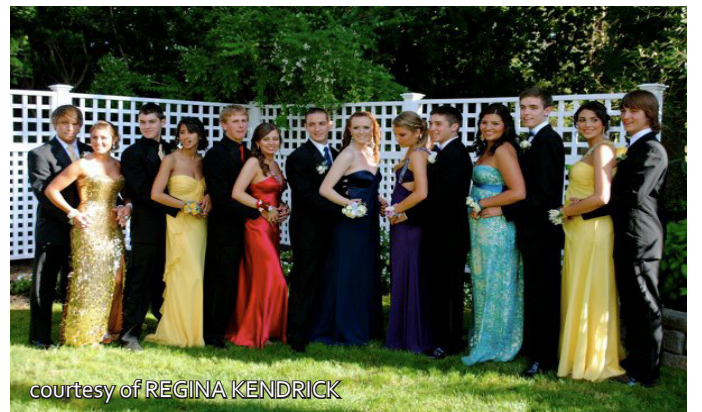




courtesy of LINDSEY MUHLSTOCK



courtesy of LINDSEY MUHLSTOCK



courtesy of REGINA KENDRICK



courtesy of KIMIYA ALSOP



courtesy of SAMANTHA FINK



courtesy of JASMINE YOOK

# SENIOR PROM

**SAMANTHA FINK**  
news editor

On June 3, students attended the Ridgewood High School Senior Prom at the Palisadium in Cliffside Park. It took place from 7:30pm to 11:30pm. Most attendees were RHS seniors, but some were RHS underclassmen or students from nearby schools.

The prom-goers were welcomed in the foyer, where they enjoyed appetizers, took pictures, and greeted their teachers. After signing in and picking up a table number card, they proceeded to the main room, which had a dance floor, a photo booth, and tables that seated twelve people each.

Some chose to spend

time on the balcony, which overlooked the Hudson River, and had a view of the George Washington Bridge and New York City. "The view was spectacular," remarked Junior Mercedes Whitman.

Guests who had attended previous RHS proms felt that the new location at the Palisadium was an upgrade from previous proms, which had been held at the Glen Pointe Marriot. "The view, the venue, and the food were much better, especially the mashed potatoes" said Senior Jasmine Yook. "They were amazing!"

For dinner, guests were served salad, pasta with vodka sauce, chicken and steak with potatoes and vegetables. Chocolate lava

cake was served for dessert.

A highlight of the evening was an impromptu performance of the popular song "Charlie, Last Name, Wilson" by Seniors Eddie Blair and Corbin Jennings. While most people ate their dinners, Blair and Jennings took to the dance floor and began to sing.

"That was hilarious," commented Senior Yeon Hwang. "Someone screamed out 'Charlie Wilson' and then they started singing the song!"

As prom neared its end, the prom guests returned to their limos, party buses, and cars to leave. Regardless of their different post-prom plans, everyone agreed that the evening had been exciting and memorable.

# GAG AWARDS

**SAMANTHA FINK**  
news editor

Recently, Ridgewood High School seniors filled out their yellow Senior Gag Award forms, consisting of 156 categories. Categories ranged from Hidden Hottie to Tree Hugger. While many seniors thought the survey process was long and grueling, they nonetheless filled them out.

Some filled out their forms during their classes, much to the dismay of their teachers. However, some teachers chose to give their students permission to complete the surveys during class.

English teacher Melissa Sabo commented, "It was clear that the seniors were

going to be distracted by the surveys anyway, so I allowed them to bond with their classmates and fill the surveys out."

After the surveys were turned in to Senior Grade Administrator Meredith Yanone, members of the Junior Student Congress began the process of counting the votes.

Gag Awards were revealed on June 13. "I expected some of the outcome, but I was completely surprised by others!" commented senior Rachel Chun.

Recipients of a Senior Gag Award do not receive a formal award, but rather the glory of winning and a reputation among their peers.

Continued on page 2

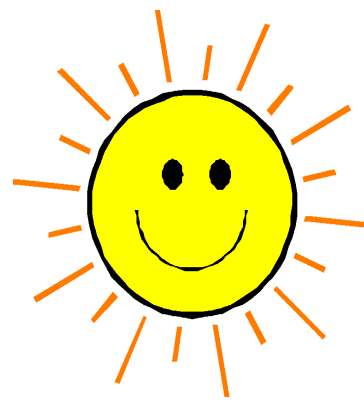
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**Senior Graduation**  
Seniors are about to graduate. Find out what to expect for this year's ceremony.

P2



**Summer Feature**  
Take a look at polls of what RHS students will be up to this summer.

P6



RHS GRADUATION 2011

HELEN PENG  
news editor

It is time again for senior graduation. On June 23, the members of the senior class of 2011 will step out on the Main Field and walk the steps of those who graduated before them. This year will mark Ridgewood High School's 116th commencement.

