

NORTH COLONIE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
91 Fiddlers Lane
Latham, New York 12110

This booklet summarizes a list of clubs and activities for Shaker High School students. At Shaker High School, it is important that students develop leadership abilities in different venues. They are challenged in academics, in athletics, and in developing their interests, their hobbies, and their support of the larger community. Participation in extracurricular activities helps to build social relationships, explore activities that may lead to lifetime interests, and understand the responsibilities of good citizenship. Students who show interest in others and in important issues will, as future adults, become contributors to society while expanding their personal opportunities for self-development.

Please review the enclosed descriptions and consider them carefully. While some clubs may require auditions or other qualifications (as indicated in the activity descriptions), most are open to any interested students. A list of current club advisors, meeting times, and places is available from the guidance office and on the Shaker High School website – www.northcolonie.org. Be sure to listen to morning announcements and observe club posters for information about when groups will begin meeting.

Richard W. Murphy
Principal

VISIONS (LITERARY MAGAZINE)



Visions is a literary magazine run by the students. It provides an opportunity for students to artistically express themselves using written and visual mediums. Members of the club create, edit, and select submissions for publication and generate the layout for the magazine.

WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

It is the goal of the World of Difference Club to promote issue advocacy, character education and attributes, humanitarianism, and community service. The club serves the school as a service organization. Additionally, our club encompasses those students who will serve as ambassadors of character and goodwill. It is the express intent of the Club to reach out to the school community to not only make a world of difference, but to make Shaker High School a school of difference.



WATER POLO CLUB

The Water Polo Club meets weekly in the spring and fall seasons. This club is open to students in grades 9-12, and participants must be able to swim (all other instructions on the sport and the rules will be provided).

YA BOOK CLUB

The YA (Young Adult) Book Club is a book discussion group open to all students in grades 9-12. Books are selected by the members. The concentration is on young adult fiction. The club meets once a month to discuss the book selections and to socialize with members.

YEARBOOK CLUB



The yearbook staff is a small group that works from August to April putting together a book of over 400 pages. Students are recommended to work on the yearbook by their English teachers. Yearbook staffers should have excellent English skills, be creative, and be well-organized.

YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD

This group of Shaker High School students is chosen by the principal. These students meet monthly with representatives from Colonie High School, Christian Brothers Academy, and the Town of Colonie Youth Bureau. Volunteer activities are jointly planned throughout the year. Students on the board are expected to volunteer for planned yearly activities on a regular basis.

AFS INTERCULTURAL PROGRAM



AFS Club is an organization for students with an interest in culture. We host one or two AFS exchange students for a year at Shaker. The club also organizes an AFS weekend, inviting other Capital District AFS students. Shaker students host an exchange student for the weekend, and they participate in many activities. The club also organizes an International Festival for elementary students in the spring. Our motto is "Peace Through Understanding."

AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY & CULTURE CLUB

African American History and Culture Club members participate in year-long activities that focus on the contributions of African Americans to the arts, history, and society. African American History and Culture club is always looking for new members of all backgrounds interested in learning about African American history and in sharing their talents.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Amnesty International is a global organization committed to identifying human rights violations and supporting prisoners of conscience. We seek to educate the Shaker community about global concerns through movies, group discussions, and letter-writing campaigns. All students are welcome.



BADMINTON CLUB

Badminton Club provides an opportunity for students to learn the sport, teaching students discipline, teamwork, and other team-building qualities.

BEST BUDDIES



Best Buddies is a club whose mission is to enhance the lives of people with disabilities by providing opportunities for one-to-one friendships. We meet regularly and enjoy various activities with our school and community with our Best Buddies.

BIOLOGY CLUB

The Biology Club provides students an opportunity to explore and to investigate topics in biology. Membership is open to all students in grades 9-12. The club meets weekly.



THE *BISON*—Shaker High School Student-Run Newspaper

The *BISON* is completed and organized by many students at Shaker High. If you like to write, take pictures, and enjoy computer layout projects, consider being part of the *BISON* newspaper team. Any student can write for the newspaper, but most articles are written by students in a Journalism course. Editors are selected by the high school advisors. Editor positions include chief, photography, layout, sports, entertainment, and news.



