

SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

Our Mission is Student Success ...

PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

Alan Tirré – Fall 2024

45 Prince St, Rochester, NY 14607 | www.sotarochester.org

As we kick off the 2024-2025 academic school year, I'm filled with pride and excitement for what lies ahead. The past few weeks have been nothing short of transformative for our students, staff, and school community. Here are some highlights I want to share with you.

Setting the Vision for 2024-2025

Over two productive days, our faculty and staff set the academic and artistic vision for SOTA, energized by 25 new team members. We held meaningful discussions about our students' future and strengthened relationships with local arts organizations to provide even more opportunities for student success.

Welcome Home, SOTA Students!

We were thrilled to welcome nearly 1,100 students back to School of the Arts for the 2024-2025 school year. There's something truly special about seeing our halls filled with the vibrant energy and creativity of our students. Each year brings new opportunities for growth and learning, and I have no doubt that this year will be another extraordinary chapter in SOTA's legacy.

Celebrating 30 Years of Excellence at 45 Prince Street

This year marks 30 Years of Excellence at 45 Prince Street, a milestone of creativity, academic achievement, and community engagement. As we celebrate, we remain committed to nurturing our students' artistic and academic growth for the next 30 years and beyond.

Memorial Art Gallery Access

SOTA students now have free access to the Memorial Art Gallery with their student ID. Simply present your ID at the Guest Admission Desk during regular museum hours to enjoy the collection.



IMPORTANT DATES

10/1 **College Night** 5:30PM
10/4 **College Fair** Periods 1-2
10/14 **No School**
10/17 **Parent Teacher Conf.** 5PM
10/23 **SBPT Meeting** 4:15
10/25 **Half Day for Students**
10/28 **PSTA & SAT** (Grades 9 & 12)
10/29 **PSAT** (Grades 10-11)
11/5 **Super. Conf. Day** - No School
11/8 **End of Marking Period 1**

UPCOMING EVENTS

10/4 **Faculty Art Show** 6PM
10/9 **Hispanic/LatinX Heritage Celebration** featuring ROC City Ballet's *Aqua Fresca* 7PM
10/10-11 **Reader's Theatre** 7PM
10/16 **Choir Concert** 7PM
10/22 **Jazz Band Concert** 7PM
10/24 **Foundations I/II Art Show** 6PM
10/24 **Orchestra Concert** 7PM
10/24-25 7PM, 10/26 2PM & 7PM
The Play That Goes Wrong
10/29 **Band Concert** 7PM
11/6 **Piano Recital** 7PM

CONTACT INFORMATION

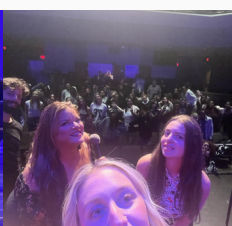
Phone Number 585-242-SOTA (7682)
Fax Number 585-256-6580
Questions sotainfo@rcsdk12.org
Social Media @RCSDSOTA

ACADEMIC *Artistic* HUMANISTIC



SOTA POPS! 2024 at the Rochester Fringe Festival

We're thrilled to celebrate the success of SOTA POPS! 2024 at the Rochester Fringe Festival. In partnership with Friends of School of the Arts, we welcomed over 4,000 attendees to enjoy 75 performances by 32 talented acts over seven days. Our students benefited from master classes and free tickets to performances – all thanks to the generous support of Friends of SOTA. This festival truly highlighted how the arts can uplift and inspire our entire community.



HALLOWEEN COSTUME GUIDELINES

As we approach Halloween, we want to remind families of our guidelines to ensure it's a fun and safe day for everyone at SOTA. While costumes are not required, students who choose to wear them must follow these simple rules:

- Costumes must be appropriate for the school day and adhere to the district dress code.
- Shoes or sneakers are required—slippers or socks without shoes are not allowed for safety reasons.
- Full-face masks or fully painted faces are not permitted.
- Props like toy weapons, canes, or walking sticks are not allowed.

Please encourage your student to use good judgment when selecting their costume. If a costume is deemed inappropriate, students may be asked to change. Let's have a fun and safe Halloween at SOTA!