The ceremony will be organized and executed by RHS faculty, including Principal John Lorenz, Secretary of the Principal Patricia Ferreri, Head Secretary Patricia Maggi, Main Office Secretary Lynne David, Assistant Principal Jeffrey Nyhuis, Secretary of the Assistant. Principal MaryAnn Schmitz, Assistant Principal Basil Pizzuto, Secretary to the Assistant Principal Nancy Wrocklage; Grade Administrators Meredith Yannone, Meg Schaefer, and Liz O'Brien; Department Chairs Mark Ferreri, Greg McDonald, Christopher McCullough, and Nicholas Scerbo; Guidance Secretaries Janine Zegel and Susan Wasserman; Technology Applications Coordinator Julie Beites, Head Custodian Julia Mulvaney, and the RHS Buildings and Grounds Crew.

These staff members play integral roles in shaping the graduation ceremony. Planning begins as early as November. Their jobs include measuring the heights of the graduating class in order to pair up males and females for the procession, setting up chairs and flowers on the football field and making sure the event is carried out successfully.

Principal Lorenz re-

marked, "We have a reputation for one of the most beautiful graduation ceremonies. It is a dignified and significant date for parents, grandparents, friends and relatives. It is rooted in a long history of boys in long dinner jackets and girls holding a bouquet of a dozen roses, marching down the field. People



<http://www.wizwebdesigns.org>

come from all over to watch." Of course, some students are at risk for not graduating. This can result from an attendance issue or an insufficient number of class credits. These seniors and their parents must meet with administrators in order to sort out the issue. Principal Lorenz explained, "We are most proud of the fact that these students have earned the right to graduate by passing all of their classes. This preserves the integrity of the diploma."

The Combined Band will perform what they have traditionally performed for decades. The program will include "Pomp & Circumstance" by Edward Elgar, for when the se-

niors proceed from the school to the field, and "Recessional March" by James Ployhar, for when the graduates leave the field. Each year, Director of Bands Jeffrey Haas writes a brand new trumpet fanfare as a gift to the graduating class, which is played before the procession. He has not yet given this year's fanfare a title.

Members of the choir program will be performing the National Anthem. The graduating members of the choir will be performing an a cappella rendition of "You are the New Day" as performed by the King Singers. Allie Marra, a graduating senior, will also be performing a solo rendition of "Astonishing" from the musical *Little Women*.

The Somerville Award will be given to two seniors – one boy and one girl. According to Principal Lorenz, "It is the most prestigious award given by Ridgewood, to two students who demonstrate exemplary character, scholarship, and leadership." Medha Kirtane, a current teacher at

RHS, was a recipient of the award. The faculty votes, as do the members of the junior and senior classes, to narrow the choice down to the top five boys and girls. They then vote again to choose the winners.

In addition to presenting the Somerville Award, the ceremony will also recognize the teachers who are retiring. This year, they are Henry Heyzer, Barbara Glotzer, Mary Anne Willenborg, Jeff Yearling, and Alice Tepfenhardt.

The graduating class will also hear speeches from Senior Class President Chandler Park and President of Student Congress Tom Cox.

This year's ceremony will begin at 5pm, and will last approximately eighty-five minutes. Each student will be called by name to walk up to the podium and receive a handshake from the teachers. Yannone said, "My favorite part of graduation is the fact that, before the ceremony, teachers gather on either side of the walkway to line the path of the students. This is a nice moment between students and staff." After the ceremony, students will receive their diplomas and attend an iced tea reception, provided for by the Home and School Association.

Afterwards, seniors will board a bus to a country club as part of Project Graduation. There, they will be served meals and hors d'oeuvres. They will then have half an hour to come back to Ridgewood and change their clothes, after which they immediately set out for Benjamin Franklin Middle School. Seniors will stay there overnight for a theme

AWARDS from page 1

And the winners are...

MR. AND MRS. RIDGEWOOD  NICOLE UMINA CONOR GRANT	MOST LIKELY TO BE A TEACHER AT RHS  MORGAN GRUNAT DAN BUTENSKY	BEST LAUGH  HALEY WODENSHEK CHRIS CHERSI	HIDDEN HOTTIE  DANIELLE RADOSSI TRENT OWENS
LEAST LIKELY TO SURVIVE ON SURVIVOR  REMY TELESKO CHARLIE GUNDECK	MOST LIKELY TO BE ON BROADWAY  ALLIE MARRA MARK KENDRICK	MOST SCHOOL SPIRIT  TARA PORFIDO TIM COX	PROM KING AND QUEEN  CAITLIN DANIELS CONOR GRANT

627 E Ridgewood Ave.  
Ridgewood, NJ 07450

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**Staff Advisor**  
Melissa Sabo-LaSala

**Editors-in-Chief**  
Rachel Chun  
Zoe Dartley  
Sidney Kanell

**News Editors**  
Samantha Fink  
Jun Kim  
Helen Peng

**Op-Ed Editors**  
Curran McSwigan

**Features Editors**  
Carolyn Stichnoth

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Emily Hauptman  
Christina Salerno

**Sports Editors**  
Jasmine Yook

**Art and Photo Editors**  
Brad Hong  
Mercedes Whitman



# How Should You Spend This Summer?



ZOE DARTLEY/ editor in chief

Zoe Dartley, a junior here at RHS, has fun with friends on her TFT trip to the United Kingdom.

