



THE TROUBADOUR EXPRESS

*SCHOOLS OF ACADEMICS, VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS,
& TECHNICAL ARTS*

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October 24, 2011



HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME



This past weekend, Santa Susana High School Children's Theatre gave two outstanding performances of *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. It marked the first Children's Theatre performances in the Performing Arts Center, and they were truly exceptional. Not only did ticket and snack sales double that of past shows in the Black Box Theatre, the involvement of the Technical Arts Program, run by teacher Irene Silbert, demonstrated even higher levels of skill, professionalism, and complexity than ever before seen from these performing groups.

In the story, Quasimodo, played by *Jesse Wisnesky*, was a sad, ugly baby whose gypsy mother was forced to give him up. Destined to be killed, a kind person placed him on the steps of Notre Dame where he remained locked up by Frolo for virtually his entire life. Quasimodo eventually sneaks out to attend the Festival of Fools and wins the ugly contest. Esmeralda, a beautiful gypsy played by *Maggie Johnson/Miho Estrada*, brings love and kindness into Quasimodo's life. Both Maggie and Miho were decidedly well cast and absolutely delightful to watch. The story was narrated by two friends. One of the narrators, Cheese, was performed by *Maureen Pinnell/Sara Rose Jarvis*. Both girls were equally entertaining and funny, but their different personalities and performances gave the audience a unique sense of action throughout the play.

For me, this play demonstrated the early levels of amazing talent that is nurtured here at Santa Susana High School. Last year, several of the actors and actresses first struck me as being shy. But after seeing them on stage and in action, I cannot help but be so proud to work with these outstanding young people.

With that said, instrumental music, choir, stagecraft and musical theater have been practicing late into the nights for our next big hit. Be sure to stay tuned for *The Drowsy Chaperone* which will be performed in November!

KRYSTAL SMITH, CLASS OF 2004. This past week, alumni Krystal Smith visited Stagecraft to share her experience and education with Irene Silbert, teacher. After graduating from SSHS in 2004, Krystal attended Purdue University and graduated with her MFA in 2011. Krystal majored in Light and Design and was one of two students selected every third year into this very prestigious program, in part because of her experience through her SSHS Senior Project. Krystal currently works as a Stagehand. SSHS thanks and congratulates Krystal for sharing with us her successes.

VOTE FOR SANTA SUSANA HIGH SCHOOL TO HELP WIN A NEW PIANO

Santa Susana High School's Jazz Choir has entered a contest to win a share of \$1,000,000 being given away by "Glee" to help save the arts in our schools. Specifically, we hope to get enough money to purchase a new grand piano for the Performing Arts Center.



Click on the link below to vote daily through November 7th:

http://gleegiveanote.com/vote_details.php?id=334

Help us win! When you click on the link you can see the jazz choir's entry and the "VOTE" button. Simply click on it to vote (every day). Finally, share the message with your Facebook, Twitter, and other e-mail friends through November 7th. Thank you!

SANTA SUSANA PERFORMING ARTS BOOSTERS by Andy Steiker, President.

SSPAB made \$461.14 on our four hour in-store shopping night at the local *Fresh & Easy Market* earlier this month. And now we have a chance to get even more! Please remember to drop your *Fresh & Easy* receipts of at least \$20 (on a single receipt) in the collection box inside the SSHS main office. For each receipt of at least \$20 we get a dollar for the Boosters! And you can keep turning them in through the end of December. The more we collect, the more money we make. And these receipts can come from any *Fresh & Easy* store, not just the one in Simi Valley. My thanks to all of our volunteers who worked in the store on our night. Without you, this event would never have been a success. And additional thanks to any of you who stopped by the store to shop during our time there.