Complete guidelines can be found at [SOTAROCHESTER.ORG](https://www.sotarochester.org)

Student Voice in City Planning

SOTA students recently helped shape Rochester's future by collaborating on the City's Arts & Culture Plan. Our young artists shared their ideas, influencing the city's cultural landscape for years to come. We're proud of their contributions and excited to see their impact on Rochester's arts scene.

Activating Dreams, Unlocking Potential

At SOTA, we unlock student potential by fostering academic excellence and building a community of empathy, equity, and accountability. This year, we're focused on empowering students to succeed in academics, the arts, and personal growth.

Looking Ahead

As we celebrate *30 Years of Excellence*, this is a year of unprecedented growth for our school. Together, we will ensure that each student receives the support and inspiration needed to thrive academically, artistically, and personally. Thank you for your partnership and trust. Here's to an outstanding 2024-2025 school year at School of the Arts!

Useful Links

SOTARochester.org SOTA Website
A source for all things SOTA!

Regents Exam Prep online exam prep courses to help students pass their test.

Khan Academy study at your own pace to accelerating learning.

SOTA Athletic Weekly Events live link of all scheduled athletic events.

SOTA Team Store your source for fresh SOTA gear

Parent Pick Up & Drop Off

We are redesigning our Pick Up and Drop Off procedures to enhance student safety.

Please keep an eye out for notification detailing these changes to ensure a smooth and secure transition for students. Thank you for your understanding and support!

Safety & Security

Please adhere to our visitor procedures designed to protect students and staff.

All visitors must enter through the main entrance, report to the security desk, and present photo ID for a visitor's pass.

Parents/caregivers should call the school office for early pick-up arrangements and present ID upon arrival.

Visitors are subject to search, and refusal will result in denial of entry. Any person asked to leave must do so immediately, or police intervention may follow.

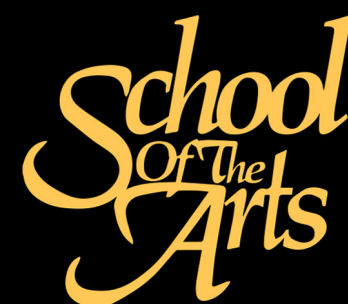
Emergency Training Drills will continue throughout October to ensure our students' safety and preparedness.



For more complete information and details, visit [SOTAROCHESTER.ORG](https://www.sotarochester.org)

CHEERS TO 30 YEARS!

Bringing Art and Heart Together



2024-2025

PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS SCHEDULE

THE SOTA COMMITMENT

- To nurture the academic, artistic and humanistic potential of every student.
- To prepare students to seek advanced education and rewarding careers.
- To cultivate each student's special artistic gifts.
- To teach respect for diversity and life-long learning.
- To value the dignity, individuality and self-worth of every student.

We are School of the Arts!

www.sotarochester.org

2024-2025 PERFORMANCE CALENDAR

OCTOBER

10/9	Hispanic Heritage Celebration	7PM
10/10	Readers Theatre	7PM
10/11	Readers Theatre	7PM
10/16	Fall Choir Concert	7PM
10/22	Fall Jazz Concert	7PM
10/24	Foundations I & II Art Opening	6PM
10/24	Fall Orchestra Concert	7PM
10/24	The Play That Goes Wrong	7PM
10/25	The Play That Goes Wrong	7PM
10/26	The Play That Goes Wrong	2PM
10/26	The Play That Goes Wrong	7PM
10/30	Fall Band Concert	7PM

NOV

11/06	Fall Piano Recital	7PM
11/21	Fall Coffeehouse Reading	7PM

DECEMBER

12/04	Holiday Voice Recital	7PM
12/12	Scrooge!	7PM
12/13	Scrooge!	7PM
12/14	Scrooge!	7PM
12/14	Scrooge!	2PM
12/17	Holiday Choir & Orchestra Concert	7PM
12/18	Holiday Jazz Band Concert	7PM
12/19	Holiday Band Concert	7PM

JAN

1/9	Seniors Group I Art Opening	6PM
1/14	Winter Piano Recital	7PM

FEBRUARY

2/06	Seniors Group II Art Opening	6PM
2/06	The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time	7PM
2/07	The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time	7PM
2/08	The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time	2PM
2/08	The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time	7PM
2/11	Black History Concert	7PM