**CURRAN MCSWIGAN**  
op-ed editor

Summer is a time to relax. We are stress free with the pressures of school behind us, for a few months that is. When most people imagine summer,

they dream of lounging at the beach, hanging out with their friends, or just doing nothing. The ideal summer for most teenagers is one without any care in the world. But that's not always the case. Nowadays summer has become a chance for teens to volunteer,

get ahead in school, or even explore college life. Summer is becoming less about relaxing, and more about trying to cram in everything you want to do before school starts again in September.

As summer approaches you often hear kids discussing their plans for summer which often include visiting colleges and attending academic summer programs.

As getting into colleges is very competitive, students often use summer as an opportunity to gain an upper hand by attending summer courses at their college of choice. This is a great way to experience college life, even if it is only for a week, as it exposes you to the responsibility a college student faces. This summer, I will be going for a week to Brown University for a program called Summer@ Brown. It gives students the opportunity to study in a field of their choice for a week, with no pressures of grades or credits. It is a great way to start figuring out what you might enjoy studying in college.

I think that college programs like Summer@ Brown are great ways for high schoolers to experience college life, and discover what classes or subjects really interest you.

Other students go on volunteer excursions to places such as New Orleans, Costa Rica, and Italy. Community service is a great summer activity as it allows students to give back as well as to accumulate community service hours. Service programs are often for a few weeks but some last the whole summer. It is really a great opportunity to spend your summer giving back to less fortunate people.

Also, many students use their summer vacation as an opportunity to gain cultural experiences through sponsored trips to places such as Spain or England,. They often go on two to three week teen tour trips that offer them the opportunity to visit some of the most famous landmarks in the world. Travelers also get the chance to meet new people their age. Zoe Dartley, a current junior, went on a trip

Summer is truly a great time to get ahead on the college experience.

to England and Scotland last summer with a program called Travel For Teens(TFT).

Dartley said, "It was honestly one of the best experiences of my life, I met such amazing people and got the chance to see things i would have never been able to see otherwise!"

Summer is truly a great time to get ahead on the college experience, gain service hours through a great community service experience, or go on amazing trips to new places. But most importantly summer is the time to relax and enjoy your well-deserved break from school. After all we have waited 10 months for it!

# CUT THE "PROMA": PREPPING FOR SENIOR PROM

**SIDNEY KANELL**  
ediotr-in-chief

With the 2011 Senior Prom behind us, seniors are faced with one question: was it worth the drama? Each year, almost every senior experiences "proma" to some extent. Whether it's date, prom house, or friend related, everyone has had their share. Meanwhile everyone is shooting for the same goal: to make the overall experience perfect.

In preparing for such a highly anticipated event, avoiding drama becomes a difficult task. I think the initial problem is the way in which we have come to view prom. It has become somewhat more of a grand ball than a high school prom in our eyes. We have has it engraved in our minds that on the night of prom we shouldn't just look like royalty, but we should be treated as and should feel like such. Therefore, any obstacles that come between the seniors and their dream night are not taken lightly.

First it starts with the date situation. Nobody wants to be the one who doesn't get asked, or maybe worse, the one who is rejected. Then there's the house issue. Someone has

to organize the whole thing which is inevitably going to be stressful. And of course all sorts of situations are bound to emerge which result in kicking people out of houses and being forced to switch houses at last minute. And naturally, if anybody gets in the way of their friend's plans for the perfect prom, things will not be pretty.

As I am not a senior and have never attended prom, I have no authority to speak for the seniors in terms of how they actually feel about all the "proma" that took place now that all has been said and done. However, I can tell you this: the excessive drama associated with prom completely contradicts what prom stands for in the first place.

Prom serves as an opportunity for the senior class to spend time together for one of the last times as high school students. As graduation rapidly approaches, and current seniors prepare to go off to college in the fall, Senior Prom is, in many ways, a time to unite these students, some of which have been in school together since Kindergarten. Prom is also somewhat of an opportunity for these students to bid farewell as the next time they are all together they will be lining up to receive their



courtesy of TALIA and BROOKE KANELL

diplomas. Unfortunately, the stress over dates and the fighting over prom houses lead preoccupied seniors, to neglect the fact that Prom serves to bring everyone together.

Well, in the end, somehow everything turns out alright. Everyone finds a date and a place to stay for the weekend. And the fact of the matter is that Prom kind of resolves a lot of the drama by itself. Once everyone is all dressed up and the "magic" of the night has set

in, all tension caused by the event subsides. I think its safe to say that the seniors, as they always are, were more than satisfied with how the whole thing played out. The Senior Prom always does manage to fulfill all expectations.

