



Photo courtesy of THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCE AND DESIGN

Students perform in a production of "You Can't Take It With You" at the Academy of Science and Design.

Interlocking

Blue Ribbon Academy merges scientific humanities and humanistic science

"The fairest thing we can experience is the mysterious. It is the fundamental emotion which stands at the cradle of true art and true science. He who knows it not and no longer wonders, no longer feels amazement, is as good as dead, a snuffed-out candle." – Albert Einstein

In 1937, "You Can't Take It With You" by Moss Hart and George Kaufman won the Pulitzer Prize in Drama. The play ran on Broadway for two years and 838 performances that, for the first time, coincided with the 1938 Frank Capra film that made Jimmy Stewart a bona fide star – before "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington" (1939) and "It's A Wonderful Life" (1946). The classic love story centers on the clash between two families – the granddaughter Alice's eccentric, free-spirited, unconventional Sycamore family and her fiance's privileged and proper family.

The play celebrates the fact that creativity often challeng-



Education Betsy Devos, joining award-winning administrators from 300 public and private schools from across the United States.

With an enrollment of 550, grades 6-12, ASD is a public charter school with a blind admission policy decided by a lottery. Half the student body is from Nashua, the other half includes students from more than 30 other towns, some rural but most reflecting the broader region's economic interest in science/technology-based industry. Founded just a decade ago, and funded by state taxes that amount to half the funding of other public schools along with donations from nearly half of their students' families, ASD has done more with less, exceeding state and national averages in its ACE, SAT, AP score and rankings.

But the story of ASD lies beneath those numbers – in the innovative approach to education that is student-centered and innovative.



D. QUINCY WHITNEY

es convention at the risk of belonging – a perfect window into the unconventional educational setting of Nashua's Academy for Science and Design, winner of the 2017 National Blue Ribbon Award – the only New Hampshire high school to ever receive this prestigious award.

Last November, ASD Director Jennifer Cava and school administrator Amy Bewley travelled to Washington, D.C., to receive the award and meet U.S. Secretary of