, the result is usually the former, as with my case. I will not say that, had I not come to SOA, I never would have gone to a poetry reading, or hung out in a coffee shop, or gone to the theater or taken an interest in art, but instead would be drinking around a bonfire and using a completely different vocabulary which is completely incomprehensible to anyone over 18. However, I might not have seen the contrast between these two lifestyles and therefore realized who I am. SOA is powerful, and not just because of the curriculum and the perfect combination between arts and education. It is the people that make SOA what it is. The students who attend SOA are those that have potential to succeed in their art and inspire others in theirs. The teachers that SOA employs nourish the minds and souls of their students making sure not to baby them but to pay attention to who they are becoming. All of these qualities combined have caused my years at SOA to be enriching and influential.

One hundred minutes of majors every day has adapted me to hard work and concentration in my art and has reflected the commitment and dedication of my peers. I have realized that I don't have to be the best because I love playing the flute and will continue to do it because I enjoy it. However SOA is shaped so that the academics are just as challenging as the arts, and I feel that I have gained an excellent education in both areas.

And then there are the teachers. Mr. Kerr taught me that one man can balance pressure and patience, and that there is a time for work and a time for play. Mr. Murray taught me that I can truly love something that I am truly not good at, that grades are not everything and to focus on the learning. Ms. Marshall took no excuses. Mr. Smyth paid attention and discerned when I actually knew the answer. Mr. Cusatis introduced me to new ways of thinking, showed me a new way of interpreting things, and most importantly, introduced me to existentialism. Overall, teachers at SOA not only teach students the information, but they teach them to think and prompt them to look inside of themselves and find what they want.

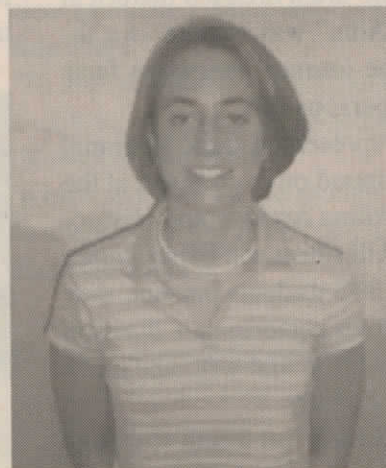
It is the students that bring all of these aspects together and make SOA work. Before I came to SOA I experienced a lot of negativity and an atmosphere where people put others down to bring themselves up, which is not the case at SOA. Instead, students at SOA tend to embrace one another, to cherish what makes them different and work to share thoughts and ideas to help and improve each other. It is because of this that I feel that SOA has in some way shaped me. Because if I had not come here, I would still be the same person, but probably not as confident, nurturing, accepting and rounded. I feel prepared to take on the world.



Alison Palmer

For the past five years, I have come to school to write, growing in that craft from the guidance of Rene Miles. It is hard to believe that after five years of learning from the same person, I am not tired of hearing her shrill, motherly voice (This is when selective hearing comes in handy.)

Mrs. Miles has somehow been able to inspire me for these past years and will always continue to do so. When I am in college, struggling through a poem or short story, I will probably think, "Writing is the synthesis of hyacinths and biscuits," and I will laugh and remember her. At every reading, though I was nervous to the point of going blind, when she introduced us with literary quotes and perhaps a piece of her own writing, I beamed with pride. She reinforced how important writing could be in people's lives, how it was a daily struggle to express one's self, and I was truly proud of being able to write.



In an art so dependent on opening up to feelings and letting others experience them, no matter how personal or difficult, it was wonderful to have someone so open herself to guide me. When I think about leaving, and having to say goodbye to Mrs. Miles, I take great pride in knowing that I am well prepared to take on life. Among other things, I will take on life through writing, and I want her to know just how much she has given me.

Sponsors

Auto-Chlor
SYSTEM

Commercial Dishwashing & Laundry Service

Gerald Silver
(843) 849- 9553

RIO
REEDER INDUSTRIAL CONTRACTORS, INC.

P.O. Box 60368
Charleston, SC 29419- 0368

B & G Tree Service



1454 Mataoka St.
Mt. Pleasant, SC
29464

(843)884-6980

Cathy Oliver, CIC
Senior Vice president
Commercial Lines Manager

Triest & Sholk
AGENCY
Established 1933

1052 Gardner road
Charleston, SC 29407
earthy@triestagency.com
www.triestagency.com

(843) 556-6232
24 Hour Fax 9843) 556-0909
Toll Free: 1-888-251-8376

The Outboard Shop, INC.

