

all of them.”
 rd College, Brown University, Randolph-Macon Woman’s
 ge
 but currently thinking about chemistry, political science,
 ish. Minor in music and/or French.
 o in the Triangle Youth Philharmonic, Eastern Regional
 s Orchestra as well as summer music programs such as the
 ’s Music Club, president of the 4-H club at home, various
 olarship, Nichols Presidential Scholarship from R-MWC,
 llege and a leadership award from Mount Holyoke
 ng to have ‘me’ time. I get so focused on schoolwork and
 o give myself time to relax, take care of myself, and just
 Holyoke College in Massachusetts early on and has chosen
 Massachusetts the summer before ninth grade and my parents
 visit some colleges while we were there. I do not remember
 [oke], but when I went back during junior year for my first
 pressed by the beautiful new music building and the fact
 pping.”

MAY LIU

First-choice school: none
Also applied to: UNC-CH, Duke, Columbia, MIT, Harvard, Princeton, Yale, Stanford, UPenn
Anticipated major: double major in Economics and science or Engineering
Extracurricular activities: president of various clubs and organizations, played piano for over 10 years, school band throughout high school, played on the tennis team junior year and research both on campus and at UNC-CH last summer.
Scholarships: none
Hardest part of high school: “I would have to say adjusting to NCSSM. It was a completely new experience. But the skills I’ve gained and lessons I’ve learned from my two years here will really help me continue to succeed in life.”
Results: After touring many schools and weighing out pros and cons, May chose Yale to attend next year.

“I visited all the schools I applied to except Stanford during the summer before my senior year. Before I even began applying to them, I liked Yale’s campus and environment the best. I love its architecture and the way their freshmen housing is set up. My family helped me find out more information about the final three schools I was considering, Yale, Stanford and UPenn, but let me use that info to make my own decision.”

May will be about “800 miles away from home rather than 8 miles” but is still confident in her decision and is anticipating her college experience.

“I’m a little scared about going so far from home and having to live almost completely on my own, but I’m really looking forward to my next four years in New Haven.”

BRANDON BYERS

First-choice school: year-off studying in Germany with CIEE, a world of opportunities program
Also applied to: UNC-Chapel Hill
Anticipated major: undecided
Extracurricular activities: co-president of Spectrum, Drum Major, RLA, volunteered with activism organizations outside school, planned two rallies, led a workshop at a conference
Scholarships: CIEE scholarship for a year in Germany
Hardest part of high school: “At NCSSM I had to get used to not being the smart kid because I am among a lot of smart kids.”
Results: Brandon first heard about CIEE through NCSSM, and due to his love of Germany and his desire to take a year off, has pursued the program.

“Next year I’m going on a scholarship to Germany and I’ll be living with a host family going to a German high school. I went to Germany for mini term and fell in love with it. I loved everything from the language and obvious culture difference to even the way they treated the environment.”

Brandon believes taking a year off will be beneficial to him and his future.

“After coming to Science and Math for two years I need a break and this is a great opportunity to get out and study abroad for free as well as pick up a second language.

After spending two semesters in Germany, Brandon intends on returning to America and enrolling in UNC-CH.

RACHEL SHAUGER

First-choice school: none
Also applied to: Brown University, Boston University, Columbia University, the University of Pennsylvania, Swarthmore College, Oxford University UNC-CH, Emory University, Edinburgh
Anticipated major: Modern European Languages degree program, taking mainly French and Italian
Extracurricular activities: Student Ambassador, member of the Drama Board, Co-editor of the *Stentorian* and Co-president of the French Club, active in drama, newspaper and language clubs, Odyssey of the Mind sophomore year.
Scholarships: none for school attending
Hardest part of high school: “The hardest part of high school for me was probably dealing with the stress level at NCSSM. I had to learn how to prioritize and realize what the important things really are.”

Results: Ironically, Rachel was turned onto Edinburgh by an NCSSM Profile flyer that featured a recently accepted student. Now she is featured for the same thing.

“[The flyer] got me thinking, and I remembered when visiting the U.K. that Edinburgh was a really neat city, so that prompted me to look further into applying there.”

The extreme distance away from home, gave reason for Rachel’s parents to be worried.

“My family was pretty reluctant to let me go. My parents had a lot of concerns about safety, and they didn’t like the idea of letting me go so far away. They finally gave in, though, because they realized that I would be much happier following a dream of studying abroad rather than being stuck at a college where everyone else from NCSSM goes.”



PERRY ISNER

First-choice school: Virginia Tech
Also applied to: NC State, Clemson, Unity
Anticipated major: undecided but looking into biology
Extracurricular activities: baseball, swim team, cross-country, Model United Nations, church youth group, Envirothon, boy scouts, Beta club
Scholarships: received reduced tuition to in-state rates
Results: Perry will be continuing the family legacy by attending VT next year.

“My parents went there, as well as a lot of other members of my family. I’ve visited the campus and it’s beautiful and it’s always been sort of a family tradition so it’s kind of been a dream for me to go there for a while.”

AMEE PATEL

First-choice school: “I really wanted to go to a school up north because I wanted a change of environment.”
Also applied to: John Hopkins, UNC Chapel Hill, Duke, Boston University and more
Anticipated major: undecided in the field of Biology
Extracurricular activities: tennis sophomore and senior year, student council president at my old school for a year, member of Charlotte Indian competition dance
Scholarships: none
Hardest part of high school: “Moving to NCSSM was a really big change and the adjustment was definitely the hardest part.”
Results: After receiving her acceptance letter from Duke University, Amee toured the campus for the first time to help make her decision to attend Duke.

“I only recently visited Duke for the first time after I was accepted and I thought the people were really nice and the campus was gorgeous. In the end I realized that Duke is probably the best place for me.”

After choosing a school in the South for undergraduate work, Amee hopes to travel North to finish working towards her future goal.

“Since I’m going to an in-state school, I really want to go to a medical school that is not in the south. I guess we will see what happens.”

LYNDSEY STEFFENSEN

First-choice school: East Carolina University
Also applied to: UNC-Chapel Hill
Anticipated major: English, with a minor in Great Books.
Extracurricular activities: Track and Field as a freshman, sophomore and junior, Varsity Tennis freshman year and Cross-country sophomore and junior year
Scholarships: None
Hardest part of high school: “The hardest part of high school for me was resisting the thousand and one temptations to lose focus on the future. It always seems so far away that it’s hard to hold onto your dreams all the way through.”
Results: While at first Lyndsey looked down upon ECU, she changed her mind while at NCSSM and has decided to attend ECU this fall.

“I grew up around [ECU], since I live in Greenville, but at first I always thought it was a bad school- it had too much of a name as a party school for me to be interested in it. Once I got up here though, I started to look at it more seriously, and I realized that it offers a fantastic program for honors kids. It’s a great way to kind of get out of the NCSSM bubble and still get a great education.”

Lyndsey’s future plans involve a lot of work both in and out of school.

“I’m working my way through school which means forty hour weeks during the summers and 20 hour weeks during the school year. Currently, I’m looking at an internship working with a publishing firm in Denmark for the summer between my freshman and sophomore year. As an honors student, I also plan to participate in ECU’s program for pre-law students which consists of mock-trials, special advising, etc.”

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• Dave Shaw
 UNC-Asheville

• Mary Eannarino
 Davidson

• Amee Patel
 Duke

• Lyndsey Steffensen
 ECU