

SARATOGA SPONSOR-A-SCHOLAR

Our mission is "...to assist economically disadvantaged young men and women to graduate from high school and college."

Board of Directors

January 25, 2010

Hon. Scott Johnson

Kristie Roohan

Julie Bonacio

Lew & Pat Titterton

Jim LaVigne

Jerry MacDonald

John Snow

Rochelle Calhoun

Janice White

Ms. Cindy Phillips
Office of Community Development
City of Saratoga Springs
474 Broadway
Saratoga Springs, New York 12866

Re: Saratoga Sponsor A Scholar
Application for Community Development Block Grant

Dear Ms. Phillips:

Enclosed is an application for a Community Development Block Grant on behalf of Saratoga Sponsor A Scholar (SSAS). SSAS is a non-profit organization in its third year that assists disadvantaged Saratoga Springs high school students prepare for and attend college.

We have 29 children currently enrolled in the program and all of them now view college as a distinct possibility not just a dream. Our first graduating class will accept their diplomas this June. Two seniors have already been accepted into college!

Enclosed with our application are some newsletter highlights for an overview of the SSAS program.

Warmest regards,



Jim LaVigne
Acting Executive Director
Saratoga Sponsor A Scholar

*P.O. Box 107, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866
saratogasponsorascholar@yahoo.com
518-587-2472 or 518-581-0979*

APPLICATION FOR
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) ENTITLEMENT PROGRAM
— 2011 Program Year Funding—

ACTIVITY NAME: Saratoga Sponsor-A-Scholar (SSAS) College Prep

The focus of this activity is to serve disadvantaged students of the Saratoga Sponsor-A-Scholar program by providing bus transportation to college presentations and establishment of individualized tutoring at Saratoga High School.

APPLICANT: Saratoga Sponsor-A-Scholar

MAILING ADDRESS: PO Box 107 Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

----- Zip: __12866

PHONE: 518-587-2472 _____ FAX: _____ EMAIL:

saratogasponsorascholar@yahoo.com _____

CONTACT PERSON: _Jim LaVigne_____ TITLE: Executive Director

APPLICANT (select 1): City Department Private non-profit organization Other
Public Agency

(List Dept.)

-----75-3038956-----

(List Federal ID #)

(Specify)

(DUNS #)

NATIONAL OBJECTIVE (select 1):

"Benefit persons of Low/moderate income"
Need

"Address slum/blight Conditions"

"Urgent CD"

L/M Income Area Benefit

"N/A" Slum/blighted Area

"N/A" Urgent

Need

L/M Income Limited Clientele Activities

Slum/blighted Spot Basis

L/M Income Housing Activities

"N/A" Urban Renewal Completion

L/M Income Job Creation/Retention

REQUESTED ENTITLEMENT FUNDING: \$___2000.00_____

Funding Leveraged from Other Sources: \$___-0- _____

Total Activity Cost: \$___2000.00_____

Proposal Abstract – please provide a *brief* overview of your proposal including the number of persons that will be served with this grant in the space below:

Saratoga Sponsor–A–Scholar (SSAS) requests \$2000.00 for the following activities: To fund school buses to take the students (29) in the program on group orientation sessions at college campuses within driving distance of Saratoga Springs; to engage tutors which would cover the core curriculum studies to SAT study courses and review sessions.

The SSAS Program, founded in 2008 by community leaders in partnership with the Saratoga Springs High School, seeks to help disadvantaged students at Saratoga Springs High School finish high school and graduate from college. Each year Saratoga Sponsor–A–Scholar selects 10 sophomores, all low income, many from minority and first generation families. The program provides them with mentors, weekly academic tutoring, SAT training, academic skills training, college visits and assistance with college applications in high school and yearly stipend during college. The program dedicates \$10,000 to each scholar – \$4,000 for assistance in high school and \$1,500 for each year they complete of college.

The economically disadvantaged students in the SSAS program (all eligible for free and reduced lunch at the high school) may have had no or low aspirations for going to college. They don't think college is possible because no one in their family has gone to college and they cannot imagine paying for college or getting in. Most have never been on a campus. Many of these students work in addition to going to school and some contribute to the family income from their salaries.