BOOK LOVERS BOOK CLUB

A book club for students who love to read the classics. The club begins with Austen, and expands from there. Student members select the books to be read by the group. The club offers students the opportunity to read and discuss great works of literature with their peers in a relaxed setting. The club will meet once a month.



BUSINESS CLUB

The purpose of the Shaker High School Business Club is to encourage students interested in pursuing a career in business to learn more about relevant business issues. The Club is intended to create more interest in and understanding of American and global business enterprise by listening to guest speakers with expertise in various business disciplines, and also by taking field trips to experience the business environment. In addition, the club is designed to help students develop character, leadership, and community involvement.

CHAMBER PLAYERS

SHS Chamber Players is a selected group of string instrumentalists who rehearse weekly. They perform for Shaker High School functions and community events.



CHEMISTRY CLUB

The Chemistry Club was created for students who have an interest in chemistry and wish to explore the subject based on fun experiments and problem solving. Did you know that you can start a fire with a drop of water? The Chemistry Club can do it...safely, of course! Students will participate in a variety of experiments designed to “spark” interest and foster a greater understanding and appreciation for chemistry around us.



CLAY CLUB (Ceramics)

Clay Club started in 1998 with the creation and installation of the tile mural located at the front entrance near the swimming pool, followed by the mural located outside the library. We are working on a large-scale tile mural, as we continue to work on community-based projects. Membership is open to students in grades 9-12.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Student Government is an organization of student leaders. Student Government supports all of the clubs at Shaker High School. We are responsible for the Homecoming Dance and the Leadership Reception, as well as fundraisers for charity. Each year members organize new and exciting events.

STUDENTS' ORGANIZATION FOR SERVICE (SOS)

SOS is a student-based club that provides a variety of community service activities within the North Colonie community. Members of SOS participate in many activities including Bingo at the Albany Residential Facility, Red Cross Blood Drive, Adopt-a-Family, Make-a-Wish Foundation, and many more. SOS also organizes many events within the high school, including receptions for the National Honor Society, the welcome reception for all new teachers, and students also provide ushering at the school musical.



TABLE TENNIS CLUB

Table tennis, also known as ping-pong, is a [sport](#) in which two or four players hit a lightweight, hollow ball back and forth using [table tennis rackets](#). The game takes place on a hard table divided by a net. Students will experience discipline and teamwork skills. All are welcome!

TECHNOLOGY CLUB

The Technology Club provides an opportunity for students to become involved in design and construction activities. Members make individual projects and, sometimes, projects for the community. If you enjoy problem solving and using the resources of our labs, Technology Club is looking for you! Come join in the fun.



TOWN OF COLONIE YOUTH COURT MEMBERSHIP AND JURY DUTY

Colonie Youth Court is an early intervention diversion program for young people who have committed his/her first offense. Typical crimes heard include shoplifting, marijuana possession, trespass, mischief, etc. Offenders are assigned to community service. Students in grades 7-12 who would like to serve as a volunteer juror may register with the Youth Court throughout the year with no training required. Students in grades 9-12 who wish to become a member of the Youth Court must join a membership training program that begins in September. Members will be trained on how to perform the 6 youth court roles: Judge, Prosecutor, Defender, Jury Foreperson, Clerk, and Victim Advocate. Colonie Youth Court is a program of the Colonie Police Department. For more information, please contact 782-2638.

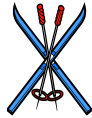


SHAKER THEATER – SPRING MUSICAL

The goal of the Spring Musical is to allow students an opportunity to participate in a ten-week creative process that culminates in a weekend of live theatre performances. Through rehearsals students learn theatre arts terminology, participate in character and plot development, and sing music in the Broadway tradition. The musical is open to all students. Students must complete a three-part audition and demonstrate adequate proficiency in acting, singing, and dance in order to participate.

SKI CLUB

Five weeks of skiing at Jimminy Peak on Monday nights. Registration takes place in early October. All are welcome!!



SPANISH CLUB

In the Spanish Club, through many diverse activities, we try to foster an appreciation of the Hispanic people and cultures. Some past activities include learning the “meringue,” visiting a Mexican restaurant, a Spanish movie, and a trip to NYC to visit the Museo del Barrio and the Tenement Museum on the lower East Side. We raised money to offset the trip. Membership is open to grades 9-12.



