



OCEAN COUNTY VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL TECH TALK

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OCVTS PERFORMING ARTS ACADEMY NAMED 2014 BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL, AN EXEMPLARY HIGH PERFORMING HIGH SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2014



The Ocean County Vocational Technical School's Performing Arts Academy (PAA) is one of the 337 schools nationwide to be selected as a 2014 Blue Ribbon School by the US Department of Education. The National Blue Ribbon Schools award honors public and private elementary, middle, and high schools where students perform at very high levels or where significant improvements are being made in students' levels of achievement. PAA was recognized as an exemplary high performing high school.

The Performing Arts Academy is a four year full-time high school designed to provide performing arts curriculum focused in dance, vocal music, and acting, integrated into a rigorous college preparatory academic program. The school exists to provide a unique, nur-

turing, and challenging learning environment for students living in Ocean County who are gifted in the performing arts. The teaching philosophy strives to incorporate the arts into all educational areas by integrating curriculum and by interaction with professionals from the arts industry.

U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan proclaimed, "These great schools are fulfilling the promise of American education—that all students, no matter their name or zip code, can flourish when schools provide safe, creative, and challenging learning environments. National Blue Ribbon Schools are models of consistent excellence and a resource for other schools and districts. We celebrate them for their tireless effort and boundless creativity in reaching and teaching every student."

PAA Principal Karen Homiek added, "The staff's teamwork, collaboration and dedication play a major role in the success of our program. College prep, Honors classes, AP and College courses provide the foundation for academic and performance achievement. We are proud of this recognition and will continue to offer a challenging and rigorous curriculum to our students."

The Performing Arts Academy is now accepting applications for incoming freshman for the 2015-2016 school year. Students are selected from applications through a highly competitive process and

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"Learn everything you can, anytime you can, from anyone you can, there will always come a time when you will be grateful you did."

~Sarah Caldwell

OCVTS HOLDS GRADUATION FOR PRACTICAL NURSING STUDENTS

Ocean County Vocational Technical School held its 91st commencement ceremony for the graduates of the Practical Nursing program. The Nursing Program was the first class offered by OCVTS when it opened its doors in 1959. Sixty-seven student nurses received diplomas for successfully completing the 11-month intensive Practical Nursing program. Families and friends gathered to applaud the graduates who persevered through the extremely challenging curriculum and demanding schedules and completed the program. Several 2014 graduates received scholarships and recognition for outstanding achievements.

The Ocean County Foundation for Vocational Technical Education presented Awards of Academic Excellence/ Outstanding Student Awards to Jenni Smith, Toms River for maintaining the highest grade point average; Katalin Martini, Lakewood, for maintaining the second highest average and Scott Shiley, Brick for maintaining the third highest grade point average throughout the program.

OCVTS Principal Jo Ann Price said, "Our Nursing program is considered one of the most comprehensive, intense and hardest practical nursing programs in the state. We pride ourselves in consistently exceeding both the New Jersey State and National licensing exam pass rates. We commend and applaud you for your commitment in achieving your goal."

For more information about the Practical Nursing program at OCVTS visit www.ocvts.org or call 732.473.3100 extension 3137.



Receiving recognition at graduation ceremonies are (left to right): Scott Shiley, Brick (3rd highest GPA), Katalin Martini, Lakewood, (2nd highest GPA); and Jenni Smith, Toms River, (Highest GPA).

OCVTS PERFORMING ARTS ACADEMY PRESENTS '55 DAYS'

Students from the Ocean County Vocational Technical School's Performing Arts Academy will present '55 Days' by Howard Benton at the Jay and Linda Grunin Center for the Arts at Ocean County College, Toms River.

The time is December 1648. The Army occupies London. King Charles I has been imprisoned yet Parliament votes not to have him stand trial for his alleged infractions. The Army takes matters into its own hands and moves against Westminster in a military coup d'état. What follows over the next fifty-five days, as military and political leader Oliver Cromwell seeks to compromise with a king, is nothing less than the forging of a new nation, and entirely new world.