For these students, trips to higher education campuses are more than the college tours that middle and upper income students might take with their parents. Each of the tours will be arranged by our Academic Coordinator and SSHS Guidance Counselor, Brady Crary, and include presentations by professors, question and answer sessions with the admissions directors and financial aid directors at each college. The trips also include contact with students from disadvantaged families who are attending the college through scholarships and loans.

SSAS aims to create a "culture of college," not only allowing students to absorb the physical attributes of each college (small private college vs. large university campus), but allowing them to visualize themselves attending college. Talking to students from low income families on these campuses who are successfully attending college will help SSAS students gain faith in themselves and their own ability to succeed.

The tutoring is in much demand from the wide spread, varying levels of math courses to the intensive SAT preparation needs. The tutoring will offer SSAS students the opportunity to master material they once found daunting, create good study habits and build the confidence that will enable them to tackle papers, projects and formulas all in preparation for college –and assistance they would not be able to obtain elsewhere. It will give them the personalized focus for their studies as well as allow a connection to the community by way of utilizing local people with various academic backgrounds. The students will learn the tools and gain the confidence needed to be able to apply to college, attend college and pursue their career dreams. The SSAS students will feel assured they are qualified candidates for college and careers.



(Authorized Signature)

Executive Director
(Title)

_____James C LaVigne_____
(Typed or Printed Name)

_____1-10-2011_____
(Date)

Please respond in writing to each of the following (add additional pages as necessary):

1. ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

Provide a detailed description of your proposed activity. In this description, provide responses to the following items:

A) Identify whether the activity is new, ongoing, or expanded from previous years.

Increasing Saratoga Sponsor-A-Scholar students exposure to college through college visits and presentations, has been an integral part of the SSAS organization's mission since the organization was founded by community leaders and the Saratoga Springs School District two years ago. In the organization's first two years, the students have been given exposure to college through an in-kind donation of time and resources from Skidmore College. Skidmore College helped to found SSAS and has hosted a series of college information workshops, study skills workshops and other visits to the Skidmore campus for the SSAS students. The college has made a commitment to host a series of workshops each year for SSAS juniors. There will be 29 students in the program in the 2011-2012 school year. SSAS wishes to expand the program's group trips to more area campuses. Students will be bused to the area college presentations during morning school hours to insure that all students attend. (The SSAS students recently took successful trips to Skidmore and Siena Colleges. The students were enthusiastic and motivated to ask many questions.)... The tutoring aspect is in great demand throughout the school year. There is a wide range of math levels with 29 Scholars and tutors run approximately \$40. The SAT review classes are equally challenging, currently held in a large group format. One-on-one tutors (or smaller sized groups) would ease the stress and shift the focus to the individual's comprehension. Tutors utilized now are often volunteers with fluctuating schedules. Consistency is needed.

B) Describe the community need that your activity is intended to address and how your activity will address that need. Provide evidence that this need is currently not being addressed through existing programs or activities.

Saratoga Sponsor-A-Scholar was created to serve low income high school students who want to go to college, but lack the confidence, the funds and the family support to get there. While the disadvantaged students in this low-income population may get help when they are young through organizations like the Saratoga Mentoring Program, once they age out of those programs, they have no extra support unless they get into trouble with drugs, alcohol or break the law. Until SSAS was founded, there was no program in the community to provide them with increased access to college and solid goals for their future. Saratoga Sponsor-A-Scholar gives these students a support system that includes weekly tutoring, an adult mentor and help with the college application process. The group bus trips to college campuses are part of that support system bringing them in contact with the college representatives, who will speak specifically to the students about their concerns. The one-on-one tutoring solidifies their confidence and capabilities, helping them reach goals they did not think possible.

C) Identify who will benefit from the proposed activity. If the activity is designed to benefit:

C-1) individual persons of low- to moderate-income, describe the process you will use to identify these persons and determine their income eligibility and the number of persons you expect to serve. NA

C-2) the inhabitants of a predominantly low-moderate income area, identify the Census Block Group in which the activity is located. NA

C-3) designed to benefit a low-moderate income "limited clientele", identify the "limited clientele" group.

