



An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy

## LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Greetings parents!

Winter 2014 is certainly shaping up to be a challenging one! It seems our weather is the main topic of conversation and determinant of our activities these days. I hope all are enjoying this snow day and not getting too overwhelmed with the removal of ice and snow.

To date we have used two snow days not planned in the schedule. Our first make up date will be February 28 –this day was originally scheduled to be an in-service day for faculty. This will now be a school day and students are required to be in attendance.

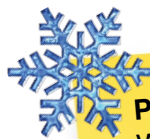
I have much good news to share about our students' accomplishments. Congratulations to our English faculty and the impressive number of students who qualified for awards in the Scholastic Writing Competition. Our NDA writers did very well this year and amongst the many Gold and Silver medals we have three Gold medals for portfolios and two America Voices awards. We also have good news to share about our Band members. Congratulations to Band Director Mr. Greg Cerimele and the six students who were selected for the NKU Honors Band. Finally, our February Student of the Month is sophomore Julia Gerwe. In addition to her involvement and leadership in Student Council and many clubs at NDA, Julia is a serious student and good friend to many. Please see more about our student accomplishments in the articles below.

As noted in recent issues of the Panda Press, NDA is hosting the production of Dead Serious...About Life, performed by the group Mishpachah on Saturday, February 8 at 6:00 p.m. and Sunday, February 9 at 3:00 p.m. This show addresses many difficult issues that teens face especially those related to teenage suicide. This Friday we will hold all school assembly to provide an introduction to the show and the topics it addresses. Some students may find the information difficult or relate to it in a personal way. Our counselors will be available to meet the students on an individual basis as needed. We believe it is important to provide information about these difficult topics in a safe and familiar environment. Please see additional information below.

There is much to share about the happenings at NDA. I hope you take the time to read all that is listed below to stay current on activities and accomplishments.

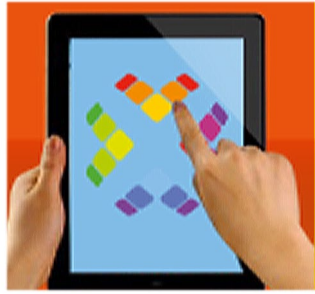
May you know God's goodness each day,

Dr. Laura Koehl



### PLEASE NOTE:

We have all heard the reports of a salt shortage in the area and NDA is no exception to that. We have a very limited supply left and have prioritized the use of what we do have to the main driveway and sidewalks. If you know of anyone with available salt, please contact our Facilities Manager, Mr. Pete Hehman at [hehmanp@ndapandas.org](mailto:hehmanp@ndapandas.org).



Technology in  
the Classroom

The iPad  
Initiative

## TECHNOLOGY UPDATE ◀

### APP of the WEEK:

Cycloramic Studio 360 Panorama

By Egos Ventures



Check out this week's App of the Week - Cycloramic Studio 360 Panorama. This revolutionary app will help you take panoramic photos and videos HANDSFREE! Expect to see something soon from the SWAT Team using this app!

## SWAT Team Members submit videos to White House Film Festival

Thanks to sophomore, Malea Rolfsen, 2 films were made by 3 students taking the SWAT course and submitted to the White House Film Festival. Malea's mother heard about the film festival and forwarded the information on to Malea who came to tell Mrs. Mullee about it. SWAT students are required to take on a project as part of their course. Juniors Katie Kloska and Isabella Hansen used the Production Lab to its fullest potential as they worked on their video submissions. Mia Shelton, also a junior, is the featured actress in Katie's film called "A New Age: White House Student Film Festival". Katie used "Final Cut Pro X" software to create this amazing submission. Isabella Hansen created and edited "The Revolution of Today" for her submission illustrating how technology has revolutionized our education here at NDA. Both submissions were also entered into Northern Kentucky has Talent video contest which will call for voting on Facebook. Isabella comments that "I never thought I could do something like this!" With these talented students combined with our new Production Lab, anything is possible! You can see Isabella's video here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U2Bp7vMvIU> and Katie's video here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gesGJ4WjUX0&feature=youtu.be>



## STUDENT LIFE UPDATE ◀

**Congratulations NDA and CCH!** You raised \$2509.50 at the charity volleyball game last week. All funds will go to the Northern KY Emergency Shelter.