KUDOS

Relay for Life – As part of her senior project, *Narre Assatryan*, helped lead Santa Susana High School in raising money for, and participating in, Relay for Life. She was supported by Troubadour family members such as Mrs. *Laurie Harrison*, parent, and teachers Mr. *John Beck*, Mr. *Gary Reinstein*, and Mrs. *Karen Hazelwood*. Student *Emma Haney* states that Mrs. Hazelwood was very helpful and active during the event which included musical chairs, a 3-legged race, karaoke and a dance party. By the end of the evening, SSHS raised over \$1,700 in donations and came away with a perpetual trophy, which is now displayed in the main office. Congrats Team Troubadour!

Snowboarding Skills - *Katelyn McCarthy* has recently been upgraded in snowboard ranking on the USA Snowboard Team. This will enable her to try out for the Jr. Olympic snowboard team for this year's Olympics. Katelyn is now one rank away from "pre-professional" status and three rankings away from "professional" status! Congratulations Katelyn!

Acting is like a Halloween mask that you put on. ~ River Phoenix

STUDENT PARKING LOT PICK-UP



To improve traffic flow in the student parking lot, we kindly request you to **park in the parking spaces while waiting for your child**. Cars that block traffic flow and traffic backed up onto Sequoia and Cochran creates a dangerous situation. Please create a safer pick up situation for you and your children by assisting us with traffic flow in this way. Your child thanks you for it!

LIBRARY

What is new in the SSHS Library?



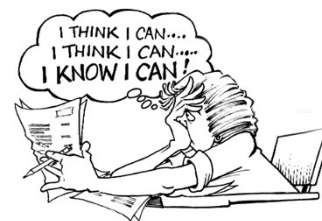
Senior Research - Seniors recently visited the library to learn advanced search skills, and to find academic research and peer-reviewed journal articles for their senior project research papers. Seniors also learned how to evaluate websites to assure the credibility and authoritativeness of the sites. This lesson was designed to help SSHS seniors research more effectively and be critical users of information in preparing them for rigorous, college-level research.

For more details about this lesson, visit the library web site: <http://www.santasusana.org/library/>.

COLLEGE & CAREER CENTER

ASVAB – Juniors and seniors who would like to explore which careers may be suitable for them, or students that might be considering military service after graduation, should sign up before November 1st in the College & Career Center to take the **ASVAB on November 4th**.

The ASVAB is a career exploration program consisting of a 3 hour aptitude test, a career exploration workbook, and the interest-finder, a chart that helps students link their interests, aptitudes and personal preferences to occupations. ASVAB is a great opportunity to find out right now about the possibilities for your future. **The test and the workbook are absolutely FREE!**



LEARNING DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH

October was originally designated in the United States as Learning Disabilities Month in 1985 through a proclamation by President Ronald Reagan. Learning Disabilities Awareness Month is a time where people pay particular attention to children and adults with learning disabilities. During this month, we ask each of you to teach one person something new about learning disabilities. For many years, learning disability organizations in the United States used the month to inform the public about learning disabilities through events and proclamations, and it is now commemorated in a few states, such as California. Resources for services regarding various disabilities are attached to this edition of the Troubadour Express.



CHOIR CONCERT

You're invited! Parents, family, friends, neighbors – SSHS Vocal Music presents its Fall Choral Concert! On Friday, October 28th and Saturday, October 29th at 7:00 pm our amazing choirs will present their Fall program. Our singers have been working hard on this program since the first day of school and are looking forward to providing you with a wonderful evening of beautiful music. Tickets range from \$8 for SSHS students prior to the show to \$15 for General Admission. Buy tickets online or at the Student Store. Plan now for a fabulous night of music in the PAC at Santa Susana High School!





Upcoming Events- October/November



CHORAL CONCERT – **October 28-29, 7 PM.** Fall in love again during this annual autumn concert from beginning through advanced singers of jazz, madrigal, chamber, and show choirs.

HALLOWEEN – **October 31.** Stay tuned for more information about our costume contest!