Students in the Saratoga Sponsor-A-Scholar program must be eligible for federal assistance through the free and reduced lunch program at the high school, have at least a 75 average at the high school and be motivated to succeed. They are nominated by teachers and guidance counselors and go through a rigorous process which includes an interview with student and parents. They are selected by the SSAS Academic Coordinator, Brady Crary, who is also a Guidance Counselor at the high school, on the basis of their potential to benefit from the SSAS curriculum. SSAS hopes not only to help the students and their families, but the Saratoga Springs community as well, for these young people are likely to come back to the Saratoga Springs after college and contribute to the economic fabric of the community.

D) Identify your performance goals and the types of indicators you will use to document activity accomplishments and success. (Examples should include: # of persons with new/improved access to services, # of affordable houses rehabilitated, etc.)

The goal of Saratoga Sponsor-A-Scholar college presentations is to address the challenges of college access for these students who, unlike students from middle class families, may have no knowledge of college and expectation they will ever be able to attend, let alone graduate from college. These presentations will compliment the SSAS program's weekly academic tutoring, professional SAT training as well as assistance with college applications and raise these students' aspirations, help them to navigate the college admissions process and ease their initial transition to college. Contact with professors, teachers, academic advisors and low income students like themselves who are attending college will demystify college and make it a realistic possibility for them. The SSAS students must maintain B average and attend mandatory weekly study sessions, individually meet with their mentor and attend tutoring classes.

E) Provide an activity timeframe/schedule (include start, completion dates, and other significant performance stages).

The bus trips, which cost approximately \$250 each, will be scheduled during the school year, both in the fall and in the spring. The tutoring will run the course of the school year. The SAT training will begin in the late winter semester for spring testing.

F) Identify whether the activity requires additional local, state or federal approval (license, permit, design/historic/environmental review, etc.). For construction/site development projects, provide evidence of site control. NA

2. ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY

A) Provide an overview of your organization including length of time in existence. List current officers and board members and identify any prior funding by the City of Saratoga Springs (year, activity, and amount).

The SSAS program is a replica of a proven program, Capital Region Sponsor-A-Scholar, which has served students in Albany, Schenectady and Troy since 1996. Capital Region Sponsor-A-Scholar's success rate in retaining and graduating students in high school and subsequently getting them to attend college is documented at an outstanding 96%. SSAS inducted its third group of scholars last June. There have been notable improvements in the grades and confidence of the students from the first group of scholars, inducted in 2008. Thirteen this semester have made honor roll...Our first graduating class of 9 will be accepting their diplomas in June 2011~ Two have already been accepted into college! (Please see attached SSAS Newsletter). Gabrielle Batista has been accepted to St Lawrence University on the Presidential Diversity Scholarship for \$30,000! Kayleee Yager was just accepted to SUNY Adirondack! The SSAS program is fully confident that its success rate in retaining scholars in high school, graduating and getting them into college will match the success of Capital District Sponsor-A-Scholar.

Board of Directors

Hon. Scott Johnson

Kristie Roohan

Julie Bonacio

Lew & Pat Titterton

Jim LaVigne

Jerry MacDonald

John Snow

Rochelle Calhoun

Janice White

B) Describe your organization's experience in successfully conducting this type of activity. Identify any skills, current services, or special accomplishments that demonstrate your capacity for success.

The SSAS organization is thrilled to have an increasing pool of mentors with various academic backgrounds, eager to volunteer their valuable time and services to guide these students toward their goal of college. It is a great milestone now that our first class of 9 is graduating this June (2011), demonstrating that this was a need that is now being addressed and it is attainable with the community's support.

C) Identify the person(s) responsible for program and financial management of the activity. Identify all other persons involved in this activity noting whether these positions are current or new, pending this award. For construction/site development projects, identify the development team including proposed contractors, subcontractors, and project manager.

The college presentation trips* and tutors will be arranged by the SSAS Academic Coordinator, Brady Cray. SSAS Founding Board Member, Pat Titterton works along with Brandy, giving guidance, assistance and research development. Jim LaVigne, Volunteer Acting Executive Director, handles the financial management. *(Two mentors of SSAS students will accompany the students on bus trips as chaperones.)

