



## SHSU PARENT NEWS

Sam Houston State University

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### A PERFECT HOLIDAY GIFT

I was delighted to be asked to contribute to this Parent's Newsletter. I am a parent of three myself, and I have been at Sam Houston State University for seventeen years. The best part of my job as Director of Academic Support Programs at the Student Advising and Mentoring Center is the close connections that I am able to establish with so many talented young people. However, in recent years I have become concerned about two specific issues: The first is that few high schools, regardless of their reputation, seem to be adequately preparing students for the transition to university. The second is the misconception that academic success is an issue of IQ instead of effort. I frequently remind students that if they are smart enough to get accepted, then they are smart enough to graduate. The issue is one of skill and effort. I am proud to say that the SAM Center offers a program that addresses both concerns.

**STUDY SKILLS** at the **STUDENT ADVISING AND MENTORING CENTER (SAM Center)** Taught by students, for students, the Study Skills series consists of six, fifty-minute sessions. The material covered includes: overcoming



procrastination, time management, how to effectively read textbooks and take class notes, and test-taking strategies. Running through all sessions are concerns as classroom etiquette, motivation, and the development of a strong work ethic.

In the academic year 2009-

2010 we had 1400 students participate in the Study Skills Program. Not only did the students evaluate the Program positively but objective measures used by the SAM Center indicated its effectiveness in teaching solid academic strategies, thereby increasing GPA. Over twenty-five different session times are offered and these can be coordinated with any student's schedule.

So if you are thinking about what you might give to your student at this time of year, something that will be with him/her always... tell them about Study Skills at the SAM Center beginning early in the Spring Semester.

Students can contact us to sign up or to get more information at 936-294-4444. I can be reached at [sam\\_bss@shsu.edu](mailto:sam_bss@shsu.edu) or at 936-294-4455.

Happy Holiday and Best Wishes,  
Bernice Strauss Ph.D.  
Director of Academic Support Programs

**We are on the web!**

[www.shsu.edu/parents](http://www.shsu.edu/parents)

#### Special points of interest:

- *STUDY SKILLS* at the **STUDENT ADVISING AND MENTORING CENTER (SAM Center)**-Taught by students, for students, the Study Skills series consists of six, fifty-minute sessions.
- Mark your calendar for **Bearkat Family Weekend 2011, September 16-18th.**
- *Sam Houston State University is dedicated to helping first-year students make a successful transition to university life.*
- *One of the reasons the Bearkat OneAccount is so flexible is the ability to send money to your student electronically, where it will be directly deposited into their OneAccount automatically.*

### Bearkat Family Weekend 2010

The tradition of Bearkat Family Weekend continues to grow with each year. This year was no different as a record number of participants registered for the weekend.

On Saturday, September 12th participants checked in and received meal tickets and registration gifts. Participants then attended Coffee with the Administrators where they had the opportunity to mix and mingle with Administrators from across the SHSU campus while enjoying a con-

tinental breakfast catered by Aramark. After the Coffee with Administrators, guests could attend the SHSU Parents' Association Meeting, go on a Campus Tour or participate in Open Houses all across campus. For lunch, registered guests were treated to a performance by Mariachi Viajeros and fiesta type food. To conclude this very busy Saturday, guests were able to participate and attend the Bearkat Alley Pre-Game Tailgate and the Bearkat Football

Game verses Gardner Webb where the Bearkats came out with a win! Eat 'em up Kats! Before you know it Bearkat Family Weekend to 2011 will be here...Mark your calendar for September 16th-18th.



