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LAKE CHAMPLAIN WALDORF SCHOOL

OUR VOICE | May 16, 2014

email newsletter items to: newsletter@lakechamplainwaldorfschool.org



There are only a few seats left!

Tickets: A few tickets are still available for the Saturday's Spring Benefit Gala. If you know someone who would like to attend the Gala, please email [Lisa Espenshade](mailto:Lisa.Espenshade@lakechamplainwaldorfschool.org) with their name as soon as possible. The evening will be glorious, with stunning musical performances, lavish food, and a fabulous array of auction items.

Raffle: The 50/50 raffle pot is growing daily and you can [purchase your raffle tickets](#) online through the benefit website. This year the tickets are \$50 each and there will be three lucky winners selected at a random live drawing at the Gala. **Ticket holders do not have to be present to win.** The raffle is open to anyone, so please help us spread the word and let your family, friends and colleagues know that they can support the school through the raffle. The more tickets that are sold, the bigger the 1st prize!

1st Prize = up to \$4,000 cash (one-half of the proceeds)

2nd Prize = 4 years of Reduced Parking at the Turtle League



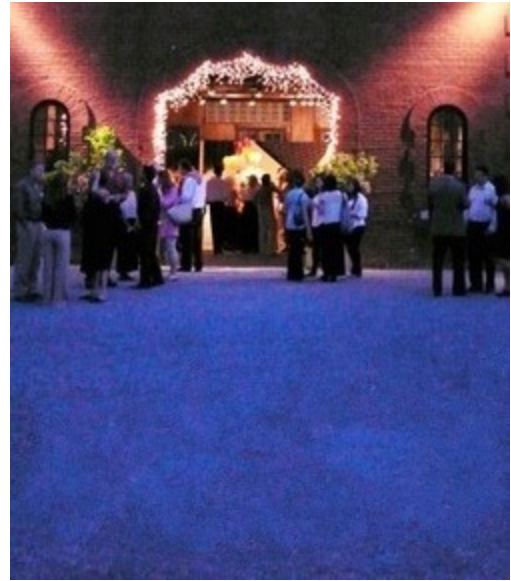
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Bostwick Road campus

3rd Prize = an "Everything Chocolate" Gift Basket, donated by Shelburne Supermarket

Auction: You can easily share auction items through your own Facebook and Twitter accounts. All you have to do is [find an item that you want your friends to know about](#), click on the Facebook or Twitter icon on the left side of the page that features the item, and you are immediately brought to your own status update with a direct link and photo of the auction item. It's a really simple way to get the word out! And don't forget to pick up an Auction Catalog in the Kindergarten, Grade School or High School.

See you tomorrow at the Coach Barn. Doors open at 5:00 and the concert begins at 6:30.



The Power of Community

"Tonight, I want to honor the ties created by community, ties between those who love, support, educate and inspire each other, be they family, friends, teachers or students. I want to acknowledge all of us who have lost a loved one, all who have gone on a journey that has allowed the power of community to shine through."

--Steve Olson, Music Director



Photo by Dana Govett

Thursday night's Family Concert was exquisite. The chapel at Saint Michael's college was filled with reverence as **Sueanne Campbell** introduced the concert and celebrated the life and spirit of **Joshua Moore**. From the tender songs of the 5th and 6th grade chorus to fullness of the 7th and 8th grade orchestra and the soaring voices of the community choir and the senior soloists, the musicians performed with a grace and skill that was truly awe-inspiring. Deep gratitude to guest organist, **Gareth Olson** and to **Steve Olson** for his ability to bring out the best in our children and our community.