D) Identify any other agencies/partners involved in this activity and define their roles and responsibilities. NA

3. ACTIVITY BUDGET – (ATTACHMENTS 1, 2)

A) Include attached budgets (Attachments 1, 2) as appropriate. Depending on the activity, the applicant may need to submit one or both of the attached budget forms. More detailed budgets may be attached (and are recommended) in support of the proposal. If an architect, engineer, or other personnel have conducted a cost analysis, attach a copy noting the author and date of analysis.

- **PROGRAM OPERATING BUDGET (Attachment 1) – for all proposals including public service projects and construction/site development projects**

ATTACHED

- **CONSTRUCTION/SITE DEVELOPMENT BUDGET (Attachment 2) – for construction/site development projects**

NOT APPLICABLE

B) Identify the amount and sources of leveraged funding for this activity. Include the status of these funds (i.e. cash on hand, grants received, planned fund-raising, etc.). Attach copies of funding commitment letters or other evidence of funding support.

ATTACHED

4. MONITORING OF FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO SUBRECIPIENTS – (ATTACHMENT 3)

The City of Saratoga Springs is responsible for ensuring that subrecipients expend awards in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and provisions of contracts and grant.

- A) In accordance with OMB Circular A-133, please complete Attachment 3 and include it with your application.
- B) During your last fiscal year, if your organization expended more than \$500,000 in total federal financial awards (including CDBG and all other federal assistance), please include a copy of your latest Single Audit Report with this application.

(ATTACHMENT 1)

PROGRAM OPERATING BUDGET

(Entitlement Grant + Leveraged Funds = Total Activity Cost)

	ENTITLEMENT GRANT	Leveraged Funds*	Total Activity Cost	*Source of leveraged Funds and In-Kind Services
PERSONNEL				
Salaries				
Fringe				
Other (consultants, etc.)				
<i>Subtotal</i>				

OVERHEAD				
Advertising/Marketing				

Program Supplies				
Rent & Utilities				
Other - list below				
<i>Subtotal</i>				

TOTAL COST			
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(ATTACHMENT 2)

CONSTRUCTION / SITE DEVELOPMENT BUDGET

(Entitlement Grant + Leveraged Funds = Total Activity Cost)

	ENTITLEMENT GRANT	Leveraged Funds*	Total Activity Cost	*Source of leveraged Funds and In-Kind Services
PRECONSTRUCTION				
Legal				
Engineering				
Architectural/Design				
Fees and Permits				
<i>Subtotal</i>				

DEVELOPMENT				
Relocation				
Site Preparation				
Construction - materials				
Construction - labor				
Construction Financing				
Other - (explain)				
<i>Subtotal</i>				

TOTAL COST

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SARATOGA SPONSOR A SCHOLAR

***2008 & 2009 ACTUAL RESULTS AND PROJECTED
BUDGETS THROUGH 2015***

SSAS Corporate Expenses

2008

Chamber of Commerce membership	\$329.00
Kathleen Kennedy Program Director	\$5,000.00
Saratoga Today Yr. end Giving Ad	<u>\$960.00</u>
Total 2008	\$6,289.00

2009

Kathleen Kennedy Program Director	\$10,000.00
KK Image Media Bowling Event PR	\$5,960.00
Grand Central Station Band Bowling Event	\$1,000.00
Chamber of Commerce Dues	\$330.00
Saratoga Today Track Season & Year End Ads	\$1,710.00
Post Master	\$60.00
Staples School Supplies for Students	\$460.00
Marvin & Company accounting & Taxes	\$625.00

SARATOGA SPONSOR-A-SCHOLAR

PROJECTED EXPENSES THROUGH 2015

Saratoga Sponsor-A-Scholar Preliminary Expense Projections

School Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2014
# Students High School								
Sophomores	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Juniors	0	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Seniors	0	0	10	10	10	10	10	10
Total High School	10	20	30	30	30	30	30	30
# Students College	0	0	0	10	20	30	40	40
Total Students	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	70

