

Vermont Commons –Academic All Star, Ruby Russell

Name: Ruby Russell
Age: 17
Parents: Mike and Margaret Russell
Hometown: Charlotte



Top Accomplishments *list five things from YOUR perspective*

Singing in front of the school
Running a half marathon
Traveling to China with the Vermont Youth Orchestra
Become WFA certified
Being accepted to the Harvard Secondary School Program

Community Involvement and Activities: Member of the National Honor Society, Achieved Honor Roll status every semester 9th through 11th grades, 3.99 GPA, attended The Island School during the fall of junior year, member of the Vermont Youth Orchestra Association for nine years, traveled with the VYO to tour China and plan on touring France this summer, attended the Secondary School Program at Harvard University focusing on psychiatric anthropology, member of the Vermont Commons School volleyball team, AP scholar, Wilderness First Aid,

Favorite spare time activity: Running and seeing friends

In the fall: Brown University, Pomona, Williams College, Colorado College, Dartmouth College, Scripps College, Amherst College

Fictional character most inspired by: Clara del Valle Trueba from The House of Spirits

If you were stranded on a desert island, what three luxuries would you want to have most with you? A hammock, a guitar, a 5x5 rubix cube

One thing I'd like most to accomplish? Become fluent in at least four languages

Vermont Commons –Academic All Star, Will Hayden

Name: Will Hayden
Age: 17
Parents: Maureen Cassidy and Mac Hayden
Hometown: Shelburne



Top Accomplishments: 2008 Vermont State Champions in Ultimate Frisbee. Captain of VCS Soccer, Basketball, and Ultimate Frisbee teams in 2008-09. Spending time with teachers and friends in Belize, while on a school sponsored trip. Receiving Commitment award in basketball, and Leadership award in soccer, junior year. Becoming certified in Wilderness First Aid. (WOFA).

Community Involvement and Activities: Member of the National Honor Society. Achieved Honor Roll status 9th through 11th grades. 3.75 GPA. Attended the Governor's Institute on Information Technology, Summer 2008. Encounter Week trips sponsored by the Vermont Commons School, including trips to the Sundance Film Festival and Belize. Employee of The Shelburne Supermarket for two years.

Favorite spare time activity: Playing Guitar and Ultimate Frisbee.

In the fall: Applying to Vanderbilt University, Clarkson University, Hamilton College, Union College, RPI, Lehigh University, Lafayette College.

Fictional character most inspired by: Santiago from Old Man and The Sea by Ernest Hemingway.

If you were stranded on a desert island, what three luxuries would you want to have most with you? My guitar, my iPod, and a comfy hammock

One thing I'd like most to accomplish? Have an impact in developing solutions to the sustainability issues facing the environment.

Vermont Commons –Academic All Star, Carly Lagasse

Name: Carly Lagasse
Age: 17
Parents: George and Maureen Seivwright
Hometown: Grand Isle



Top Accomplishments: Becoming certified in wilderness first aid and leading numerous trips in the backcountry with fellow students; being on honor roll every year as well as National Honor Society; a mission trip to Miami; having the chance to take two school sponsored trips to Belize and Rome and seeing new and different cultures.

Community Involvement and Activities: Member, National Honor Society, Achieved Honor Roll status every semester 9th through 11th grades, 3.61 GPA, certified in wilderness first aid (WOFA). Co-teaching the Belize Research and Service course, Leading hiking trips, senior member of the volleyball team, making scarves and hats for people in Afghanistan, working at Bike Vermont (a local organization that repairs bikes to give out to those who can't afford other transportation or who want to better our ecosystem by not using vehicles that burn fuel.)

Favorite spare time activity: Playing guitar, knitting, being with friends

In the fall: St. Lawrence University, Hamilton College, Acadia University (Canada), Bowdoin College, and Class Afloat

Fictional character most inspired by: Nemo from "Finding Nemo"

If you were stranded on a desert island, what three luxuries would you want to have most with you? Blanket, Photo Albums, and my ipod

One thing I'd like most to accomplish? Travel to every continent in my lifetime.

Vermont Commons –Academic All Star, Ian Hollyer

Name: Ian Hollyer
Age: 18
Parents: Jan and Calista Hollyer
Hometown: Shelburne



Top Accomplishments: Helping lead my team to victory in multiple Ultimate Frisbee Tournaments, including the Vermont State Championships in 2008; surviving a grueling winter backpacking Encounter Week in 8th grade; traveling in the wilderness of Utah for twenty-two days with Outward Bound; studying Mandarin Chinese for two years

Community Involvement and Activities: Member, National Honor Society, Achieved Honor Roll status every semester 9th through 11th grades, 3.99 GPA, AP (Advanced Placement) Scholar, certified in wilderness first aid (WOFA), Recipient of VCS academic awards for highest achievement in mathematics (10th), science (10th and 11th) and Spanish (10th), Wilderness Encounter Week co-leader (10th, 11th and 12th), Captain of the Ultimate Frisbee and Volleyball Team, Recipient of Leadership award in Ultimate Frisbee (10th and 11th), Coach of Lake Champlain Waldorf Middle School Ultimate Frisbee team, Junior Member of the Charlotte Volunteer Fire & Rescue Services

Favorite spare time activity: Eating.

In the fall: Applying to Beloit College, Bowdoin College, Carleton College, Dartmouth College, Grinnell College, Kenyon College, Wesleyan University, Whitman College

Fictional character most inspired by: Clark Kent.

If you were stranded on a desert island, what three luxuries would you want to have most with you? Two of the Harry Potter books, and a device that makes me forget what happened, so I could keep re-reading them until I got rescued.

One thing I'd like most to accomplish? Continue studying Mandarin and eventually move to China.