SPEECH AND DEBATE CLUB (FORENSICS)

Speech and Debate is a club based on mastery of effective oral communication practiced in the following diverse venues: dramatic and humorous interpretation, extemporaneous speeches, declamation, oral interpretation of poetry and prose, original oratory, public forum, and debate. Approximately two Saturdays of every month, Speech and Debate members compete in local tournaments demonstrating various skills in public speaking, logic, and creative expression. Speech and Debate is an excellent club for building confidence and interpersonal communication.



STUDENT BOARD OF FINANCE

This organization is a part of Student Government. There is a freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior representative. Students are chosen through an interview process. These four students work together with the principal and building treasurers overseeing the extracurricular student funds. These students hold the position for four years.



COLOR GUARD

The Shaker High School Color Guard is an auxiliary to the Shaker High School Marching Band. We incorporate dance and movement with the use of equipment such as flags, batons, etc. We primarily serve as a front line to the Marching Band and may occasionally perform separately; i.e., half-time shows. We perform at year-round activities. All are welcome!



CREATIVE WRITING CLUB

Do you write short stories? Do you have a journal full of poetry? Do you have a novel in the works? Then the Creative Writing Club is for you! All Shaker High School students with an interest in developing their writing and editing skills are welcome to join. The club meets twice a month and provides members with the opportunity to develop their creative abilities and share ideas with other student authors in a welcoming and fun workshop format.



CREW CLUB (Shaker Rowing)

Shaker Crew offers competitive and recreational rowing for novice and experienced junior and high school students. The goal of the program is to instill technical knowledge and lifetime values regarding the importance of teamwork. There are two primary competitive seasons (fall and spring) with competitions at the regional, state, and national level. Athletes meeting specified requirements are eligible to earn a varsity letter for spring season. The club also conducts winter conditioning training between seasons, and offers a variety of summer rowing programs. Our website is www.shakercrew.org.



ENGLISH COUNCIL

The English Council is dedicated to promoting a dynamic literary community at Shaker High School. In addition to organizing special events, such as Poetry Out Loud and the Shakespeare Competition, council members are also active in community service activities, such as the annual book drive. Membership is open to all Shaker High School students.

FANTASY PROBLEM SOLVERS

F.P.S. is a club for students interested in Science Fiction and Fantasy. Its goal is to promote solving real-life problems in fantastical situations. We employ a variety of role-playing systems and games to encourage students to form bridges between fantasy and reality. Students create friendships and are encouraged to tutor friends in academics and games. Some of the favored games include Dungeons and Dragons and Magic the Game.



FIGURE DRAWING CLUB



The Figure Drawing Club is open to any students interested in improving their drawing skills. Each year the club raises money to hire professional models for each session. We work in a variety of media and always have fun!

FLUTE CHOIR

The Flute Choir provides advanced flutists the opportunity to grow musically through weekly ensemble rehearsals, challenging music, and several performances throughout the year. They also have the chance to explore their talents extending to the piccolo, alto flute, and bass flute. Flute choir sometimes enhances their performance by involving supplemental musicians to accompany them, such as a rhythm section or string bass. Students must audition for membership.



FRENCH CLUB

Sharing a love for culture, French Club members participate in activities that allow them to experience a French lifestyle. They frequently hold gatherings that feature foods such as crepes and quiche. Members also work to help our community by participating in various activities such as Toys for Tots.



FUTURE COMMUNITY CAREER-LEADERS OF AMERICA

Future Community Career-Leaders of America is a Family and Consumer Sciences Club. The club is involved in fundraising, community, and career projects that prepare young people with skills for future living.



GERMAN CLUB

German Club is a great way to learn about the culture of Germany while spending time with friends. Our meetings often consist of an activity that relates to a specific event in Germany and a specific food from the German culture. Students in grades 9-12 are encouraged to attend.



G.L.A.S.S.

The Gay Lesbian And Straight Society was founded to provide support to anyone dealing with discrimination due to sexual orientation. We also fight to end harassment and strive to create a safer and more welcoming environment. We have open discussions, so feel free to come and visit...all are welcome!

GRAPHIC WEB DESIGN

Students in the Graphic Web Design Club will exchange ideas and brainstorm about artistic and creative web design.