Fixed Administrative Expenses

Executive Director Salary (1)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$65,000	\$67,600	\$70,304	\$73,116	\$76,041
Executive Director Benefits @15%	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$9,750	\$10,140	\$10,546	\$10,967	\$11,406
High School Academic Coordinator	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,400	\$10,816	\$11,249	\$11,699	\$12,167
Outside Accounting/Tax/990	\$0	\$3,000	\$4,000	\$4,160	\$4,326	\$4,499	\$4,679	\$4,867
Legal	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,040	\$1,082	\$1,125	\$1,170	\$1,217
Insurance (D&O plus office hazard)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,080	\$2,163	\$2,250	\$2,340
Mentor Screening (2)	\$0	\$900	\$900	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300
Printing	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,040	\$1,082	\$1,125	\$1,170	\$1,217
Office Supplies	\$61	\$600	\$700	\$728	\$757	\$787	\$819	\$852
Dues & Advertizing	\$1,280	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,040	\$1,040	\$1,082	\$1,082	\$1,125
Postage	\$0	\$600	\$700	\$728	\$757	\$787	\$819	\$852
Subtotal Fixed Expenses	\$6,341	\$18,100	\$19,300	\$96,186	\$99,980	\$103,967	\$108,070	\$112,381

Variable Expenses High School Students

Food & Snacks Homework Sessions (3)	\$0	\$3,000	\$4,500	\$4,680	\$4,867	\$5,062	\$5,264	\$5,475
Calculators (4)	\$0	\$1,150	\$1,150	\$1,196	\$1,244	\$1,294	\$1,345	\$1,399
School Supplies (5)	\$0	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$3,120	\$3,245	\$3,375	\$3,510	\$3,650
Tutors (6)	\$0	\$8,400	\$11,200	\$11,648	\$12,114	\$12,598	\$13,102	\$13,627
PSAT Training (7)	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,040	\$1,082	\$1,125	\$1,170	\$1,217
PSAT Entrance Fees (8)	\$0	\$130	\$130	\$135	\$141	\$146	\$152	\$158
SAT Training (9)	\$0	\$0	\$400	\$416	\$433	\$450	\$468	\$487
SAT Entrance Fees (10)	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,040	\$1,082	\$1,125	\$1,170	\$1,217
SAT Subject Test Fees (11)	\$0	\$490	\$980	\$1,019	\$1,060	\$1,102	\$1,146	\$1,192
AP Test Fees (12)	\$0	\$1,680	\$3,360	\$3,494	\$3,634	\$3,780	\$3,931	\$4,088
Intervention/Extraordinary Expenses (13)	\$0	\$400	\$600	\$624	\$649	\$675	\$702	\$730
Annual Student Recognition Dinner (14)	\$0	\$500	\$750	\$780	\$811	\$844	\$877	\$912
Subtotal High School Variable Expenses	\$0	\$19,750	\$28,070	\$29,193	\$30,361	\$31,575	\$32,838	\$34,151

Variable Expense College Student Stipends (15)

	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$15,000	\$30,000	\$45,000	\$60,000	\$60,000
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Estimated Total Annual Cash Needs Prior to

Extraordinary Expenses	\$6,341	\$37,850	\$47,370	\$140,379	\$160,340	\$180,542	\$200,908	\$206,533
Average Expenditure per Student	\$634	\$1,893	\$1,579	\$3,509	\$3,207	\$3,009	\$2,870	\$2,950

Footnotes

- 1 Volunteer Executive Director 1st 3 years, Jim LaVigne. Escalation starting 5th year @4%
- 2 \$90/mentor . After 1st 30 mentors are hired assumed that 1/3 need to be replaced each year.
- 3 \$5/high school student/week X 30 weeks/year escalating at 4%/year starting in 4th year.
- 4 New calculator for each junior each year @ \$115. 4% escalation starting 4th year.
- 5 Bookpacks,paper,pens,compass, etc, @\$100/student/year escalated @4% starting year 4.
- 6 10 Students: 4 tutors/1 hour/week X \$40/hour for 35 weeks = \$5,600 20 Students: 6 tutors/1 hour/ week X \$40/hrs. X 35 Weeks = \$8,400
30 students: 9 tutors/1 hour/week \$40/hour X 35 Weeks = \$11,200
- 7 \$40/student for course for sophomores plus \$60/Sophomore for materials
- 8 I PSATper Junior @ \$13/test escalated a \$5/year starting 4th year. 4%escalation starting year 4.
- 9 \$40/ student for course for Juniors plus \$60/student for materials
- 10 \$45/SAT Reasoning Test. 1 Test Junior year. 1 Test Senior Year. 4% annual inflation starting year 4.
- 11 \$29/test. Each Junior and Senior takes 3 tests. 4% escalation beginning year 4.
- 12 \$84/test. Each Junior and Senior to take 2 tests.
- 13 Replacement of lost materials, special assistance as needed for students with special acute problems.
- 14 Graduation/recognition dinner @ \$25/high school student/year escalating @ 4% starting in 4th year.
- 15 \$1,500/year per college student