AROUND THE WORLD FALL DANCE – **Friday, November 4, 6-9 PM.** Support the class of 2014-2015 by attending in the school-wide dance. This cultural celebration will include pizza, dancing, and super cool music! Presale tickets start at \$6 but go up to \$12 on the night of the event.

PARKING LOT SALE – **Saturday, November 5. 8:30-2:30 PM.** The Instrumental Music Department students are having a *Parking Lot Sale* and **they need YOUR donations!** If you have item for pick-up please contact Cathy Holcombe at 805-208-4920 or at catherine.holcombe@yahoo.com. Please tell your family, friends and neighbors!!

ASVAB – **Friday, November 4, 8-11 AM** in the Career Center. Sign-ups for this career-related assessment are available through November 1 in the CCC.

VETERAN'S DAY – **Friday, November 11.** No school today in honor of our war heroes. Call a veteran and welcome him/her home OR thank him/her for protecting our home safety, security, and freedom.

DANCE HEADSHOTS – **Tuesday, November 15.** Professional photos will be taken of dance students as a fundraiser for dance. Come on out and look beautiful!

CHORAL FIELD TRIP – **Thursday, November 17.** Eligible members of Choir will be heading to Redlands to perform.

MIRTH AND MAYHEM PLAY PRODUCTION – **November 18 & 19, 7:00 PM.** This play will be performed in the Black Box Theater.

THANKSGIVING BREAK – **November 21-25.** Take some time off to celebrate life's blessings with family and friends.

THE DROWSY CHAPERONE MUSICAL THEATER – **December 9 & 10, 7:00 PM.** The first play production performance of the year will delight audiences in our very own PAC. Reserve tickets now. If you are a Boosters member, don't forget to use your SSPAB discount!

MOCK TRIAL



Members of Santa Susana's mock trial teams attended the Championship Mock Trial Academy at UC Irvine on October 15th and 16th. One of the Troubadour Team's attorneys, *Nathan "Objection" Peterson*, received a special commendation for his superior cross examination of a witness. Our school's Troubadour and Teal teams are preparing for the Ventura County Mock Trial Competition, held on February 27-March 2.

FOR PARENTS WITH TEENS



Electronic Signaling Devices - Several of you have asked about the School Board Policy and Education Code regarding electronic signaling devices. Below you will find the School Board policy regarding the use of electronic signaling devices:

It is the intent of the Governing Board to regulate the use of electronic signaling devices by establishing guidelines which will ensure the continuation of a positive learning environment which is free from unnecessary disruptions.

The Board believes that, although state law no longer prohibits students from possessing or using signaling devices, restrictions on their use at school must be in place to assure that such use does not infringe on either the instructional process or on the rights of others.

Recognizing that students may be in possession of electronic signaling devices at school, the Board does not assume liability if such devices are damaged, lost or stolen. The guidelines for possession and use of electronic signaling devices on school campuses shall be:

- a. Except in the case of an immediate emergency, students shall not use electronic signaling devices during instructional time or in a setting which may interfere with any school program.
- b. All electronic signaling devices are to be turned off in the classroom and during school activities. This includes the vibrate or silent mode for cellular telephones.
- c. Except in the case of an immediate emergency, students who use cellular telephones on campus may do so only before school, at break or recess, at lunch or after school.
- d. Students are encouraged to use cellular telephones for family business and emergency situation only.

Parents, please help support your child's learning by review these policies with your children. Thank you!

Encouraging Your High Schooler to Have a Good Attitude - Mentioning words like "positive attitude" is a good way to make many teens roll their eyes. But having a positive attitude is a foundation in building character.



Many key elements of character, including kindness, empathy and leadership, are impossible to achieve if you only look at the dark side of life. Here are some positive traits to nurture in your teen:

- **Hopefulness.** On most days, some things will go well and others won't. Don't dwell on what went wrong. Focus on what went well.
- **Moving on.** Say your teen didn't get picked for a certain team. The next chance to try out isn't until next year. After some disappointment, encourage him to put it behind him for now.
- **Laughter.** Remember: Nothing is better than humor for getting rid of a negative attitude.
- **Seeking opportunities.** Say your teen loves animals. Having a positive attitude will tell him that there may be a veterinarian in your area who could use some help. Encourage your teen to call a few of them and a new world could open up for him.