SHAKER ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS SOCIETY (SEAS)

SEAS is a student organization at Shaker that is designed to help raise awareness of environmental issues at Shaker, in our larger community, and in the world as a whole. Through a variety of different activities we try to raise awareness and promote sustainability. We welcome all and encourage you to come and share your ideas.



SHAKER FORUM

Shaker Forum is an informal discussion and debate group dedicated to exploring both domestic and foreign policy issues. Topics are chosen by student members, and all discussions are student-directed. Shaker Forum encourages students from all grades to participate in these open political conversations. The club meets at least once a month.

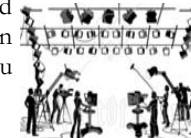
SHAKER FRIENDS BOWLING

Shaker Friends Bowling is a recreational club for all students, grades 7-12. The purpose and goal of this club is for students with disabilities to socialize with their nondisabled peers in a community setting where they can also enjoy a game or two of bowling. The club meets weekly at a local bowling alley. Each student is responsible to pay per game.



SHAKER LIGHT AND SOUND

Shaker Light & Sound is a small club that operates with skilled members. These members must be adept in using advanced light and sound equipment such as the light board and sound board in the auditorium. If you are interested in Light & Sound you may see Mr. Austin to inquire about any possible openings.



SHAKER SELECT



Shaker Select meets two to three days a week after school. Vocalists in this group are exposed to a real mix of music; i.e., vocal jazz, etc. Auditions for Shaker Select take place in the fall.

SHAKER THEATER—FALL PLAY

The Shaker Theatre Program presents three performances of a nonmusical play in November of every year. The name of the play and dates for auditions are announced during homeroom the second week of school. Auditions are typically held the third week of school. Any openings for crew positions are also announced later in the fall.



SSAA

This all female vocal ensemble meets once a week after school to sing a variety of music. They perform for concerts and community events.



SADD (STUDENTS AGAINST DESTRUCTIVE DECISIONS)

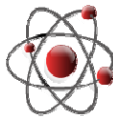
SADD is a school-based organization dedicated to addressing the issues of underage drinking, impaired driving, drug use, and other destructive decisions and killers of young people. SADD's mission is to provide students with the



best prevention and intervention tools possible to deal with the serious issues young adults are facing today.

SCIENCE OLYMPIAD

Science Olympiad is part of an international nonprofit organization devoted to improving the quality of science education, creating a passion for learning science, and providing recognition for outstanding achievement in science education. These goals are accomplished through participation in tournaments, at levels ranging from district to national competitions. Participation in tournaments not only demonstrates the team's mastery of science and mathematics concepts, but also problem-solving skills and the ability to work together as a group. Membership is open to all those who are interested.



SCRAPBOOK CLUB

Students in Scrapbook Club learn to preserve memories in the form of a scrapbook. Typical [memorabilia](#) include photographs, printed media, and artwork. Scrapbook albums are often decorated and frequently contain extensive journaling. Scrapbooking is a widely-practiced pastime in the United States. Students meet once a week.

SHAKER BROADCASTING CLUB

Broadcasting Club members work with various components in television broadcasting that may include interviewing, video editing, and studio production of a broadcast. This club utilizes various broadcasting techniques to create school-related stories that may be aired on the school's TV monitors during the morning announcements. Participation in the Broadcasting Club may open an opportunity to join the Broadcasting Team that delivers the morning video announcements daily.



INTERNATIONAL CLUB



International Club participates in a variety of activities to enjoy and explore other cultures. Some of our most popular events include the Festival of Nations held at the Empire State Plaza, the biannual International Festival at Shaker High School, and the Cultural Expo.

INDIAN STUDENT ORGANIZATION

The purpose of the Indian Student Organization is to provide an opportunity for all students interested in India to interact and share the joy of the culture as well as the heritage of India.

JAZZ BAND

Jazz Band is a performing group/lab band which is designed to provide students with the opportunity to learn the jazz style. Emphasis is on both stylistic development as well as learning the art of improvisation. Membership is by audition for students in grades 9-12 and the group meets once each week after school.



JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Jazz Ensemble is a performing group designed to provide students with the opportunity to further develop their ability to play jazz. Students will perform for school and community functions. Emphasis is on stylistic development as well as the art of improvisation. Membership is by audition for students in grades 9-12. The group meets twice each week after school.