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET (OMB) CIRCULAR A-133
MONITORING OF FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO SUBRECIPIENTS

ORGANIZATION: _____ SARATOGA SPONSOR-A-SCHOLAR

MAILING ADDRESS: _____ PO BOX 107 SARATOGA SPRINGS NY 12866

FEDERAL ID #: _____ 75-3038965 _____ PHONE: _____ 518-587-2472 _____

FAX: _____ 518-587-3548 _____

DUNS #: _____

1. Please identify your fiscal year (mth/yr to mth/yr): __DECEMBER 31ST YEAR END_

Please identify below the funding received during your last fiscal year:

2. Community Development Block Grant Entitlement Funding (CDBG):

CDBG Activity Name: _____ BUS TRANSPORTATION...FOR DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS IN THE SARATOGA
SPONSOR-A-SCHOLAR PROGRAM _____

CDBG Funding Program Year: _2010_

CDBG Funding Amount: _____ 1000.00 _____

3. Other Federal Financial Awards (cash & non-cash):

GIVE NAME & CATALOG OF FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE (CFDA) #

AMOUNT OF AWARDS

GIVE NAME & CATALOG OF FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE (CFDA) #	AMOUNT OF AWARDS
-----	-----
-----	-----
-----	-----

4. During your last fiscal year, has your organization expended more than \$500,000 in total federal financial awards (incl. CDBG & all other federal assistance)? YES * _____ NO X_____

* If "yes", include a copy of your latest Single Audit Report with this completed and signed form as part of your application. If you answered "no", please complete, sign and return this form.

5. Are you aware of any financial audit violations, findings or questioned costs relating to any activity funded with federal financial assistance? YES * _____ NO _____X_

* If "yes", please describe:

6. Other Saratoga County Awards (cash & non-cash):

IDENTIFY PROGRAM NAME & YEAR OF AWARD

IDENTIFY AMOUNT OF Co. AWARDS

James Chabigne

Authorized Signature

1-10-2011
Date

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
P. O. BOX 2508
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date:

OCT 22 2008

SARATOGA SPONSOR-A-SCHOLAR
PO BOX 107
SARATOGA SPRINGS, NY 12866-0000

Employer Identification Number:
75-3038965
DLN:
17053271735068
Contact Person:
GREGORY K OLWINE ID# 31382
Contact Telephone Number:
(877) 829-5500
Public Charity Status:
170(b)(1)(A)(vi)

Dear Applicant:

Our letter dated September 2002, stated you would be exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and you would be treated as a public charity, rather than as a private foundation, during an advance ruling period.

Based on the information you submitted, you are classified as a public charity under the Code section listed in the heading of this letter. Since your exempt status was not under consideration, you continue to be classified as an organization exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Code.

Publication 557, Tax-Exempt Status for Your Organization, provides detailed information about your rights and responsibilities as an exempt organization. You may request a copy by calling the toll-free number for forms, (800) 829-3676. Information is also available on our Internet Web Site at www.irs.gov.

If you have general questions about exempt organizations, please call our toll-free number shown in the heading.

Please keep this letter in your permanent records.

We have sent a copy of this letter to your representative as indicated in your power of attorney.

Sincerely yours,



Robert Choi
Director, Exempt Organizations
Rulings and Agreements

Letter 1050 (DO/CG)

From: "Saratoga Sponsor-A-Scholar" <lrappapo@nycap.rr.com>
Date: Thursday, December 30, 2010 8:40 PM
To: ~~stamval@nycap.rr.com~~
Subject: Year-End News from Saratoga Sponsor-A-Scholar
 Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)



**SARATOGA
SPONSOR-A-SCHOLAR**

*Helping young scholars
reach their goals.*



Accepted!

