

## **TWO WILSON GRADS SINGING AND DANCING ON NATIONAL TELEVISION**

Wilson HS has a connection to network TV, with the NBC reality series "The Sing-Off"! **Alar Teose '08** and **Teigh Bowen '06** are members of "On the Rocks", one of the groups selected to compete on the second season of the show, airing tonight, December 6 at 8pm.

"On the Rocks" is University of Oregon's premier male a cappella vocal group, and is one of the top a cappella ensembles in the nation. They became an Internet sensation this past summer, with their arrangement of Lady Gaga's "Bad Romance" getting over 7 million views on YouTube.

You can see the performance here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cTFh8LCBZeQ>.

The 15 members of "On the Rocks" auditioned for the program in Los Angeles last June, learned they had been selected in July, and returned to LA in August to tape the episodes. The members are sworn to secrecy on how they did on the show. Members of the group include: Josh Heying, tenor; Jonah Seitz, tenor; Nick Firth, tenor; **Teigh Bowen, tenor**; Jacob Steinberger, baritone; Jake Jepson, bass; Jason Remschel, bass; Neil Ghosh, tenor; Ted Ramsey, tenor; Luke Snyder, tenor; **Alar Teose, baritone**; Porsch Anthony, baritenor; Jeff Rogers, tenor; Alex Horwitch, vocal percussion; and Peter Hollens, tenor.

On "The Sing-Off," the group will compete against nine other a cappella groups for a \$100,000 prize and a Sony Music recording contract. From NBC's press release: "The groups perform popular songs from various genres, arranged and sung like you've never heard before. There is no lip-synching, back-up band or safety net." The show, hosted by Nick Lachey (along with judges Ben Folds, Shawn Stockman and Nicole Scherzinger), airs from 8-10pm Dec. 6, 8, 13 and 15, with a live finale Dec.20. Previews for the show are here: <http://www.nbc.com/sing-off/video/>. [Click here to for a photo of "On the Rocks"](#). **Alar Teose** is in the white shirt and tie just to the left of center and **Teigh Bowen** is in the front, second from the right, in a sweater with a white stripe.

According to Erik Teose, Alar's father, his son has been singing and dancing for most of his life. "At the age of 2 he was already a part of the Portland Estonian Folk Dancers children's troupe, moving to the adult troupe at age 12, where he still participates and performs when his school schedule allows (the Teose family is of Estonian heritage, and is actively involved in Portland's Estonian community). In school, he was mostly interested in sports, but in his senior year at Wilson, he became a member of the vocal group WAVE (Wilson Advanced Vocal Ensemble). His interest in singing grew, and when he went to the University of Oregon, he auditioned for "On the Rocks" and was ecstatic when he was accepted. He is now in his third year with "On the Rocks" and is having the time of his life." His most influential teacher at Wilson was Steve Peter, director for choir and WAVE (Wilson Advanced Vocal Ensemble). When asked about words of advice for current Wilson students, Alar said, "Don't be afraid to try new things. When going to college/university, join some type of group or organization that interests you; meet new people. You never know where it will take you."

After Wilson, Teigh Bowen went to the University of Oregon and graduated last spring in Psychology, with a minor in Special Education. He is now working for the Eugene Emeralds Minor league baseball team after acting as the Oregon Duck Mascot for four years at the U of O. Teigh states that his time with the Wilson Theatre program got him ready for a national stage in both Mascoting and Singing! Joan Kvitka was Teigh's psychology teacher at Wilson. He adds that "her passion for psychology and being a global citizen planted the seed for a life long interest in the subject." Teigh's advice for current Wilson Students is GO BIG! "Get involved. I was involved in so many things I don't remember any free time in high school! I was captain of the Swim Team, Thespian board president, I sang in choirs and performed in plays. All the people I met doing all those activities have been insanely influential in all the things that I've done outside of high school, and the friendships I gained will last the test of time and distance. Join Choir, Band, or Drama. The performing arts brought out a passion in me that even though I say I wont pursue it as a career, I somehow seem to keep singing and acting regardless of the venue." Teigh's final words, are to "be a Duck. University of Oregon is the better school. (wink!)"

Two amazing examples of talented Wilson graduates! Let's cheer on "On the Rocks" and their Wilson connection, as they compete on national TV!