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Grandparents' and Special Friends' Day

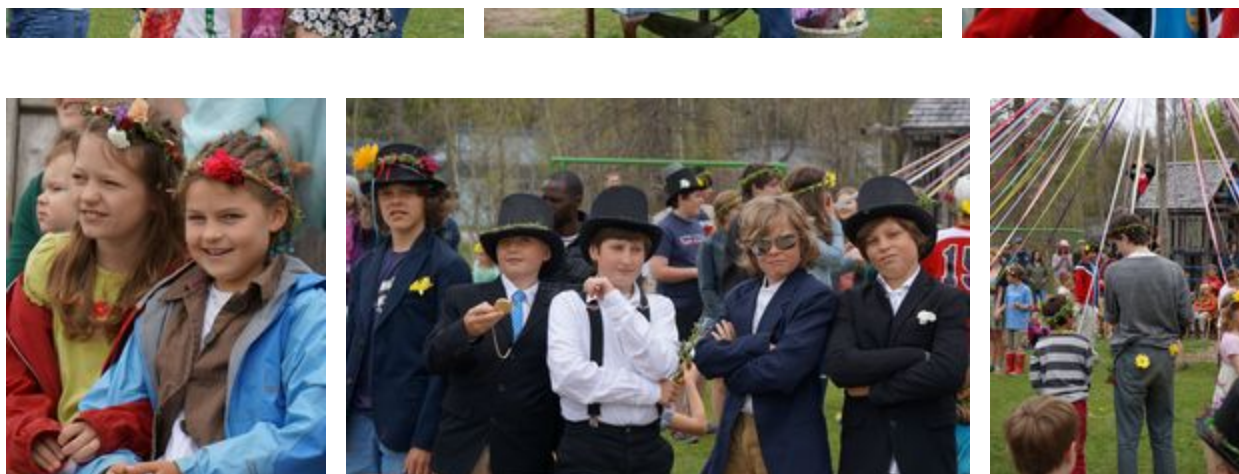


Each year we welcome grandparents and special friends to a morning of student presentations, musical performances, and classroom visits. This morning, guests had the opportunity to share stories, watch play practices, pose questions to the graduating seniors, paint and draw, and eat snack in the classrooms with the students. To see many more photos of Grandparents' and Special Friends' Day, [visit the school's Facebook page](#).

We feel the promise of spring...



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Read Out on the Lawn

We had a fantastic first-ever participation in National Screen-Free Week at LCWS! A highlight included our school-wide Read Out on the Lawn on Wednesday, with younger students snuggled next to older ones reading their favorite children's books.

Fifth grade class teacher Colleen Culhane commented on the value of Screen-Free Week for her class:



"This was an amazing chance to have thoughtful conversations with my class. Each day we had a theme that guided our discussion. We started by talking about screen-free activities we love, and then talked about what it feels like to do those things versus doing something with a screen. We also talked about what it feels like to interact with people who are texting or otherwise engaged with screens. The children were very clear about how that experience makes them feel separated from the person who is texting."

10th grade community fundraiser a success



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On Saturday, May 10th members of 10th grade class raked, hauled leaves and weeded to raised \$1,120.00 toward their Senior class experience in Ecuador. It was a terrific way to work together and help community members get their yards ready for Spring! We may do this again in the Fall, so save some raking for us!

Congratulations to the class of 2014!

The Class of 2014 was accepted to the following colleges. Students were awarded four years of **merit scholarships totaling: \$1,750,000.**

*Allegheny College - 1
American International College - 1
Bard College - 1
California College of the Arts - 2
*Centre College - 3
Champlain College - 1
Christopher Newport University - 1
*Clark University - 1
Colby Sawyer College- 2
*College of Wooster - 1
Drew University - 1
*Earlham College - 1
*Eckerd College- 2
Elmira College - 1
*Goucher College -3
*Guilford College - 2
*Hampshire College - 1
Hobart and William Smith Colleges- 1
Hofstra University - 1
Loyola University- 1
Maine College of Art - 1
Marist College - 1
*McDaniel College - 2
Merrimack College
Mount Holyoke College - 1
Muhlenberg College- 1
The New School - Eugene Lang- 1
Pratt Institute - 1
Norwich University - 1
Roanoke College - 1
Sarah Lawrence College - 1
Savannah College of Art and Design - 3
Seton Hall University
Skidmore College - 1
University of Mary Washington - 2
University of New England - 1

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University of New Hampshire - 1
University of San Francisco - 1
University of Vermont - 3
Wells College - 1
Warren Wilson College - 1
Washington and Jefferson College - 1
Wesleyan University. - 1
Westminster College - 1
Wheaton College - 1

Waitlist:

Connecticut College - 1
Dartmouth College - 1
Kenyon College - 1
Worcester Polytechnic Institute - 1

*College selected as one of the Forty Colleges the Change Lives.