There's no doubt that Senior Prom is an important High School event. It is a great way to reward the seniors for their hard work, to bring them all together, and of course to fulfill tradition. But does "Proma"

really accomplish anything? Of course not. Regardless of tears having been shed, friendships having been broken, and students having convinced themselves that things wouldn't work out in the end, when the night of Prom finally arrived, any drama that built up during the preceding months faded away. Everyone is bound to have a great time at Senior Prom in the end!



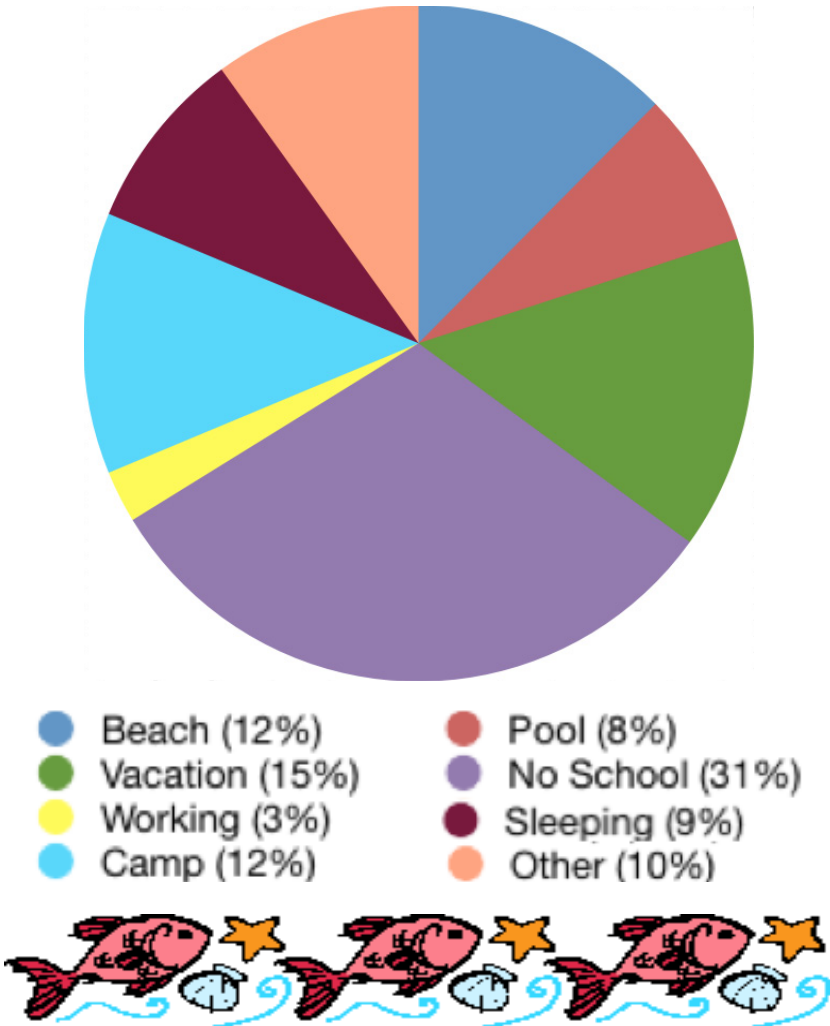
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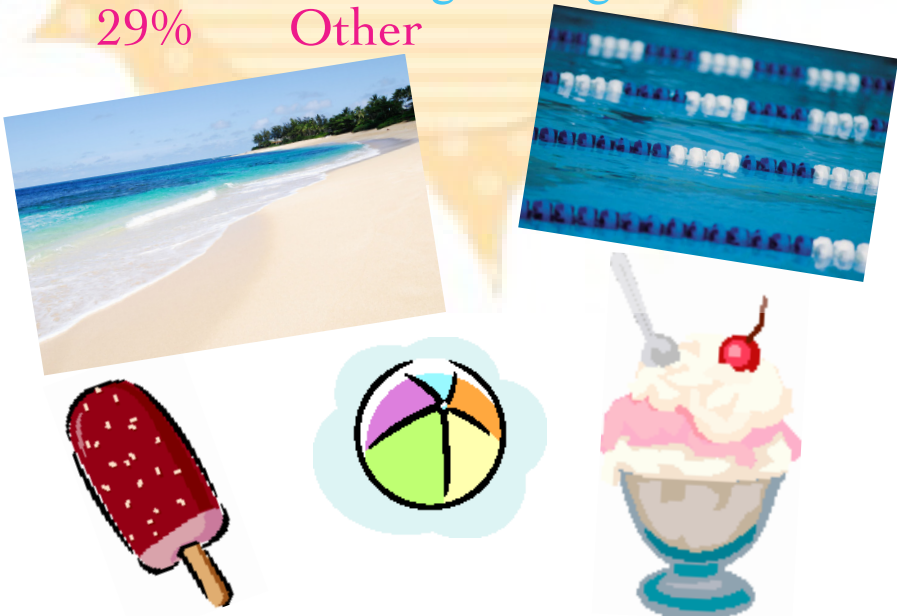
features