### Dead Serious...About Life

This weekend, Notre Dame welcomes the faith-based organization Mishpachah who will present *Dead Serious . . . About Life* - a theatrical production. Friday afternoon, NDA students will attend an assembly intended to preview the production and to educate students about the major issues affecting young people today. During the assembly, students will be exposed to issues of abortion, alcohol, drugs, religion, sex, cutting, self-esteem and suicide. Student actors will give their own testimonials about these difficult teenage issues and how they became dead serious about their own lives. The final message that will be communicated to our student body is that suicide only creates more problems than it really solves and that there is a better way to live. The assembly will conclude in the classrooms where teachers will show students the many resources available to them on our school website. These resources are intended to support the emotional, psychological and physical health of our students. Our counselors will be available in the afternoon to meet with any student who seeks additional support. Parents are welcome to contact Assistant Principal Mrs. Grayson to discuss the content of the assembly or to excuse their daughter from attending the assembly.

## SEEKING VOLUNTEERS FOR Dead Serious . . . About Life ◀

We are asking for caring adults to volunteer in the Listening Room after each performance on Saturday and Sunday evening. The Listening Room gives teens a place to go right after the performance if they need someone to talk to. Lives have been saved in the Listening Room. The qualifications are minimal. We simply need adults to listen. There will be professional counselors in the room in case anyone needs immediate professional help. If you are interested in helping at either performance, please contact parent volunteer Christine Whelan ([christinewhelan72@gmail.com](mailto:christinewhelan72@gmail.com) or 859-572-0474).

## WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU JOIN US... ◀



Parents, we would LOVE to have you join us in the cafeteria - even for just one day!

Volunteers are needed in the cafeteria on the following dates:

**February 6, 10, 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20, 24, 25, 26.**

Shifts are from 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. You can sign up to volunteer at [Volunteer Spot](#). Thank you to all of the parents who are already volunteering. We truly appreciate your help!

## STUDENT OF THE MONTH - FEBRUARY ◀

Notre Dame Sophomore Julia Gerwe is described as positive, energetic, spirited and academically gifted – a true role model and woman making a difference. According to Mrs. Witt, NDA's school secretary, Julia shares the same care for people and love for Catholic education as our school's patron saint – St. Julie Billiart for whom Julia was named after.

These qualities and her commitment to serving others have earned her the recognition of February's Student of the Month.

Julia, having just wrapped up her sixth theatrical performance on NDA's stage, keeps very busy with extra-curricular and service activities. Besides the theatre program, Julia is a member of the Pandatones --NDA's audition choir, Academic Team, Student Council, Ping Pong and Sign Language Club. Outside NDA, Julia keeps very busy serving her community; she is trained to read for grade school Academic Team meets, serves each summer as an American Red Cross camp counselor and participates in the YCET Diocesan youth program that facilitates 8th grade retreats.

Since she joined NDA as a freshman last year, Julia has maintained first honors every quarter. Though she appreciates all of her classes, she especially enjoys her Spanish and English classes. From English she gains real-life, practical knowledge, and Spanish allows her to learn more about her ancestry and where her grandma lived before immigrating to the United States.

Religion teacher Michelle Johnson, sees Julia's "true commitment to the Christian lifestyle in her words and deeds." Julia believes it is hers and the responsibility of all of us to make our world a better place, and Julia says one smile or a simple hello makes a big difference. This explains why you always see Julia with a smile on her face. Congratulations, Julia on earning this recognition. We are proud to call you a Panda!



## BIG NEWS with the NDA / CCH Band ◀



CONGRATULATIONS to these Six Band Members who were selected to perform with the NKU Honors Band Symposium this January in Greaves Hall. They rehearsed and performed with some of the areas finest High School musicians. It was a great honor to have Notre Dame Academy represented by these stand out band members in this Honors Band Weekend.

Claire Cerimele	Tenor Saxophone
Sarah Frisch	Flute
Mia Shelton	Bass Clarinet
Paige Hignite	French Horn
Emily Walter	Trombone
Rachel Cerimele	Flute

As an added honor:  
Sarah Frisch was assigned FIRST CHAIR in the flute section and Emily Walter was awarded SECOND CHAIR in the trombone Section.

## NDA BASS FISHING TEAM INFORMATION ◀

The NDA Bass Fishing team will have it's first informational meeting of the season on Thursday, February 6 at 7:30 p.m. in Alumnae Hall. Any interested students and their parents are invited to attend.



## DVD AVAILABLE ◀

Orders for the "60's Showcase" DVD will be accepted until February 14th. DVDs are \$20.00 a copy; please make checks payable to NDA and send to Nancy Stratman at Notre Dame Academy.