Eighth grade presents Willy Wonka next Tuesday and Wednesday

All are welcome the eighth grade's final class play, Willy Wonka. Mr. Foster and the children have transformed the community room into a chocolate factory and will be performing at **11:00 am and 7:00 pm on both May 21st and 22nd**. The fourth graders will be in all four performances as baby oompas-loompas!



Recent Press about LCWS

When we can, we link to newspaper articles on our [Facebook page](#). In case you've missed some posts, here is a sample of recent stories about LCWS:

[Burlington Free Press](#) wrote a three page story about the High School's move to Shelburne.

[Shelburne News](#) published a story about the fourth grade raising \$1000 for New Village Farm

[The Citizen](#) ran a piece on the LCWS auction featuring alumnus Devon Govett '11 who designed the auction software.

[Charlotte News](#) (as well as The Citizen and Shelburne News) published an article about LCWS breaking ground on the new high school.

[KidsVT](#) explored the Simplicity Parenting series offered at the school this winter.

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LCWS Faculty and Staff Volunteer at Waldorf Schools Around the World

We have some world travellers among our faculty and staff who have recently devoted their vacations to volunteering at Waldorf schools in Peru, India and Guatemala. This piece, the last in the series, was written by **Kristin DeVoe-Talluto** who spent February break in Guatemala.

Jim and I travelled extensively in India and Asia in 1997-1998 and met some amazing families who were on the road with their children. We told ourselves that when we had kids, we would do some sort of overseas adventure with them.

Ten years and three kids later, we were ready. After much searching, we discovered [Escuela Caracol](#), an emerging Waldorf-inspired school in San Marcos La Laguna in Guatemala. Although we had never been to Central America, we didn't speak Spanish and our kids did not attend a Waldorf school, we were compelled to make this little town our home for ten months. Escuela Caracol was only two years old when we arrived in the fall of 2008; there were two open-air classrooms, a small team of local and international staff, and 26 students in grades K-2 including **Kai** who was in kindergarten, **Willow** in first grade and **Sienna** who received extra projects as the only third grader in a first/second grade class.

The founders of the school were a young American couple who had lived in Guatemala for several years and intuitively felt that they needed to start a school that would serve both their daughter and the Mayan children from the local area. They returned to the States and researched a number of educational models and decided that a Waldorf school would best honor and embrace the needs and culture of the Maya who are deeply connected to beauty, community, craft, and the natural world.

Fast-forward to 2014...Escuela Caracol has grown exponentially and my family and I had the incredible fortune of [returning to the school over February vacation to volunteer](#). Caracol is now an accredited Waldorf School that serves over 70 children in kindergarten through sixth grade and has a long wait-list children who want to enroll. On our return visit, we were in awe of the beautiful, two story structure that houses grades two through six, the four new kindergarten buildings, and the expanded grounds, gardens, kitchen (lunch is included for all students), and library.

One of my favorite stories is about Marilily, the quiet, young woman who was Kai's assistant kindergarten teacher in 2009. **She was born in San Marcos to a family of 10 and, when we first met, she had never travelled farther than three hours from her hometown.** When Marilily saw Kai back in February, she was amazed at how much he had grown in five years, and yet Marilily's transformation was just as stunning: she had completed her Waldorf teacher training in Cuernavaco, Mexico and become **the first certified**



Parents look through main lesson books.



Kai with his kindergarten teachers in 2009.
Marilily is on the right.

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Guatemalan Waldorf teacher. She is now the lead kindergarten teacher at the school and her commitment to the children and her community is tangible.