MARCH

3/07	Seniors Group III Art Opening	6PM
3/07	Dance Concert 2025	7PM
3/08	Dance Concert 2025	2PM
3/08	Dance Concert 2025	7PM
3/13	Spring Orchestra Concert	7PM
3/13	Playwright's Festival	7PM
3/14	Playwright's Festival	7PM
3/18	Piano Recital	7PM
3/19	Spring Voice Recital	7PM
3/20	Spring Band Concert	7PM
3/25	Spring Choir Concert	7PM
3/27	Spring Jazz Concert	7PM

APR

4/04	Grade 11 Art Opening	6PM
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MAY

5/01	Foundations I and II Art Opening	6PM
5/01	Mamma Mia!	7PM
5/02	Mamma Mia!	7PM
5/03	Mamma Mia!	2PM
5/03	Mamma Mia!	7PM
5/12	Senior Piano Recital	7PM
5/13	Senior Theatre Showcase	7PM
5/14	Senior Voice Recital	7PM
5/15	Senior Instrumental Recital	7PM
5/16	Senior Dance Showcase	7PM
5/21	Choreography Showcase	7PM
5/27	Final Piano Recital	7PM
5/28	Finale Art Opening	6PM
5/28	Spring Choir Concert	7PM
5/29	Spring Coffeehouse	7PM

JUNE

6/05	The Wonderful Wizard of Oz	6PM
6/06	The Wonderful Wizard of Oz	6PM
6/07	The Wonderful Wizard of Oz	2PM
6/07	The Wonderful Wizard of Oz	5PM
6/12	Year End Concert & Food Truck Rodeo	4PM

Scan for Tickets!



Clip and post this calendar for quick and easy reference. **Admission fees are charged for all events listed in bold**; all other events are open to the public.
Please Note: Dates are subject to change without prior notification



Directed by Luke Fellows. **Written by** Henry Lewis, Henry Shields, and Jonathan Sayer.

Welcome to opening night of the Cornley Drama Society’s newest production, The Murder at Haversham Manor, where things are quickly going from bad to utterly disastrous. This 1920s whodunit has everything you never wanted in a show—an unconscious leading lady, a corpse that can’t play dead, and actors who trip over everything (including their lines). Nevertheless, the accident-prone thespians battle against all odds to make it through to their final curtain call, with hilarious consequences! Presented by arrangement with Dramatists Play Service.

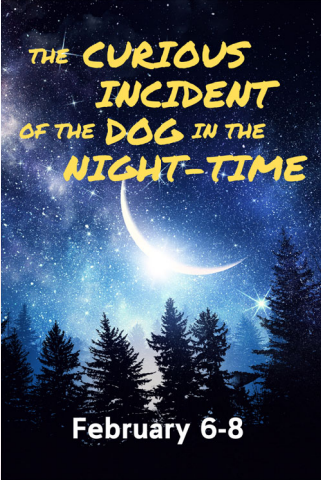
SCHOOL OF THE ARTS BLACK BOX THEATRE
October 24 – October 26



Directed by Ken Canfield. **Book, Music, and Lyrics by** Leslie Bricusse.

Based on the 1970 smash screen musical this timeless musical adaptation of Charles Dickens’ A Christmas Carol follows miserly Ebenezer Scrooge as he undergoes a profound experience of being visited by the ghost of his former partner Jacob Marley and the ghosts of Christmas past, present and future. This is sure to be a hit with audiences of all ages. Presented in arrangement with Concord Theatricals.

ALLEN MAIN STAGE THEATRE
December 12 – December 14



Directed by Ed Myers. **A play by** Simon Stephens, based on the **novel by** Mark Haddon.