KEY CLUB

Key Club International is the world's oldest and largest high school service organization and it is one of Shaker's largest clubs. This purely student-led organization encourages leadership through service to the school and community. Every year, the Shaker Key Club helps to organize many events to serve the young, the elderly, the homeless, and the less fortunate, as well as fellow students. The Key Club welcomes all high school students and opens its doors to provide service, build character, and develop leadership skills. The club meets once a week.



LATIN CLUB

With over thirty members, Latin Club is one of the lively and popular clubs at Shaker High School. The goal of Latin Club is to learn about and celebrate the Roman culture and language. Throughout the year, members celebrate Roman culture and history through events such as Saturnalia, which is the most recognized Roman holiday. Membership is open to all Latin students in grades 9-12.

L.I.F.E. (LIVING IN FAITH EVERYDAY)

L.I.F.E. is a group that meets weekly to discuss the Bible, worship, and pray for our school. Though the Christian faith is our central theme, the club is open to any grade 9-12 student. There is no formal membership, so students may come and participate in our various activities at their leisure.

MARCHING BAND

This is a performance club that provides pageantry to both school and community organizations as a musical part of a parade. Rehearsals and parades are on a “per request” schedule. Membership in the regular Shaker High School Band is a prerequisite for joining the Marching Band.



MATH CLUB

The Math Club brings together students of all different math levels who share a passion for mathematics. They engage in games, puzzles, competitions, and other activities. They are encouraged to attend monthly New York Math League Contests and to become peer tutors in our peer-tutoring program.



MOCK TRIAL

The Mock Trial team competes against other Albany County schools as the attorneys and witnesses in a mock court trial. The trial is sponsored by the NYS Bar Association and the team works in conjunction with an area lawyer to prepare for the trial. The trial tournament is held every spring and the club starts meeting in the fall of the preceding year. Students from all grade levels are welcome to join. Participation gives excellent experience for students interested in careers in the legal field.



MODEL UNITED NATIONS

The objective of Model United Nations is to do exactly what its name implies: model the world’s peacekeeping organization at Shaker High School.

Through Model UN, students have the opportunity to represent nations while discussing and debating issues which affect us all as a world community. The club attends a spring conference and regularly holds “mocks.”



MODERN DANCE CLUB

Do you like to dance? Or do you simply want to learn how? Join Dance Club to learn all types of dance, from hip hop to ballroom to Latin. No prior dance experience necessary, just come with an open mind and comfortable shoes!



MUSLIM STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Shaker High School’s MSA is dedicated to maintaining the culture, heritage, and practices of Islam and Muslims, as well as combating common stereotypes and misunderstandings about Muslims through academic and social activities.

NEW GLOBAL CITIZENS CLUB

Shaker New Global Citizens is a club that takes action within the community to help alleviate global issues, as described in the UN Millennium Development Goals. The team’s three main goals are fundraising, advocacy, and community education. Each year, the team chooses to support a grassroots organization that addresses problems from around the world. The team organizes events that both raise funds and awareness about the issue, especially targeting Shaker High School students. All funds raised at events go directly to the cause. For the past two years, Shaker NGC has supported the Center for Youth Integration of Belgrade, Serbia. This organization works, through outreach and drop-in centers, to assist the homeless street children. Shaker New Global Citizens has hosted cinemas, benefit concerts, and fundraising competitions within different classes. In the year to come, the Shaker team will choose a global issue to advocate and support through a different grassroots organization.

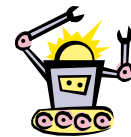


PEP BAND

Pep Band, which is comprised of members of the regular high school band, performs at home football games. Membership in the regular Shaker High School Band is a prerequisite for joining the Pep Band.



ROBOTICS CLUB



The Shaker Robotics Club mission is to provide members with the best possible science and engineering opportunities available. As members of FIRST, the Shaker robotics team have designed and built a robot that competed in regional and national competitions.

RUSSIAN CLUB

Russian Club is an organization which offers students the opportunity to explore the rich culture and history of Russia. Members of the Russian Club also engage in various charitable services in and around the community. Annual activities include, but are not limited to: Food drives for the Regional Food Bank, Toys for Tots, the Russian Tea Party, and a Russian end-of-the year excursion. Russian Club meets biweekly and membership is open to everyone, including those who do not study Russian.