Escuela Caracol is a beacon of peace and unity in a town that experiences intense poverty and vast divisions among the local, ex-pat and tourist communities. In Spanish *caracol* means snail shell and, for the school, **this spiral formation symbolizes the integration of all of life's facets into a common whole.** Caracol's ability to integrate education in a way that honors the Maya as well as the children whose parents have North American, European and Latin American backgrounds speaks to the creativity of the staff and the wholeness and universality of Waldorf education.

I love sharing Escuela Caracol with others and **I am considering taking a group families to Guatemala next February to volunteer at the school and relax into the beauty of Lake Atitlan.** If this resonates with you, please feel free to [contact me](#). You can also learn more about Caracol through their [website](#) and their [Facebook page](#).

Kristin DeVoe-Talluto, LCWS Publicity Coordinator



A caracol-shaped garden path.



This newly constructed building serves the second through sixth grade classes.



Escuela Caracol is in San Marcos on Lake Atitlan in the highlands of Guatemala.

To avoid late fees...

Please **remember to get all tuition payments current** to avoid to avoid late fees and finance charges. Tardy tuition payments cost the school time and money! Please attend to this immediately. If you need to have a statement emailed to you, please email tborden@lakechamplainwaldorfschool.org Thank you. ---Terri Borden

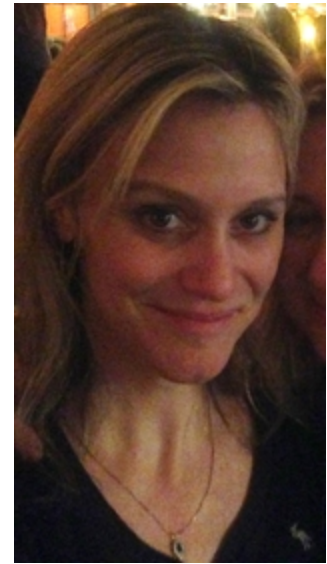
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Shout-Outs

We are experimenting with a new section of the newsletter where readers can express gratitude toward other community members. If you'd like to submit a Shout-Out, please email: newsletter@lakechamplainwaldorfschool.org.

To **Brenda Baker** for always being patient and kind with my daughter and me (and many more, I'm sure). My daughter feels the office is a safe and welcoming place to come to when she needs anything. When I must call, sometimes in a panic, for an appointment I forgot about until 20 mins before the scheduled time, she calmly and lovingly gets messages where they need to be, and is always gracious and kind. We are blessed to have such a calm, supportive and understanding representative in such an important role. Thank you Brenda! *Katherine Knox*

A shout out to **John Guidry** for his tireless work at all Spring Benefit rehearsals, ironing out logistic details, and to **Christopher Diehl-Noble** for his skill in problem-solving. And an enormous thank you to **Tom Mahar**, **Terry Barbour**, and **Mike Doran** who not only set up the performance space at St. Mike's with patience, grace and efficiency, but saved the day by ensuring the risers were safe for all. *Kristin DeBellis*



Community News

Learn how you can heat and cool your home with clean, fossil-free, solar power and save as much as 50% on your heating bills! Join us at the Shelburne Town Offices, Tuesday May 20th from 6:30 to 7:30 pm for a workshop which will cover the basics of pairing solar power with the heat pump technology: how they work in Vermont, what government incentives are available, how they reduce your traditional heating fuels, other added benefits, and more. These devices have been used down south for decades but are finally good for cold climates too and are a really smart and clean way to heat and cool your home whether or not you go solar. [Please RSVP](#)

Camp Hoopla! Let's Put on a Show! 7/21-7/25, 10-3, Charlotte Central School. 10-14 years olds, spend an unforgettable week laughing with Woody Keppel (the endearing and eccentric character, Woodhead), Andy Smith (music teacher extraordinaire), and Wendy Bratt (LCWS mom)! Emphasis on collaboration and FUN ~ Students of all levels: music, theatrical clowning, juggling, and improvisation of all kinds. Wendy Bratt; 802-777-1057, wbratt@qmavt.net, fb: <https://www.facebook.com/CampHoopla>, Charlotte Rec Office: recreation@townofcharlotte.com

Looking for a nourishing, creativity-embracing experience for your 5-12 year old in June? Wingspan Studios in Burlington is offering a magical experience for kids this summer with the help of Kindergarten mom, poet, and yoga teacher Rachel Daley. In "Yoga, Poetry, and Bees, Oh My!" from June 16-20, Maggie (of Wingspan Studios) and Rachel will lead campers in explorations of wild grasses, tree poses, watercolors, and the poetry of bees during this highly engaging, art- and nature-rich camp geared for kids who love to get hands dirty and hearts pumping.

