

Academic All-Stars from Vermont Commons School

Name: Julia Cox
Age: 17
Parents: Casey Blanchard and Dan Cox
Hometown: Shelburne

Top Accomplishments: Learning to express myself through poetry, music and art. Grasping the peaceful mystery of the jungle. Swimming with dolphins with my advisor while on a school sponsored trip to Belize.

Community Involvement and Activities: Editor of the Vermont Commons School, yearbook, junior and senior year. Leading roles in Vermont Commons School play for four consecutive years. Vermont Youth Orchestra Chorus. Participant in the Governor's Institute on the Arts, summer 2007. Vermont Voices Project; participant in the filming of the movie "*I'll Shout it Out*". Took voice and dance classes at the Flynn Center for the Performing Arts. Encounter Week trips sponsored by the Vermont Commons School, including trips to Yellowstone National Park and Belize. Achieved Honor Roll status sophomore thru senior year, 3.29 GPA. Participant in the Special Olympics "Penguin Plunge" in 2007 and 2008. Music Theatre major at the "Center for Creative Youth", a six-week summer program at Hartwick College, 2005.

Favorite spare time activity: Music.

In the fall: Admitted Early Decision to Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY.

Fictional character most inspired by: Ruby, from Charles Frazier's *Cold Mountain*.

If you were stranded on a desert island, what three luxuries would you want to have with you? A fantastic hammock, my iPod, and Brad Pitt (twenty years younger!).

One thing I'd like most to accomplish? Continued happiness and contentment.

Name: Kelsey Boudette
Age: 18
Parents: Jennifer and Mark Boudette
Hometown: Burlington

Top Accomplishments: Having the opportunity to travel to Rome, China and Belize because it opened my eyes to the rest of the world and it made me appreciate everything I had.

Community Involvement and Activities: National Honor Society member since sophomore year. Served as Captain of the Vermont Commons School volleyball team and earning the team's Commitment Award in 2006 and 2007. Achieved Honor Roll status freshman thru senior year, 3.77 GPA. Participated in graffiti cleanup, artificial wetland study and research on China through the Vermont Commons School Research and Service program.

Favorite spare time activity: reading.

In the fall: Applying to Brown University, Northwestern University, Tufts University, Occidental College, Clark University, Furman University, UVM, Wheaton College, University of Miami and Ohio Wesleyan University.

Fictional character most inspired by: Elizabeth Bennett in Pride and Prejudice.

If you were stranded on a desert island, what three luxuries would you want to have most with you? My iPod, a really great book, and a fuzzy blanket.

One thing I'd like most to accomplish? Make someone's life a better place.