

## L/A It's Happening Here!

One of the greatest things about living in Lewiston, Maine is the level of community involvement. I am merely an 18 year old senior in high school, and I can recognize the fact that our residents are truly passionate about their city. We are fortunate to include Bates College in several of our arts and performance events as well. I feel as though the citizens of Lewiston and Auburn cooperate well to collaborate for celebrations of culture, music, holidays, and sporting events. It is for these reasons that I am proud to reside in our own L/A.

On a more personal note, I find that Lewiston/Auburn has an outstanding performing arts program that fully supports the incorporation of younger generations. As a member of the Lewiston High School Chamber singers and Diaboli Musicae, I appreciate the frequent opportunities to sing for the public. I was also very privileged to be able to accompany the Androscoggin Chorale a few months ago in one of their outstanding concerts! The Franco-American Heritage Center is a superb structure with acoustics that give every listener goose-bumps once the sounds reverberate in their ears. I'm so grateful to the city for putting such effort into making sure that that edifice remains in good condition.

Along the same lines of performing and community involvement, there is always some type of concert going on whether it be in Kennedy Park, down by the Main Street Plaza, or in some coffee shop that allows the talented residents of the twin-cities to show off what they've got. I have been blessed to have been given so many opportunities to share my passion for music with my fellow Lewistonians including my younger brother. The support for the arts gives me a feeling of hope not only for my city, but for the world. Who knows where the younger generations will end up some day. I am confident that the culture they receive here in L/A will be carried with them for the rest of their lives to wherever it is they go.

As for me and my future plans, I will not be too far from home when attending college in New Hampshire. I look forward to my trips back to Lewiston/Auburn to rejoin my community in singing, dancing, and enjoying the culture that is our own.