Rachel and Maggie will also be teaming up for a camp from August 4-8 ("Splish! Splash! Under the Sea!") to offer a week playing with roles such as "warrior" and "princess" in a playful, relaxed way – to help kids experience these roles as empowering and fun through poetry, artwork, and movement. To learn more about these wonderful offerings, visit <http://www.wingspanpaintingstudio.com/classes.html> or, email Rachel: rachelmdaley123@gmail.com

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Round Robin Farm Horse Camp. For aspiring and serious riders alike, our overnight summer camp offers riding instruction for ages 8- 17 on a beautiful, Vermont family farm. June 15 through August 23. visit www.roundrobinfarm.com or contact roundrobinVT@gmail.com Thanks so much, Jesy Joy(Upper Valley Waldorf School parent)

Join Urban Moonshine in cultivating a modern herbal movement for the next generation! On May 24th we are hosting an inspiring full day of herbal classes, walks, talks, & connections, followed by an evening featuring delicious food and cocktails. Check out the [conference schedule](#) and [class descriptions](#) from noted local and regional herbalists and healers. 100% of the proceeds will benefit the [Vermont Center for Integrative Herbalism](#)'s community herbal clinics.



Classifieds

Housing needed: LCWS family looking for housing by May 31st. 2 to 3 bedrooms needed, and allows pets. Responsible tenants with excellent reference from landlord. Our home that we have rented for several years has had water/mold problems, and our landlord moved us into the Residence Inn until May 31st and is assisting us with move to new home. We need housing by then. Rent amount up to \$1400, would love garden space, prefer single family home but open to any possibility. Can be up to 30 minutes distance from Burlington. If you know of something, would you please email or call. Stephanie Lewis, 825-1947, stephanielewis1962@yahoo.com. Thank you!

Full Size G. Bauer Cello for sale. Purchased at Vermont Violins. Gently used for a couple of years and in excellent playing condition. Includes soft case. \$750 or b.o. Cynthia 802-316-1544

Buy CAbi Clothing and benefit LCWS. Purchase this season's great looks! Stop by 4946 Spear St. Shelburne, Saturday May 31, 4 pm, or make a private appointment. These are quality women's clothes with an amazing fit and style. I am donating 20% of purchases to the school, so treat yourself and the school! To RSVP or set up an appt: mcomey@me.com, 802-355-1905. For CAbi information visit www.melendycomey@cabionline.com Melendy Comey, Independent CAbi Consultant

Thanks for the many ways that you support the Lake Champlain Waldorf School.

Pledge!

Donate!

Upcoming Events At A Glance

May is a very full month at LCWS. There are class plays, class trips, parent evenings, sports events, and field trips taking place weekly. For a more detailed look at class-specific activities, please visit our [online calendar](#).

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May 17: Spring Benefit Gala, Coach Barn at Shelburne Farms

May 20 and 21: Willy Wonka, Eighth Grade Class Play, Turtle Lane Campus, 7:00pm

May 22 and 23: Pentathlon, The Field House

June 4: Last Day of School, K-12 (end of the year picnic at Shelburne Beach is in the works)

June 5: 8th grade graduation

June 7: 12th grade commencement

TO SEE THE SCHOOL CALENDAR [click here.](#)

There are four, layered calendars (All School, College Guidance, Middle and High School Sports), which you can turn on or off. Click on the drop-down arrow next to the "Agenda" tab.

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359 Turtle Lane | Shelburne, VT 05482 US



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