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**Looking for a reason to come up to SHSU?  
Take a look at the many opportunities featuring SHSU students!**

## *School of Music*

### Performance Calendar Spring Semester 2011

(Dates up to Spring Break, for more dates go to <http://music.shsu.edu/calendar/>)

G/A General Admission    Sr –seniors    St - students

<u>Date/Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Ensemble/Artists</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Price</u>
1/22 Sat.	7:30 p.m.	Huntsville Youth Orchestra	Concert Hall	\$15/\$12
		Reunion Concert		
1/25 Tues.	7:30 p.m.	Faculty Woodwind Recital	Recital Hall	FREE
		Selections include the Poulenc Sextet with Ilonka Rus, piano		
2/8 Tues.	7:30 p.m.	Mercury Baroque – 8 Seasons	Concert Hall	\$15/12
		This Valentine's, join Mercury Baroque for an exciting performance of Vivaldi's Four Seasons and the Four Seasons by Argentinean Tango composer Astor Piazzolla.		
2/17 Thurs.	7:30 p.m.	Jazz Ensembles & Guests	Concert Hall	\$15/\$12
		Jazz Madness		
2/21-2/26 all week	Various	<i>Festival Inspiración</i> -Latin American Arts Festival	TBA	
		Concerts/workshops/exhibits		
		Final concert Sat. 2/26 7:30 pm.	Concert Hall	\$15/12
2/22 Tues.	7:30 p.m.	Concert & Symphonic Bands Concert	Concert Hall	\$15/\$12
2/24 Thurs.	7:30 p.m.	Wind Ensemble Concert	Concert Hall	\$15/\$12
		"French Connections" Sergio Ruiz, piano; Music by Dukas, Debussy, Messiaen, Grantham and Milhaud		
2/26 Sat	7:30 p.m.	Latin American Arts Festival Gala Concert	Concert Hall	\$15/\$12
3/1 Tues.	7:30 p.m.	Concert Choir & Women's Chorus	Concert Hall	\$15/\$12
		Elgar "Scenes from the Bavarian Highlands" Brahms "Neue Liebeslieder Walzer"		
3/5 Sat.	7:30 p.m.	SHSU Chorale	Concert Hall	\$15/\$12
		"The Ecstasies Above"		
3/7 Mon.	7:30 p.m.	Robert Blocker, world renowned pianist	Recital Hall	\$15/\$12
3/10 Thurs.	7:30 p.m.	SHSU Symphony Orchestra	Concert Hall	\$15/\$12

Conductor: Dr. David C. Cole; Eric Gunderson, organ soloist

Program:

Wes Flinn: Rational Exuberance (World premiere)

Poulenc: Concerto in G minor for Organ, Strings and Timpani

Dvořák: Symphony No. 8 in G major

For tickets to events, please call 936-294-2339 or email [tickets@shsu.edu](mailto:tickets@shsu.edu)



## Season Productions 2010-2011

### Spring 2011

#### Erica Starr Theatre

**Orpheus Descending**  
 by Tennessee Williams  
 Directed by Maureen McIntyre  
 February 23-26, 2011  
 Drama



**Into the Woods**  
 by Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine  
 Directed by David McTier  
 April 13-16, 2011  
 Musical

#### ShowCase Theatre



**Picasso at the Lapin Agile**  
 by Steve Martin  
 Directed by Erik Holm  
 March 23-26, 2011  
 Comedy

**Doubt**  
 by John Patrick Shanley  
 Directed by Larry Smiglewski  
 May 4-7, 2011  
 Drama

**Tickets:** Call 936-294-1339(box office) or 936-294-1329(main office) for theatre tickets.

**CURTAIN TIMES:** Evening performances are at 8:00 p.m. the house opens at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday matinees begin at 2:00 p.m. the house opens at 1:30 p.m. Please note children under three will not be admitted to any theatre production.

**Parking:** There is parking for patrons with disabilities next to the University Theatre Center. Additional parking for patrons can be found across Bobby K. Marks Drive behind the University Theatre Center. There will be a golf cart service available starting at 7 p.m. on evenings of performances and at 1 p.m. for our matinee. If you have special needs please inform the box office (936-294-1339) when making reservations so that we can be aware and prepared to service your needs.