# And The Results Are In... RHS Students' Favorite Parts of Summer!



# What else are RHS students doing this summer?

- 80% Relaxing at home
- 71% Going on Vacation
- 50% Volunteering
- 39% Working
- 35% Camp
- 30% Academic Program
- 30% Visiting Colleges
- 29% Other



# TAKE A TOUR WITH TRAVEL FOR TEENS!

ZOE DARTLEY  
editor-in-chief

As I stepped off the plane into Heathrow airport I was exhausted, hungry, and slightly disoriented. At first, I was nervous I had made the wrong decision to spend two weeks in London and Scotland with a group full of strangers. However, my initial butterflies were only temporary. Fourteen days and two

said I wasn't nervous. I had heard of Travel for Teens from a friend who went on one of their trips, and after visiting their website, I was sold. TFT's unofficial motto is "Teaching teens how to be travelers, not tourists," each trip is a unique cultural immersion into the country that you're visiting. They offer dozens of trips, from Egypt to Paris, while most trips visit two countries or more. After finally deciding that I wanted to go to the UK, the next hurdle I had to jump was convincing my parents to let me go. It took a lot of bribing and convincing, but even they could not deny that it was a once in a lifetime opportunity. Before I knew it, my trip was a week away and I was stuffing close to all of my belongings in a suitcase.

Of course, I had my trepidations. Going to a foreign country solo seemed quite intimidating. However, any hesitations I had vanished after the first day. We spent the first ten days of our trip staying in a flat in the middle of London. Every day was filled with a new adventure. Our itinerary included everything from the enigmatic Stonehenge, to walking through the hallowed and historical halls of Westminster Abbey, to being dazzled by the breathtaking views on top of the London Eye. While



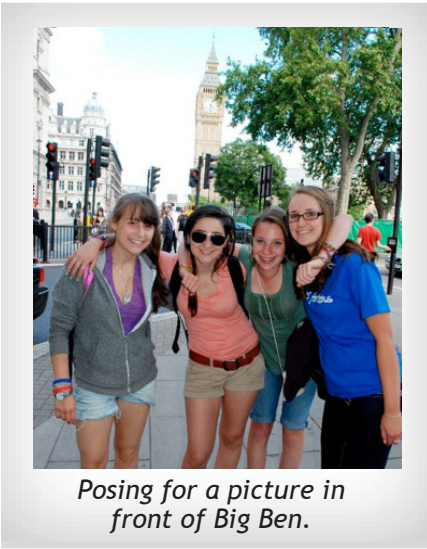
Enjoying some on-street entertainment.

the overwhelming history and culture of London and Scotland was priceless, when I look back on my journey the memories I value the most are staying up all night on the roof of our flat and exchanging stories, and going to breakfast every morning at the corner bakery.

After the fast-paced city streets of London, we embarked upon the second part of our journey to Scotland. I immediately fell in love with the charming, uphill cobblestone streets, the haunting city of Edinburgh, and the peaceful countryside in the highlands. The end of the trip was bittersweet- I think all of us cried at the airport, but the fact that we were so upset to leave each other



Sightseeing in England.



Posing for a picture in front of Big Ben.