Source: B. Lewis, *What Do You Stand For? For Teens, A Guide to Building Character*, Free Spirit Publishing

Disability Awareness Resource: National & State Organizations

Links to national and state organizations involved with disabilities that have Web site resources that can be used as curriculum materials. Several of these organizations can provide presenters to make presentations about disability history and awareness:

American Printing House for the Blind

Creates educational, workplace, and independent living products and services for people who are visually impaired.

<http://www.aph.org/> (Outside Source)

Autism Society

Exists to improve all the lives affected by autism.

<http://www.autism-society.org/> (Outside Source)

California Council of the Blind

Improves the full independence and equality of opportunity for all blind and visually impaired Californians.

<http://www.ccbnet.org/> (Outside Source)

California Educators of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Dedicated to the pursuit of educational excellence of deaf and hard-of-hearing children.

<http://www.cal-ed.org/> (Outside Source)

California Foundation for Independent Living Centers—YO!

YO! connects, organizes, and educates youths with disabilities. YO! offers youth leadership opportunities, social networks, resources, and more.

<http://www.yodisabledproud.org/organize/disability-history-week.php> (Outside Source)

Center for Applied Special Technology

Expands learning opportunities for all individuals, especially those with disabilities, through the research and development of innovative, technology-based educational resources and strategies.

<http://www.cast.org/> (Outside Source)

Disability History Association

Promotes the study of disabilities.

<http://www.dishist.org/> (Outside Source)

Beyond Affliction: The Disability History Project

Four-hour documentary radio series about the shared experiences of people with disabilities and their families since the beginning of the nineteenth century.

<http://www.npr.org/programs/disability/> (Outside Source)

Disability Awareness Resource: National & State Organizations

DRM Web Watcher

Established to promote and improve awareness, availability, and accessibility of information that can help people with disabilities live, learn, love, work, and play independently.

<http://www.disabilityresources.org/HISTORY.html> (Outside Source)

IMPACT

All-volunteer, nonprofit organization of parents, teachers, and professionals serving deaf and hard-of-hearing children.

<http://www.impactfamilies.org/> (Outside Source)

Learning Disabilities Association of California

Promotes and supports the education and general welfare of children and adults of potentially normal intelligence who manifest learning, perceptual, and/or behavioral handicaps.

<http://www.ldaca.org/> (Outside Source)

Museum of Disability History

Dedicated to the collection, preservation, and display of artifacts pertaining to the history of people with disabilities.

<http://www.museumofdisability.org/> (Outside Source)

National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities

Serves as a central source of information on disabilities in infants, toddlers, children, and youths.

<http://nichcy.org/> (Outside Source)

National Federation of the Blind

Improves blind people's lives through advocacy, education, research, technology, and programs encouraging independence and self-confidence.

<http://www.nfb.org/nfb/default.asp> (Outside Source)

National Organization on Disability

Promotes the full participation of America's 54 million people with disabilities in all aspects of life.

<http://www.nod.org/> (Outside Source)

UC Davis MIND Institute

Provides education outreach to parents, patients, educators, and the community.

<http://www.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/mindinstitute/education/> (Outside Source)

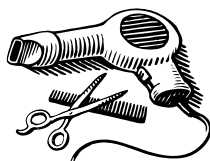
Attention Santa Susana Students

Want to support the performing arts at Santa Susana High School?

Need a haircut... how about some hi-lights?

Lisa Steves will donate 10% of your service to the Performing arts department OF YOUR CHOICE.

Also receive 20% off on all hair care, skin care or make-up
Purchased on the day of your service



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