Howard Brenton's play depicts the dangerous and dramatic days, when, in a country exhausted by Civil War, a few great men attempt to think the unthinkable: to create a country without a king.

The show features historical fact portrayed with a 90's grunge vibe.

Please join us for this historical production.

November 21 at 7PM (Tickets: \$13)

November 22 at 2PM (Understudy Performance - Tickets: Half Price)

November 22 at 7PM (Tickets: \$13)

Go to www.tickets.ocean.edu or call the Ocean County College Box Office 732.255.0500 for tickets.

PAA INTERACT CLUB ART SHOW AND AUCTION (2 SHOWS)

The Annual Art Show and Auction will be held in conjunction with the Performing Arts Academy's stage production of '55 Days'

Saturday November 22 at the Jay and Linda Grunin Center for the Arts, Ocean County College, Toms River.

Show One: 12:00PM (prior to the 2PM matinee performance)

Show Two: 5:00PM (prior to the 7PM performance)

\$5 Admission – Light Refreshments Served – Silent Bidding on all pieces. Proceeds benefit local animal shelters.

OCEAN COUNTY VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL AND HABITAT FOR HUMANITY PARTNERSHIP BEGINS CONSTRUCTION ON SECOND HOME

Ocean County Vocational Technical School (OCVTS) and Northern Ocean Habitat for Humanity held a Groundbreaking Ceremony for a second new home construction in Berkeley Township. Through a unique partnership with Northern Ocean Habitat for Humanity, OCVTS developed the New Home Construction Program last year. This 10-month accelerated construction trades training program for adult students provides real-world experience and hands-on skills. The students, under rigorous supervision, will build a 2-story house for a family selected by Northern Ocean Habitat for Humanity. This building site is located next to the home which was completed by OCVTS students last year.

The Groundbreaking Ceremony is a celebration to recognize the selected Habitat family who will ultimately live in the home; to thank the many donors who have contributed to the construction project as well as funding the development of the New Home Construction Program and to unite individuals, organizations and the community as Northern Ocean Habitat for Humanity continues its mission.

Ocean County Freeholder Director Joseph Vicari and Berkeley Township Mayor Carmen Amato presented both Northern Ocean Habitat for Humanity and Ocean County Vocational Technical School with Awards of Recognition for their continued success.

Frank Folinus, Director of Adult Education at OCVTS commented, "Today marks the beginning of another exciting year. This foundation represents not only the beginning of a new life for the selected family but also the foundation of new careers and livelihoods for OCVTS students."



OCVTS New Home Construction students, the selected Habitat family and local officials celebrate the groundbreaking for the new construction.



OCVTS Director of Adult Education Frank Folinus accepts Recognition Award from Freeholder Joseph Vicari left, and Berkeley Township Mayor Carmen Amato and Council Vice President Judy Noonan on right.

OCEAN COUNTY FOUNDATION HOLDS ANNUAL GOLF OUTING



The Ocean County Foundation for Vocational Technical Education held its annual golf outing fundraiser on October 10. For the first time the tournament was held at the Atlantis Golf Course in Little Egg Harbor. A buffet lunch, served prior to tee off, was prepared by OCVTS Adult Culinary Arts students at Cuisine on the Green, the Ocean County Center for Culinary Arts, which is located adjacent to the golf course.

Despite the unfavorable weather, participants enjoyed the new challenging course. The Golf Outing is one of the major fundraising events for the Foundation. Through various fundraising efforts and the attraction of private resources the Foundation is focused on providing financial support for equipment, facilities and program development.

Since its inception in 1994 the Foundation has awarded over \$480,000 in scholarships to OCVTS students and over \$490,000 in grants to teachers and programs.