Winner of the 2013 Tony Award for Best Play. 15-year-old Christopher has an extraordinary brain: He is exceptional at mathematics but ill-equipped to interpret everyday life. He has never ventured alone beyond the end of his road, he detests being touched, and he distrusts strangers. Now it is 7 minutes after midnight, and Christopher stands beside his neighbor’s dead dog, Wellington, who has been speared with a garden fork. Finding himself under suspicion, Christopher is determined to solve the mystery of who murdered Wellington, and he carefully records each fact of the crime. But his detective work, forbidden by his father, takes him on a thrilling journey that upturns his world. Presented by arrangement with Dramatists Play Service. *Suggested for mature audiences only.*

SCHOOL OF THE ARTS BLACK BOX THEATRE
February 6 – February 8



Produced and Directed by the School of the Arts Dance Department.

Be there when the Allen Main Stage Theatre explodes with energy and heart-pounding excitement. SOTA’s Dance faculty and Dance majors create an unforgettable evening of compelling choreography to captivate the imagination and excite the senses. Featuring various dance genres and music including: tap, ballet, jazz, modern, hip-hop and more, Dance Concert 2025 is a must-see!

ALLEN MAIN STAGE THEATRE
March 7 & March 8



Directed by Michelle Accorso. **Music & Lyrics by** Benny Anderson & Björn Ulvaeus.

The story-telling magic of ABBA’s timeless songs propels this enchanting tale of love, laughter and friendship, creating an unforgettable show. A mother. A daughter. Three possible dads. And a trip down the aisle you’ll never forget! Presented in special arrangement with Musical Theatre International (MTI)

ALLEN MAIN STAGE THEATRE
May 1 – May 3



Directed by Andrea Gregoire. **Adapted by** Bradley Craddock.

Travel to the land of oz where our young Dorothy must team up with a cast of characters to, not only, find her way home, but discover the true meaning of home. Adapted from the novel by L.Frank Baum by Creative Writing faculty member Bradley Craddock this will be a page to stage experience for School of the Arts students.

BLACK BOX THEATRE
June 5 – June 7

THEATRE TICKET INFORMATION

\$12 Adults \$10 Senior Citizens, Children & Students \$5 ALL RCSD Students: ID Required

SOTA Art Center Office: 585-324-3535 SOTA Online Box Office: boxoffice.sotarochester.org

VISUAL ARTS

SOTA’s Visual Arts Department proudly presents the 2024-2025 season of art exhibits. Each exhibition reflects the talents, imagination and artistry of the SOTA’s Visual Arts majors. Join us as we celebrate another exciting aspect of the arts at School of the Arts.

DAVID SILVER GALLERY
Opening Receptions – 6 PM

10/4	Faculty Artist Showcase
10/24	Foundations I and II Opening
1/9	Seniors Group I Art Opening
2/6	Seniors Group II Art Opening
3/7	Seniors Group III Art Opening
4/4	Grade 11 Art Opening
5/1	Foundations I and II Art Opening
5/28	Finale Art Opening

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

10/16	Fall Choir Concert	7PM
10/22	Fall Jazz Concert	7PM
10/24	Fall Orchestra Concert	7PM
10/30	Fall Band Concert	7PM
11/6	Fall Piano Recital	7PM
12/4	Holiday Voice Recital	7PM
12/17	Holiday Choir/Orchestra Concert	7PM
12/18	Holiday Jazz Band Concert	7PM
12/19	Holiday Band Concert	7PM
1/14	Winter Piano Recital	7PM
2/11	Black History Concert	7PM
3/13	Spring Orchestra Concert	7PM
3/18	Spring Piano Recital	7PM
3/19	Spring Voice Recital	7PM
3/20	Spring Band Concert	7PM
3/25	Spring Choir Concert	7PM
3/27	Spring Jazz Concert	7PM
5/28	Choir Concert	7PM
6/12	Food Truck Rodeo	4PM

CREATIVE WRITING DEPT

Reader’s Theatre	
October 10th & 11th	7PM
Fall Coffeehouse	
November 21st	7PM
PLAYWRIGHTS' FESTIVAL	
March 13 & March 14	
Spring Coffeehouse	
May 29th	7PM

SENIOR ARTS CELEBRATION

5/12	Senior Piano Recital	7PM
5/13	Senior Theatre Showcase	7PM
5/14	Senior Voice Recital	7PM
5/15	Senior Instrumental Recital	7PM
5/16	Senior Dance Showcase	7PM
5/29	Spring Coffeehouse feat. Class of ‘25	7PM