



School Events & Happenings

MANITOU SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

**May 20, 1 p.m. at Richardson Field,
401 El Monte Place.**

Artist of the Week



Artist:
Brooklyn
Oursler,
6th Grade,
Ute Pass
Elementary

Title:
Vase of
Flowers

Senior Spotlight



Salutatorian Alena Akse is going to move to New York City next year to attend New York University. "I'm going to major in music education at the Steinhardt School and hope to find a job teaching in the city.

"The most important thing that Manitou School District has taught me is to be accepting. At a lot of schools, people stick with their specific group, and only hang around people they're similar to. At Manitou, I've never felt that's true. All the different groups mingle and get along, and the senior class really feels more like a big family. I love the community this district provides."



In the fall, **Jensen Delius** will be attending Columbia College Chicago and pursuing a degree in fine arts. "MSSD has most certainly helped me grow as a person because of the fabulous resources and staff that have aided me in my years here."

Multi-Generation Manitou Graduates

Valedictorian James Baker is a second-generation Manitou graduate. Next fall, James will be going to CU-Boulder to study biochemistry.

"It's the never-ending amount of support from everyone in the community.

Everyone wants to see everyone succeed in some way, and often go out of their way to make sure it happens. That has made growing up into a young adult very easy for me, and I'm sure many of my peers."

James' mom, **Christina Baker**, was a 1989 graduate of Manitou Springs High School. She left Manitou for 23 years and when her kids got into middle school, she wanted them to go to a smaller school with a sense of community. She was ready to bring her family home! "I don't think I appreciated it while I was in school, but it's the MSSD holistic approach to school, athletics, arts and community. Being given the opportunity to be involved in many things. The teachers and staff that supported you and that vision. All of it matters. All of those skills help you more than just focusing or excelling at just one thing."

Alyssa Holladay followed in the footsteps of both of her parents, graduating from MSHS. Next year, she will be attending University of Denver.

"The thing I appreciate the most about MSSD is the small school environment! It's because of this I have become so close to my friends and my community and have been able to do so well mentally, physically and socially!"

Alyssa's parents, **Chad and Sarah Holladay**, both graduated from Manitou Springs High School in 1989. Chad and Sarah could not wait to leave Manitou after graduating. Chad traveled the world serving our country, but "bottom line is there is no place like home!" When asked what they appreciated about MSSD, Chad said "One of the best parts of growing up and going to school here is quite frankly the people. We have kept in touch with

tons of Manitou grads from back in the day and still have life-long friends from the years spent there. The quality people that this school continues to produce is amazing."



LAST DAY OF SCHOOL — MAY 24TH

