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## KHS Top Ten

**Keene, NH ...** Keene High School Principal Alan Chmiel is proud to announce the Top Ten graduating seniors of the KHS Class of 2011.

**Valedictorian John Szot**, son of Ann and Carl Szot of Keene, will attend Villanova University in Villanova, Pennsylvania on a Presidential Scholarship. At KHS, John is a member of the National Honor Society, the World Language Honor Society, a four-year scholar/athlete, a recipient of the Harvard Book Award, the Dartmouth Book Award, the Rensselaer Medal, and a NCTE (National Council of Teachers of English) achievement award recipient for writing. He is a four-year member of the cross-country running, the Nordic skiing and the tennis teams. He has also been a member of the state championship Envirothon team, Interact, and the Great Panda Adventure Frisbee crew. A gifted musician, John plays the clarinet in the KHS Concert Band, and performed with a small instrumental ensemble at the school's cabaret extravaganza *Nostalgia 2011*. He received scholarships from both the National Merit program and National Honor Society. Last summer he studied Forbidden Fiction at the St. Paul's School Advanced Studies Program.

**Salutatorian Ryan Rivera**, son of Jennifer and Eliezer Rivera of Keene, will attend Columbia University in New York City where he plans to be a pre-med biology major. At KHS, Ryan is president of the Student Council, a member of the National Honor Society, the World Language Honor Society, and a four-year scholar/athlete. He is on both the cross-country and swimming/diving teams. He received the St. Michael's Book Award, studied Chinese at the St. Paul's School Advanced Studies Program, participated in the Spanish student exchange, traveled to Belize on the KHS biology field trip, attended the National Student Leadership Conference on Medicine, and was a People to People Student Ambassador. He was a National Merit Commended Scholar, and recognized as a National Hispanic Scholar. He is active with the UCC youth group, plays piano and is a saxophonist with the KHS Jazz Ensemble.

**Carolynn Johnson**, daughter of Chris Hrynowski and Ockle Johnson of Keene, will attend Middlebury College in Middlebury, Vermont where she plans to major in biology and mathematics. At KHS, Carolynn is a member of the National Honor Society, the World Language Honor Society, a National Merit Scholarship finalist, a recipient of the Bausch and Lomb Honorary Science Award, captain of the cross country team, president of the Key Club, and on the Math Team. She participated in the high school's biology field trip to Belize, and attended the St. Paul's

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School Advanced Studies Program where she studied advanced mathematics. She is a math tutor, plays saxophone in the KHS Jazz Ensemble, and won a Quincy Jones music award. She is also a mentor with the Keene Elementary Band program and is active with Girl Scout Troop 12344.

**Laura Damato**, daughter of Diana and Frank Damato of Keene, will attend the University of New Hampshire in Durham. At KHS, Laura is co-president of Young Monadnock Cares where she helped organized food drives and volunteered at local organizations. She is treasurer of Green Keene Teens, where she organized a clothes swap, made eco-friendly soap and planted trees. She is a member of the Key Club, the National Honor Society, where she participates in a reading buddies program, and the World Language Honor Society. She received the Smith Book Award, and an English Department award. She is an accomplished artist having received a NH Scholastic Art Award and won a Gold Key for her portfolio and several Gold Keys for individual works. She was selected as the senior extracurricular student of the month, participated in NH Art All-States, ranks first nationally in the Le Grand Concours French contest, received a Timken scholarship, and enjoys playing the guitar and contra dancing.

**Katie Carbonara**, daughter of Susan and Dan Carbonara of Keene, will attend American University in Washington, D.C. and major in international studies. At KHS, Katie is a member of the state championship Envirothon team, the National Honor Society, the World Language Honor Society, a scholar/athlete, a recipient of an English Department award. She is active with Interact, secretary of Class Council, vice-president of the French Club, captain of the varsity gymnastic team, part of the French exchange program, and a member of the She Wolves Frisbee team. She studied the Changing World at the St. Paul's School Advanced Studies Program last summer. She was named a Walmart Community Scholar, received a Mother's Uniting Scholarship for Peace and traveled to El Salvador twice with Interact to build houses.

**Julie Van Saun**, daughter of Joan and Mark Van Saun of Keene will attend the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts where she will major in biology. At KHS, Julie is a member of the National Honor Society, the World Language Honor Society, a scholar/athlete, and a member of the varsity soccer and lacrosse teams. She is a member of Interact.

**Mina Hibino**, daughter of Ami and Hiro Hibino of Keene is taking a gap year before college. At KHS, Mina is a member of the National Honor Society, vice-president of the National Art Honor Society, active with Young Monadnock Cares. She is membership director and records keeper for Green Keene Teens, president of the Ushers Club, a member of the Key Club and the Sierra Club. As an outstanding artist, Mina won a National Scholastic American Vision Award, and several Gold Keys in the NH Scholastic Art competition. She was named a senior extracurricular student of the month and received the Wellesley Book Award. She volunteers at the Keene Public Library, the Red Cross, Stonewall Farm and at various City of Keene events.

**Darcy Ray**, daughter of Diane and Donald Ray of Keene, will attend Ithaca College in Ithaca, New York where she plans to major in international business. At KHS, Darcy is an officer in the National Honor Society where she is a participant in its reading buddies program. She is also a member of the World Language Honor

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Society. She's on the board of directors of Interact, traveling to El Salvador twice with that club to build houses. An outstanding musician who received the John Phillips Sousa Band Award, she plays the clarinet and tenor saxophone in the KHS Band, the KHS Jazz Band, the Keene Area Band, and the Nelson Town Band. She takes private music lessons with Donna Morse. She is also a member of the She Wolves Frisbee team at KHS. She works at Devine Back and Body Care as a spa girl.

**Julia Lagace**, daughter of Dawn and Patrick Lagace of Chesterfield, will attend Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley, Massachusetts where she plans to major in English and Education. At KHS, Julia is a member of the National Honor Society, the World Language Honor Society, active with the Student Council, Class Council, the Salmagundi yearbook, and the Renaissance program. She received the St. Michael's Book Award.

**Daniel Todd**, son of Karen and Daniel Todd of West Chesterfield, will attend St. Michael's College in Colchester, Vermont where he plans to major in psychology. At KHS, Dan is a member of the National Honor Society, Interact, Inertia, the men's vocal group, and the Magic Club.

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