5133 Rivers Avenue-Charleston, SC 29406
(843) 747-9614 Fax:(843) 747-2976

Tony Campbell

Serving the Lowcountry Since 1956
"The Shop That Service Built"

Congratulations SOA Class of 2001

from
BACKSTAGE DELI

8780 Rivers Avenue
North Charleston, SC 29406
824-1858

Personal Patrons

Gold Patron

John & Anna Cusatis

Silver Patron

Carol Eaddy

Bronze Patrons

Peter Smyth
Myrna Caldwell
Maggie Silver
Basil Kerr
Ms. Egleston
Tim Smith
Irene Smith

Patrons

Maurice & Theresa Cusatis	Sharon Cooper	Tyrone Wallace
Maurice & Kathy Cusatis	Katey Hines	John Bishop
Joe & Jennifer Cusatis	Nan Rickson	Gail Newton
Bill & Nancy Cusatis	Kelly Wood	Mandy Wade
Chris & Jane Cusatis	Sue Bonnett	Johnnie Ann Margiotta
Pat & Debbie Cusatis	Jennifer Haycook	Marian Margiotta
Matthew Cusatis	Erin Kinard	Willie Thompson
James & Mary Grap	Rebecca Reuter	Mrs. Olson
Mike & Beth Vertucci	Sara Saylor	Reyne Miller
Harold & Katie Johnson	Jacquelyn Glover	Dr. Price

Congratulations



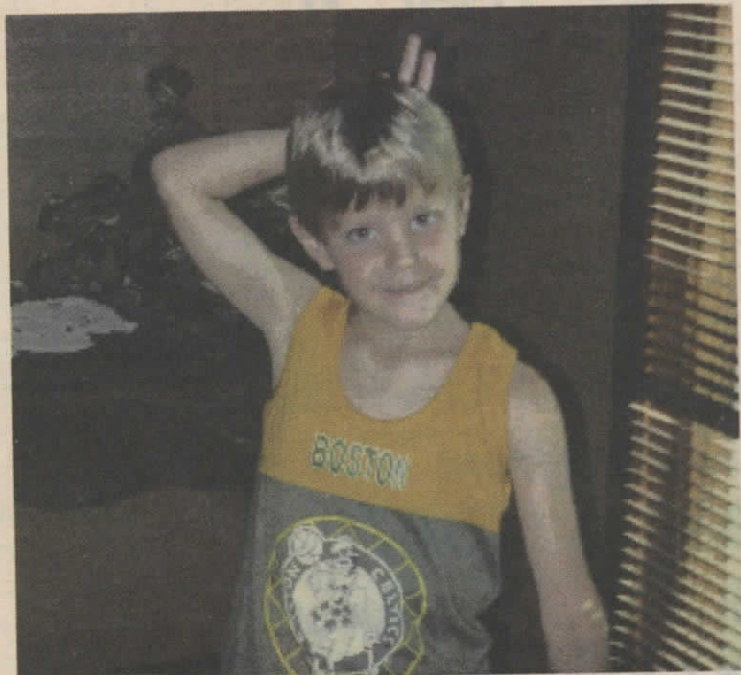
Davis Auld

Memories of "Sparkles," Mom first president of SOA PTSA, "Anna Banana," Lacey, "SB," the Mahoos, Pigeon, Joe, Balcolm, Mr. K says "Draw Big!," "My Little Men," Ian, Voltameter?, the Ashleys, Eagle Scout, IOP Parking Lot, Limbo!, Miss Rosetta, O! Canada, Dre', Honor Roll, Pre Cal, Valerie, Masquerade Ball, Brandi and "JJ," SCAD, and Prom 2001.

These memories make for an outstanding SOA "Best All Around" Graduate.

I love you "mostesterest!"

Mom



Scott Adams

Scott, we always knew you had a stroke of genius in you. Remember to share your talents for the good of others. We know you will be a star.

Love Mom, Dad, Kimi, Stephanie, and Brady

Autumn Germroth

As you journey through life making decisions, remember to make your choices out of love and respect for yourself. Congratulations and Love from your family.



Bonnie Jean Tumbleston

Bonnie, we want you to know how proud we are of you. You sing like an angel and your smile lights up our world.

Love,

Mom, Dad, & Sisters



Jennie Leonard

Jennie, you have completed 6 years at SOA. You are now ready to try your "legs" and follow your dreams.

Good Luck,
Mom, Dad & Callie

Shannon O'Shea

Born to rock the world - we know you will! A man of many talents and great passion. You make your family proud. Congrats on graduation and for making All-State soccer. Always here for you "wearing our shades."

With Love,
Mom, Dad, Ian, and Caitlin