Congratulations to the first SSAS students to be accepted into college: Gabrielle Batista:
 St. Lawrence University
 Kaylee Yager:
 SUNY Adirondack

Honor Roll

Thirteen SSAS students made the Saratoga Springs High School First Quarter Honor Roll. Three earned High Honors, with a GPA of 90 percent or above, and 10 received honors with an 85-89 percent average. Congratulations!

In the News

SSAS was featured in three newspapers in December: The Daily Gazette on Dec. 13, The Saratogian on Dec. 15, and Saratoga Today on Dec. 17.

College Applications

Our seniors have applied to these colleges:
 Sage College of Albany; St. Lawrence University; Colgate University; Hamilton College; The College of St. Rose; Skidmore College; Emerson College; Schenectady County Community College; Monmouth University; Hudson Valley Community College; Florida State University; New York University; University of

SSAS WORKS

After three years of hard work, our first class of seniors now join those around the nation waiting to hear back from colleges. Their route to this point has been filled with daunting challenges and sweet rewards. We have much to celebrate at the end of the year, and much to anticipate in 2011. In this newsletter, you will learn about the flurry of year-end activity, including our first college acceptances; Honor Roll achievements; a presentation to the School Board; and local media attention. Please join us in recognizing our students' hard-earned accomplishments and look forward with us to the exciting new year ahead.

ST. LAWRENCE SCHOLAR

Gabielle Batista of Saratoga Springs has been accepted to St. Lawrence University in Canton, NY on a major scholarship! She is one of 10 applicants to receive the university's Presidential Diversity Scholarship, which gives her \$30,000 a year for four years. Gabi is thrilled to win this coveted scholarship and to start her studies at SLU in the fall. She credits SSAS with helping her get serious about academics and giving her the tools to pursue higher learning. "Saratoga Sponsor-A-Scholar is a great program for anybody who wants to go to college, but may not be able to pay for it," says Gabi. "Thanks to the program, I will be going to college next fall."



Gabrielle Batista

Gabi has been a member of the Saratoga Springs High School Drama Club and the Choraliers singing group. She has also volunteered in the community with Project Lift. Congratulations, Gabi!

SSAS STUDENTS IMPRESS SCHOOL BOARD



Seniors **Gabi Batista**, **Kaylee Yager**, and **Matt Degen** made a moving presentation to the Saratoga Springs Board of Education on December 14, 2010. After SSAS Academic Coordinator Brandy Crary gave an overview, the students told the board and the community about how the

Miami; West Virginia University; and the University of Pittsburgh, SUNY Schools: University at Albany, Oswego, Geneseo, New Paltz, Purchase, Alfred, Brockport, Adirondack.

Grant Funding

SSAS recently received a \$2,500 Make a Difference grant from Saratoga Gaming and Raceway. It's our third grant from this foundation.

CONTRIBUTE

Please click **HERE** to make an online donation to SSAS. Or, you may send a check made out to SSAS, PO Box 107, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866.

CONTACT US

E-MAIL
OUR WEBSITE
Phone: 518-587-2472

Join Our Mailing List!

Save the Date
May 21, 2011

Bowling for Scholars

Watch this space for info on lane sponsorships and tickets to our primary fundraising event.

Board of Directors

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Newsletter: Laura Rappaport

program has helped them.
Gabi, Matt & Kaylee with Ms.Crary
"I was very touched to see the students present and to hear them describe how SSAS has made a difference in their lives," says School Board President Mia Pfitzer.

Superintendent of Schools Janice White was equally impressed. "This program is an example of what happens when community, school and family combine to support students in pursuit of their dreams," she says. "These students' lives are forever changed as a result of the mentoring, caring and high expectations of the adults who have made a commitment to each student's success and the experiences they have had as a part of the Sponsor-a-Scholar network."

STUDENT NOTES

SSAS Junior **AJ Wicks** will once again take the stage in the Saratoga Springs High School musical. He will play the role of George, the lead character's best friend, in the March 17-19 performance of "The Wedding Singer." AJ also performed in last season's "The Bells Are Ringing." He says the character of George plays the piano and is included in several songs.

SSAS Senior **Natalia Allyn's** drawing, "Ashlea", was selected to be published in the Talent Unlimited Literary/Art Magazine, an annual literary and art magazine featuring outstanding poems, stories, essays, photographs, paintings, drawings and graphic designs created by students in the regional BOCES Gifted and Talented Program. The magazine's content is selected by a jury of professional artists and writers.