OCVTS ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT NANCY WEBER-LOEFFERT HONORED AS WOMAN OF DISTINCTION

Ocean County Vocational Technical School Assistant Superintendent Nancy Weber-Loeffert was honored by Soroptimist International of Toms River, as the 2014 Woman of Distinction. Mrs. Weber-Loeffert was selected as this year's recipient in recognition of her dedication to education and improving the lives of all students.

She was nominated for the award by OCVTS Supervisor Mary Beaty-Sharisky, who said, "Nancy's professional achievements in the field of education, particularly for special needs children, has not gone unnoticed. Likewise, she has and will continue to pave the way for students of all levels...all ages...and all abilities".



BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

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enter at the ninth grade level. Applicants must reside in Ocean County to be eligible for admission. Application deadline is December 10, 2014.

Middle school students who are interested in a future in the performing arts or are looking for a challenging option to high school are encouraged to attend an admissions information session. The sessions outline the admission process and provide insight into the career-themed focused-learning environments. Admission paperwork will be distributed at the information session.

OCVTS ACADEMY ADMISSION INFORMATION SESSIONS

MATES will hold admission information sessions: Saturday October 18 at 10AM; Thursday October 23 at 6:30PM; and Saturday November 22 at 10AM. The sessions will be held at OCVTS MATES, 195 Cedar Bridge Road, Manahawkin, NJ. No pre-registration required.

PAA will hold admission information sessions on Saturday October 25 at 9AM; Wednesday November 12 at 6:30PM; and Saturday November 22 at 9AM. The sessions will be held at the OCVTS Lakehurst campus. Pre-registration is required to attend a session at the Lakehurst campus. Please call 732.286.5678 x4100 to register. Application deadline is December 10, 2014.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- PAA Fall Drama at OCC....November 22 & 23
- PAA Information Session #2November 14
- MATES Information Session #3....November 16
- PAA Information Session #2November 23



OCEAN COUNTY VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL

Board of Chosen Freeholders

- Joseph H. Vicari..... Director/OCVTS Liaison
- John C. Bartlett.....Deputy Director
- John P. KellyMember
- James F. LaceyMember
- Gerry P. LittleMember

Board of Education

- Nina Anuario President
- Stephen Scaturro..... Vice President
- Thomas Dowd..... Member
- Ronald Rosetto Member
- Maureen Stankowitz Member

OCVTS Administration

- William P. Hoey, Jr..... Superintendent
- Nancy Weber-Loeffert. Asst. Superintendent
- Frank J. Frazee.....Business Administrator
- Mary Beatty-Sharisky..... Supervisor, Toms River
- John Biscardi Vice Principal, Brick
- Alison Carroll Principal, MATES
- Kevin Dineen Principal, Student Services
- Frank Folinus Director, Adult Education
- Karen Homiek..... Principal, Lakehurst
- Thomas McInerney Principal, Waretown
- Jo Ann Price Principal, Toms River, LPN
- Christine SantasieriSupervisor, Lakehurst
- Lynn Sauer.....Principal, Brick
- Dr. John Wnek Supervisor, MATES
- Lori Young..... Supervisor, Curriculum/Grants
- Lillian Zavattieri Principal, Jackson



OCEAN COUNTY CENTER FOR CULINARY ARTS

IS NOW OPEN

Check our website for full menu, upcoming events and entertainment schedule

www.cuisineonthegreen.com

609.296.2137

291 Country Club Blvd., Little Egg Harbor

This e-newsletter is published by Ocean County Vocational Technical School. Comments and/or suggestions may be sent to Jean Sullivan, Editor, at jsullivan@mail.ocvts.org



ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

Adult Education Office	732.473.3100	x1000
High School Admissions	732.473.3100	x3122
After High School Admissions	732.473.3100	x3144
Academy Admissions	732.473.3100	x3065
Practical Nursing Admissions	732.473.3100	x3145
Cosmetology	732.473.3100	x3128
Financial Aid	732.473.3100	x3139

WWW.OCVTS.ORG