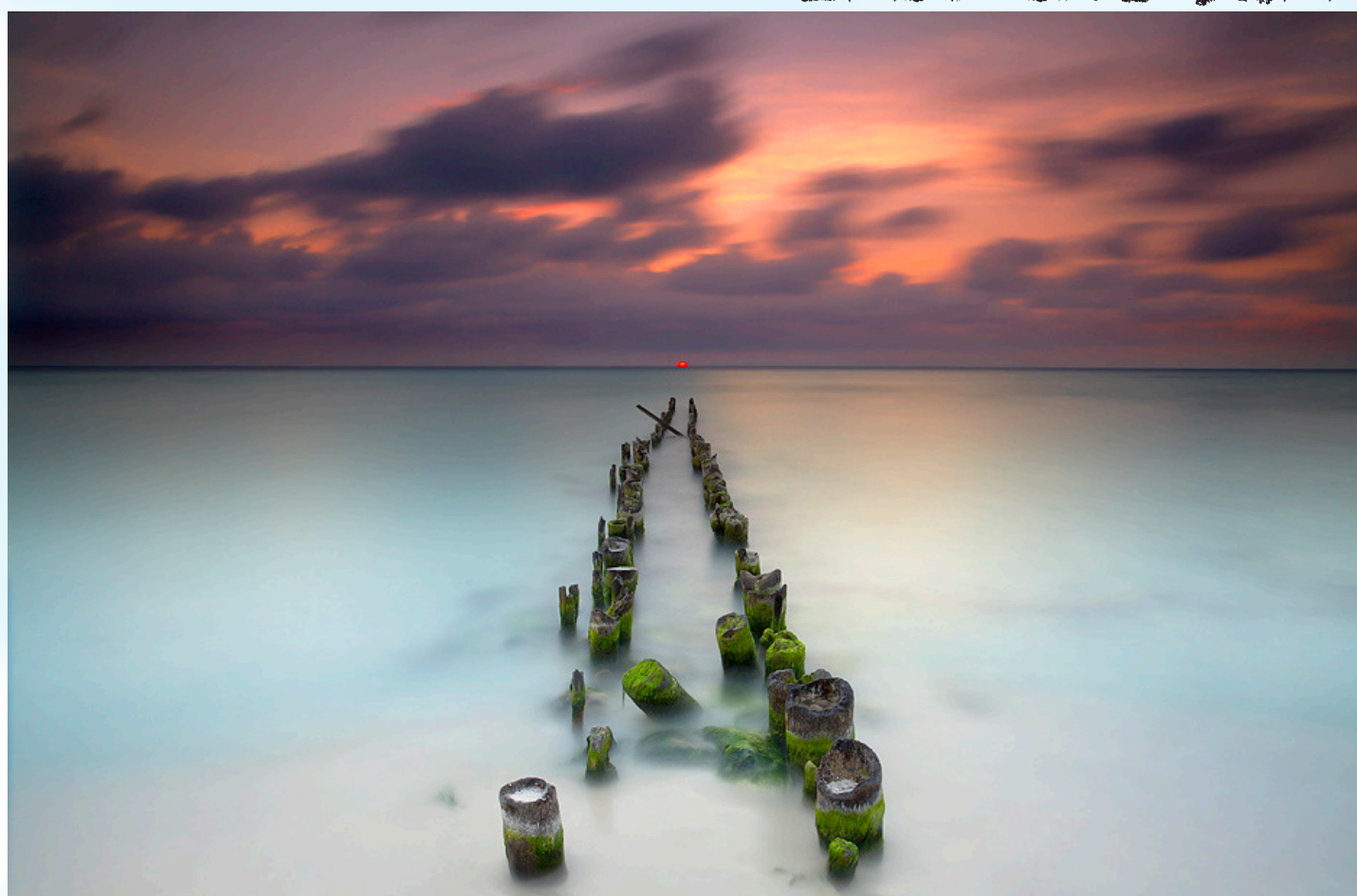
countries later, I would be stepping off a plane onto the Newark airport with a suitcase full of dirty clothes, a backpack embellished in buttons and patches, and enough memories to last a lifetime.

I decided fall of my sophomore year that I wanted to travel that summer. Having never been on a plane before, I would by lying if I





## Into the Sun

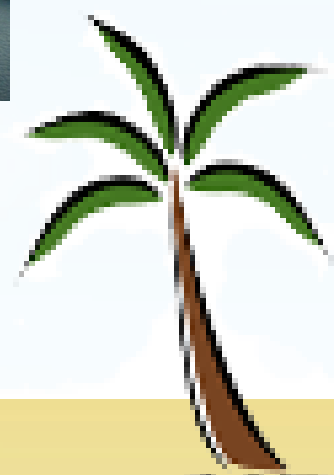


Brad Hong  
High Times  
Photography Editor

## Hang Loose



Mercedes Whitman  
High Times  
Photography Editor





# BLAZING BLOCKBUSTERS



The highly anticipated finale of the Harry Potter movie series, Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part II.

**EMILY GEIGER**  
entertainment editor

Summer is filled with trips to the beach, laying around by the a pool, exotic vacations, and of course no schoolwork. But there are other things that most people look forward to, and that is summer blockbusters. The three months of summer are filled with new

releases that always attract thousands; this summer will be no different.

The summer 2011 will be filled with sequels to movies that have been entertaining us for years, most notably the final installment of the Harry Potter films. *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part II* is a film that avid Potter fans have been anticipating for

a decade. The film is about Harry (Daniel Radcliffe) and his friends Hermione (Emma Watson) and Ron (Rupert Grint). *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part II* takes its audience through the character’s challenges in finding horcruxes, in the hopes of ultimately killing the evil Lord Voldemort. It is now time to see whether Harry or Voldemort will be the wizard to survive, and see the epic battle that precedes the death. Harry Potter will be released on July 15, a date known across the movie-watching world.

Other upcoming films have familiar story lines, but are not sequels. The nostalgic bunch of high school students out there will be happy to know that Winnie the Pooh is coming to the big screen, hitting theaters the same day as Harry Potter, July 15. The story is filled with all of the favorite characters, intermingled together by various plots, such as Winnie the Pooh running out of honey, Eeyore

losing his tail, Tigger training Eeyore to be a tiger, and Piglet helping his friends out of a hole. Adventure ensues when it appears that Christopher Robin has been eaten by a mysterious animal, and Winnie and his friends must try to capture the beast.