WHO WE ARE

Saratoga Sponsor-A-Scholar is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that helps academically motivated, economically disadvantaged students graduate from high school, and succeed in college. The program works in collaboration with the Saratoga Springs City School District and provides academic support, financial assistance, mentoring, and enrichment activities during high school and beyond. SSAS currently serves 29 Scholars in 10th, 11th, and 12th grades at **Saratoga Springs High School.**



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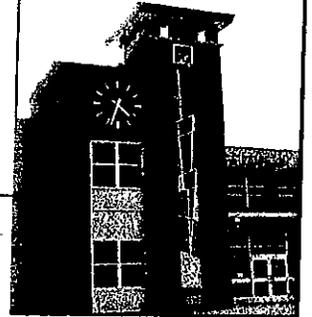
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PRINCIPAL'S

NEWSLETTER

Mr. Brett M. Miller, Principal
Volume 16, Issue 2, December 2010
www.saratogaschools.org/hs



SARATOGA SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL

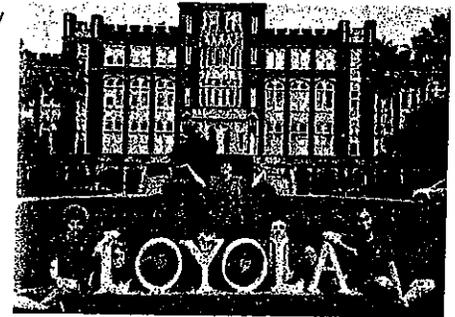
BLUE



STREAKS

ACADEMIC TEAM HEADING TOWARDS ANOTHER NATIONAL COMPETITION

Last year the Saratoga Springs High School Academic Team competed in the National Academic Championship in New Orleans. They made us all proud by making it through the finals into the next to last round. This year they are at it again! They went undefeated in the regular season and are heading to the Post Star League finals in February. The amazing thing is every student is new to the team except its captain, Tim Clements. This year he was joined by newcomers Eric Reidy, Conor Arpey, Abby Wise, Sophie Breitbart, Felix Glozman, Theo Sullivan and Sam Hyatt. The team has also just learned that they have been awarded an automatic birth to the national competition in the spring. Be sure to commend these students and wish them good luck!



The team visits New Orleans last year

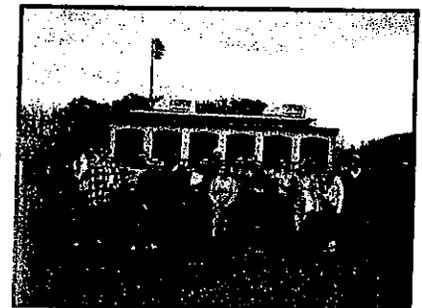
SARATOGA ANNOUNCES THE SPONSOR-A-SCHOLAR PROGRAM

Saratoga Sponsor-A-Scholar is a district initiative designed to assist capable students to realize their dream of attending college. Applicants for the program are students who have demonstrated academic potential, have a strong desire to succeed, attend school on a regular basis and can demonstrate financial need. Student candidates for the program are identified at the end of their freshman year. Teachers, counselors and mentors may nominate potential candidates. After a review and interview process, ten (10) students are selected. The Scholars remain in the program throughout high school and college.

At the high school level, the Scholars receive academic support through weekly tutoring sessions. In addition, the student scholars are also provided mentors who will act as another source of support. Students in the program occasionally participate in field trips on Saturdays or over the summer designed to facilitate the connection with college life and to connect as a group. Nearly half of the students in the program made the Honor Roll this quarter, and this year will see the first graduating group from the program.

At the college level, the Scholars will be provided with a \$6000 sponsorship fund. Students may choose to continue their relationship with their mentors as well. The Saratoga Sponsor-A-Scholar program is supported by donations from local benefactors.

Additional information about the Saratoga Sponsor-A-Scholar Program is available by contacting Brandy Cray, Guidance counselor at the high school.



Saratoga Sponsor-A-Scholar students on a recent visit to Siena College



Graduation Ceremony for the Class of 2011

Friday morning, June 24, 9:00am

Saratoga Performing Arts Center

