

October 31, 2012

TURTLE TRACKS

A WEEKLY EMAIL NEWSLETTER FOR THE VERMONT COMMONS SCHOOL COMMUNITY

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 1	November 2	November 4	November 8	November 9
9th Grade Potluck 6-8 PM	Grandparents Day Noon Dismissal	Admissions Open House 1-3 PM	10th & 11th Grade Potluck 6-8 PM	Coffee House 6-9 PM

Save the Date for the First Annual Holiday Artisan Fair



VCS is hosting a quality craft fair on Saturday, December 8, from 10-4 in the Commons Room. We are inviting local artisans to sell their wares, play music, share food, etc. If you have any connections with a craftsman, please contact Mary at 865-8084 x 13.

A tickler: thus far we have wool, paper, beading, handcrafted handbags, jewelry, terrariums, hand-painted scarves and prints, wooden rolling pins, and more! Students have also been invited to share their talents! FYI: There is no fee for the artisan and \$5.00 will be charged at the door for attendees. We are asking that the artisans donate 5% of their profits to the VCS Annual Fund.

Admissions Update



Vermont Commons School is hosting two exciting events in the coming weeks! **On Sunday, November 4th at 1:00 p.m.**, we will welcome interested prospective students and their parents to our school for our **Open House** program in our Commons Room. Attendees will learn about our academic program, R&S, and Encounter Weeks, tour the school, and meet current students and faculty.

On **Thursday, November 29th**, we will host **Sibling Shadow Day**. Brothers and sisters of current VCS students and alumni, in fifth grade and higher, are invited to spend the day at our school, to attend classes and experience a day in the life of Vermont Commons School. During morning meeting we will have a special sibling green gray competition and brothers and sisters will have a chance to learn more about our school! To register for either event please contact Sarah Soule, Director of Admissions, at [802-865-8084 ext. 27](tel:802-865-8084) or ssoule@vermontcommons.org.

Eli Hulse Featured at the Tech Jam!



This past weekend was the 6th Annual Tech Jam held in Winooski. More than a dozen of our students attended the event along with Math Instructor, Jasmine Walker. Eli Hulse, class of 2015, sat on a panel discussing the creation of iPhone apps. Local news station WCAX covered the event. [Click here](#) to read the article and watch the video!

Ivan Voinov '13 Composition to be Performed



Music-COMP (Music Composition Online Mentoring Program) has selected Ivan Voinov's composition, titled *The Norse Clockmaker*, to be added to the programming for the upcoming concerts on November 10th in Montpelier and November 11th in Burlington.

This performance is a collaborative effort between Music-COMP and The Vermont Contemporary Music Ensemble (VCME). VCME is a professional group dedicated to perform rarely-heard 20th and 21st century music and works by living composers. Music-COMP supports students in composing music by connecting them with professional composers in an online mentoring forum. The project also develops

resources for composition and supports live performances of student work. Ivan's submission, *The Norse Clockmaker*, is a piece for flute, violin I, violin II, cello and contrabass. This piece was played at the Ludlow Town Hall Auditorium by professional musicians for Opus 24 sponsored by Music-COMP. [Click here](#) for the description and audio recording to Ivan's composition *The Norse Clockmaker*. Great work, Ivan!

Final Debate of the 2012 Elections Held at VCS –by Mark Cline Lucey



In 1971 the 26th Amendment to the Constitution was passed, lowering the voting age to 18 years. In another defining moment for the expansion of democracy in the United States, 38 of the 50 state legislatures recently approved the 28th Amendment lowering the voting age still further to 12 years!

For the Presidential candidates of all parties this changes EVERYTHING. The parties and their candidates have had to reorient their platforms and campaign messages to capture the vote of this new voting demographic. In order to achieve this, the presidential candidates have agreed to hold one last debate - this one focused on issues of concern to the youth.

The debate will be held right here at Vermont Commons School and will actually include the two main third parties, the Libertarians and the Greens, alongside the Republicans and Democrats. As a member of the VCS community (even if you are not of the 12-17 year old demographic!), you are offered priority entrance. Please join us on **Friday at 10:45 in the Commons Room**, along with our visiting grandparents!

From Our Friends at the Renaissance School in Shelburne

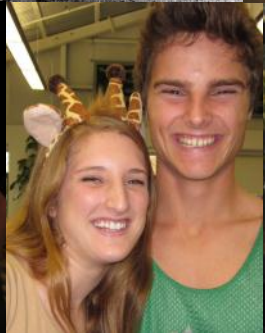


Cape Cod artist Neal Nichols carries the world in his head and he is bringing his unique GEOGRAPHY GAME SHOW to Vermont. With a marker and a white board, Neal devises a game show by drawing a map of the world entirely from memory. Neal outlines the world continents, capitals, mountain ranges and bodies of water. He then quizzes the audience on the locations of various countries, cities, cultural, and geographical features. Neal is gifted at engaging elementary school children, their grandparents and everyone in between!

Who knew geography could be so entertaining! Neal has devoted his life to world travel. In 1992, his travels, combined with his artistic abilities and photographic memory, led to the creation of THE GEOGRAPHY GAME SHOW, an interactive learning experience that has captivated audiences across America. This is an entertaining, and fun-filled family event that will leave you with a broader view of the world thanks to "The Geography Guy".

Tickets: \$10 per person or \$30 for a family of four or more. Limited space available. Reserve your tickets today at www.ebay.com. Go to "SEARCH" and type "Geography Game Show Vermont". (If you are a family of four or more please purchase three tickets only) Please e-mail questions to geographygameshowvt@yahoo.com or call 425-2355. This is to be held at 4066-D Shelburne Road (Shelburne Commons) on November 11th at 11 AM and 4 PM.

This Week in Photos



VERMONT COMMONS SCHOOL - 75 GREEN MOUNTAIN DRIVE, SOUTH BURLINGTON, VT 05403
P: 802-865-8084 F: 802-865-2429 EMAIL: INFO@VERMONTCOMMONS.ORG

WWW.VERMONTCOMMONS.ORG