One film that is unfamiliar to many is *Super 8*. The movie, produced by Steven Spielberg, is a bit mysterious, and Spielberg said that this is because the movie crew wanted *Super 8* to be like an old Hollywood movie, when the audience knew little about a film and were excited by every unique scene. What is known about the film is that it is about a group of kids who, in 1979, see a train crash. When mysterious things start happening in their town after the crash, the kids take it upon themselves to investigate. *Super 8* comes out in theaters on June 10.

One good movie for comedy lovers is *Bad Teacher* in theaters June 24. The mov-

ie is about a bad mouthed teacher (Cameron Diaz) who wants a wealthy husband, and finds what she needs in the new substitute teacher (Justin Timberlake). To get his attention, she changes her bad ways to become a good teacher to get.

A movie that is less hyped about is the film *The Art of Getting By*. It is about a homework-hating boy named George (Freddie Highmore), who forms an unexpected bond with a girl named Sally (Emma Roberts). Soon, George develops a crush on Sally, and must figure out how to deal with his new feelings. Look out for *The Art of Getting By* in theaters on June 17.

With so many different genres of movies coming out this summer, everyone is sure to be able to find something that they will enjoy. Movies are not just a great way to escape the blazing heat, but also a great activity to do with friends and family any day during the summer.

## SUMMER SCENES

**CHRISTINA SALERNO**  
entertainment editor

Summer is a time for swimming, relaxing, reading, sunbathing, and doing all the things you didn’t have time for during the busy school year. Although this expansive and leisurely list is shared by all summer go-ers, for the New Player’s company, summer is for acting. After a busy school year of countless productions, the New Players are looking forward to an even busier summer filled with plays, one-acts, and musicals. In fact, the New Player’s summer has made an early start; after many rehearsals, meetings, and anticipation, auditions were held on Tuesday, May 31 and Wednesday, June 1 after school in the Little Theater. Callbacks were announced the following Thursday, June 2, and held that afternoon. The cast list is already up, gracing the bulletin board outside the doors of the Little Theater and drawing an excited crowd.

The New Player’s summer begins with *The Imaginary Invalid*, a French three-act comédie-ballet written by Jean-Baptist Poquelin (known as Moliere) and first performed in 1673. *The Imaginary Invalid* is a classic story about a hypochondriac, named Argan, who is determined to marry his daughter, Angelique, off to a

doctor. It is not the money that Argan is after, but the medical assistance that his son-in-law could provide, given the countless “illnesses” he has. But, Angelique has other plans, and they don’t include marrying a doctor, but rather marrying Cleante, the man she loves. Angelique is given an ultimatum: either she marries Thomas, the doctor, or is sent to a convent. The drama unravels with a climactic and unexpected ending.

The second production this summer is *The Mouse That Roared*, a novel-based satirical play depicting America’s use of foreign aid to buy and influence countries during the Cold War. Written by Leonard Wibberley, *The Mouse That Roared* tells a story of a tiny country, Grand Fenwick, declaring war on America, not in hopes of winning but in hopes of losing the war and collecting America’s foreign aid to replenish Grand Fenwick’s treasury. Although heavy at times, *The Mouse That Roared* will send the audience “roaring” in the crowds!

The summer’s final production of the raucous hit musical *Guys And Dolls* includes all members of the Summer New Player’s program in a celebration of the ending season. *Guys And Dolls* tells a brash story set in New York City about the love two gam-

blers, Nathan Detroit and Sky Masterson have for two women. Both men deal with money problems as well as love problems, attempting to keep their gambling business secret and successful while trying to charm the women in their lives. Nathan tries to keep his fiancée of 14 years happy while Sky tries to win over a straight-laced woman working for the Salvation Army. This highly acclaimed Broadway hit promises to bring an interesting fusion of underground city life and romance to the Little Theater stage.

The cast, crew, and audience-members-to-be are looking forward to the excitement and entertainment that the New Player’s company always promises to bring to the stage during summertime. Kim Preminger, RHS junior, exclaims with emotion, “I cannot wait to see all my friends up on stage this summer. The devotion that the actors give to their roles and the emotion they infuse into their lines and actions never fails to floor me. I instantly get drawn into the plot of the play and feel like a part of the action. I always expect an excellent performance when I walk through the old wooden doors of the Little Theater.” It is easy to say that all of RHS is behind Kim on this, and are sure to be at the Little Theater on opening night!