### ***Dance Program*** Spring 2011

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Place</u>
2/18, 2/19	8:00 p.m.	Graduate Thesis Concert	PAC Dance Theater
3/9, 3/10	8:00 p.m.	Dances @ 8	PAC Dance Theater
4/6, 4/7, 4/8	8:00 p.m.	Dance Spectrum	PAC Dance Theater
4/20, 4/21	8:00 p.m.	Graduate Student Concert	PAC Dance Theater
5/10, 5/11	7:00 p.m.	Senior Studio	PAC Dance Theater

For ticket information, please call 936-294-2339 or email [dance@shsu.edu](mailto:dance@shsu.edu)



**PARENT BEARKAT ACCOUNT**

There is information that can be released to parents concerning their Bearkat through a [Parent Bearkat Account](#).

Parents can view their own Bearkat's information on:

- Account Balances
- Class Schedule
- Enrollment Verification
- Graduation Status
- Semester Grades
- Unofficial Transcript

Visit the [Parent Resources](#) page to set up a Parent Bearkat Account and find other resources for parents. Please note: Student will need to go to their SamWeb account and create a special password for their parents.

**REGISTRAR'S CALENDAR**

When is registration open? What is the last class day? When are finals?

Find those dates and more on the

[Registrar's Calendar](#).

**GRADUATING BEARKATS**

There is a special online event called **Destination Graduation** where students and their families can find information about the commencement ceremonies. Be sure to visit this site to find answer to all of your questions and more!

[http://www.shsu.edu/~reg\\_www/destination/](http://www.shsu.edu/~reg_www/destination/)

TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM BOARD OF REGENTS	
<b>Charlie Amato</b> <i>Chairman</i> San Antonio	<b>Donna N. Williams</b> <i>Vice Chairman</i> Arlington
<b>Ron Blatchley</b> <i>Bryan/College Station</i>	<b>Kevin Lilly</b> <i>Houston</i>
<b>Ron Mitchell</b> <i>Horseshoe Bay</i>	<b>David Montagne</b> <i>Beaumont</i>
<b>Trisha S. Pollard</b> <i>Bellaire</i>	<b>Michael Truncale</b> <i>Beaumont</i>
<b>Christopher Covo</b> <i>Student Regent</i> San Marcos	<b>Brian McCall</b> <i>Chancellor</i> Austin

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**Got student transition-to-college blues? SAM 136 is your solution!**

Sam Houston State University is dedicated to helping first-year students make a successful transition to university life. Students taking advantage of SAM 136, Introduction to Collegiate Studies, enjoy the opportunity to build a solid foundation of skills needed for success both academically and emotionally. Here is what our SAM 136 students say about this course:

Colton Spurlock said, "I learned that time management is great so you don't procrastinate and get behind." "I have learned how important relationships are in college, and also in life," said Danielle Eve. "The teacher was able to connect well with the class and taught us so much about ourselves." said Shelby Gregson.

"This class had many guest speakers who explained different helpful recourses on campus that I would not have otherwise been aware of," said Kiana Gardner.

SAM 136 is a 3-hour credit elective course for freshmen that can be taken in the fall or spring semester. Class size is small, usually 25 or less, with a seminar-based pedagogy allowing for relationship building as well as skills enhancement. Students learn about individual strengths, careers and majors, time management, money management, study skills, note-taking, reading and writing skills improvement, and more. Sign up for SAM 136 this spring, or for more information please call (936) 294-3422; email [fye@shsu.edu](mailto:fye@shsu.edu); or visit [www.shsu.edu/fye](http://www.shsu.edu/fye).



SAM 136 students discuss the Bearkats Read to Succeed common reader "China's Son".

**You Or Others Can Easily Send Money To Your Student. Here's How!**

When your student needs money in a hurry for unforeseen expenses, you want to make sure they get it immediately. Sending them a check in the mail is just not immediate enough. One of the reasons the Bearkat OneAccount is so flexible is the ability to send money to your student electronically, where it will be directly deposited into their OneAccount automatically. It's easy to do and doesn't require any special trips to your bank...just a journey on the "information highway." Just log on to [BearkatOne.com](http://BearkatOne.com) and click

on the "Sign Up To Send Money" button, then follow the instructions. Once you've added and confirmed a funding account, such as your own checking or savings account, you'll be able to transfer money electronically to your student.

If you have questions or need assistance getting started please contact Bearkat OneCard Services at (936) 294-2273.