## Summer Concert Series Free in Central Park

Miley Cyrus	June 18
Bruno Mars	June 24
Alicia Keys	June 25
Pitbull/ T-Pain/ Ne-Yo	July 1
Mary J. Blige	July 2
Chris Brown	July 15
The GO-GO’S	July 16
Cee Lo Green	July 22
Sheryl Crow	July 23
Journey	July 29
Black Eyed Peas	July 30
Maroon 5	August 5
Jonas Brothers/Demi Lovato	August 13
Enrique Iglesias	August 29
Rihanna	August 20
Train	August 26
Lady Antebellum	August 27





COLLEGE BOUND

JASMINEYOOK  
sports editor



STEPHAN ETNA  
MIDDLEBURY  
COLLEGE

COOPER BYRNE  
MIDDLEBURY  
COLLEGE



INSOO HWANG  
BROWN UNIVERSITY

PATRICK RYNKOWSKI  
MARIST COLLEGE

MOHAMMED EID  
MARIST COLLEGE

JUAN LLINAS  
UNIVERSITY OF  
ILLINOIS

JESSICA MILLER  
UNIVERSITY OF  
RICHMOND



SAMANTHA  
GIORDANO  
GEORGETOWN  
UNIVERSITY

TAYLOR PEDERSON  
UNIVERSITY OF  
VERMONT



MATTHEW  
BEAUSOLELI  
CITADEL COLLEGE

THOMAS STEPHAN  
FRANKLIN &  
MARSHALL COLLEGE

KAYLA POLCARI  
UNIVERSITY OF  
NOTRE DAME

SARAH DEVITA  
UNIVERSITY OF  
VIRGINIA

JULIA GOULD  
HOLY CROSS  
UNIVERSITY

BLAIR FUENTEZ  
MIAMI  
UNIVERSITY

DOUGLASS LICITRA  
ST. JOSEPH'S  
UNIVERSITY



KATE FLOOD  
UNIVERSITY OF  
DELAWARE

TIMOTHY MATTESICH  
FRANKLIN &  
MARSHALL COLLEGE

ANDREW TONER  
GETTYSBURG  
COLLEGE

VANN JORGENSEN  
RUTGERS UNIVERSITY

GORDON RUFFING  
SALVE REGINA  
UNIVERSITY



\*self-reported by athletes and student sources

ISABELLE SIPPEL  
BOWDOIN COLLEGE

JULIE CAMPBELL  
BOSTON COLLEGE

KYLE GIBSON  
WESLYAN COLLEGE

LINDSAY WEINER  
BOSTON  
UNIVERSITY

SAMANTHA YATES  
WASHINGTON & LEE  
UNIVERSITY

RENEE OLSEN  
TRINITY COLLEGE

ALBIN HOH  
SALVE REGINA  
UNIVERSITY

MICHELLE SAVUTO  
BRANDEIS  
UNIVERSITY

GRIFFIN ABBOTT  
HAMILTON  
COLLEGE

SALLY JENTIS  
UNIVERSITY OF  
FLORIDA

GRAYSON LLERANDI  
COLLEGE OF WILLIAM  
& MARY



ALEXANDRA KORINIS  
BABSON COLLEGE







# *A farewell from the senior editor-in-chief*

It certainly feels strange to be writing my farewell as a senior when it seems not so long ago that I picked up a copy of the High Times my first year here at the high school. The High Times has been a great experience and undoubtedly an honor to have been a part of throughout my high school career. Although the entire editorial staff was new this year with the exception of one editor, everyone adjusted fairly quickly to the rhythm of our club. It was interesting to see my peers' reactions as they flipped through each page of the High Times around the halls of something we have carefully examined, revised and scrutinized to its very ink. Having had our veteran fellow editors graduate, it was indeed a challenge to fill in the big gap after the last year's full staff. I remember so vividly of our summer gathering in which we discussed and bounced around some innovative ideas and laid out a plan for the upcoming year. But to be on the brink of graduation, I find myself bewildered and already nostalgic of the past months I've spent at our late nights toiling with layouts and scurrying to publish on time. To have come this far with such rapid adjustment and improvement for the paper is really astounding and could not have been possible without the work of our editors and my dear co-editors-in-chief. I hope that this club continues to prosper with the creative input of the RHS students.

What normally remains a sedate confines of computer lab, our editors at late nights have transformed the monotonous room into a frenetic yet synergetic room to orchestrate a cohesive, informative paper. The end result? The school paper with students' vivacious thoughts and voices carefully organized into words on paper that makes the effort worthwhile and nonpareil. It would be a serious understatement to say that the High Times has been an ordinary high school experience because it has been a privilege to have worked with such a great team of editors. I deeply thank them for having been so awesome this year and am grateful to have been able to take part in translating peer students' voices into words to be heard and be known. And lastly, I sincerely give my countless thanks to Ms. Sabo who made this all possible! An absolute antithesis to what's normally expected of mundane, dull newspaper meetings, late nights would not have been so lively and mirthful without her. Once again, I thank all the editors for they have been so collaborative and creative; my co-editors-in-chief, Sidney and Zoe; Ms. Sabo and lastly the readers of our paper! Thank you so much for your support and I wish the best of luck to our editors next year and to everyone on all your future endeavors! I could not have asked for a better year. Thank you!

*Rachel Chun*

**Congratulations** to the  
Graduating Class of 2011!