## THE WRITE STUFF AND MORE! ◀

Mark Twain said that the difference between the right word and almost the right word is the difference between lightning and a lightning bug. That idea is not lost on the NDA authors whose pieces won 26 Gold Keys, 32 Silver Keys and 51 Honorable Mentions in the Scholastic Art and Writing Competition. Szofia Komaromy-Hiller earned two Gold Keys for her two portfolio entries and Abigail Martin won a Gold Key for her portfolio as well; both are recipients of the prestigious American Voices Award. Additional portfolio awards include Honorable Mention for Stephanie Hacker and Caroline Miller. The list that follows recognizes other individual achievements.

### **Persuasive Writing**

Gold Key: Szofia Komaromy-Hiller, Abigail Martin, Hannah Good, Hannah Zieglmeyer, Marissa Picciuto

Silver Key: Ellen Kendall, Lilly Morgan, Claire Suetholtz, Morgan Zumbiel, Mariah Bezold, Andrea Davis, Emily Walter

Honorable Mention: Haley Appleman, Julia Goins, Christa Saelinger

### **Personal Essay**

Gold Key: Hannah Good, Claire Suetholtz

Silver Key: Lauren Hollman, Megan Hueker, Ellen Kendall, Madeline Weltzer, Hannah Ziegler

Honorable Mention: Alexa Schulte, Sandra Steiber, Rachel Birrer, Haley Appelman, Megan Saelinger, Mikayla Rankin

### **Journalism**

Silver Key: Sandra Steiber, Szofia Komaromy-Hiller

Honorable Mention: Alexa Schulte, Lily Thaman

### **Humor**

Gold Key: Szofia Komaromy-Hiller

Silver Key: Caroline Miller, Rikki Buchberger

Honorable Mention: Anna Bradtmueller, Sandra Steiber, Jess Peck, Paxton Kirpes

### **Flash Fiction**

Gold Key: Claire Bessler

Silver Key: Szofia Komaromy-Hiller

Honorable Mention: Cassidy Ryan

### **Science Fiction/Fantasy**

Gold Key: Szofia Komaromy-Hiller

Silver Key: Claire Morgan

Honorable Mention: Abby Roebker

### **Short Story**

Gold Key: Emma Jacobs, Abigail Martin, Maggie McLeod, Summer Scheben, Meleia Michels, Lauren Schmitt, Lauren Reinersman

Silver Key: Emily Bautista, Abby Marshall, Alexa Schulte, Morgan Zumbiel

Honorable Mention: Melanie Boehmer, Kylie Colvin, Ellen Combs, Ashley Gettelfinger, Ally Iglesias, Erin Nurre, Alexa Shulte, Madeline Tierney, Brianna Vollman, Clara Wood, Andrea Davis

### **Poetry**

Gold Key: Abigail Martin, Abby Marshall, Sydney Stallman, Lauren Reinersman, Jessica Colvin

Silver Key: McKenzie Trentman, Bridget Stewart, Madeline Marita, Jessica Vogt, Mia Shelton, Hannah Zieglmeyer, Julia Gerwe, Megan Saelinger, Mackenzie Sullivan

Honorable Mention: Emily Bautista, Emma Jacobs, Mary Hackman, Katie Klensch, Jacqueline Schuh, Brianna Vollman, Isabella Hansen, Erin Hunt, Sarah Penney, Josie Shriver, Carly Wolnitzek, Hannah Zieglmeyer, Claire Cerimele, Haley Appelman, Mariah Bezold, Rikki Buchberger, Marissa Picciuto, Paige Monfort (2), Katie Stratman

Congratulations to English teachers Lynn Dickman, Linda Bricking, Emily Sampson, Amanda Staggs and David Jackson who supported these students in their drafting and revising of all of these award-winning works.

In the Cincinnati English Speaking Union Shakespeare Competition, Emma Duerstock will represent NDA in the regional competition at Playhouse in the Park. She will perform a monologue from A Midsummer Night's Dream and recite a Shakespearean sonnet. Congratulations Emma!

The senior class attended the Cincinnati Shakespeare Company's performance of Hamlet on January 29th. All agreed that the play was impressively done and enjoyed the early 20th century costuming. The question and answer session that followed offered interesting insights into staging techniques and special effects.





## AFTER PROM ◀

### Great Advertising Opportunity!

The After Prom committee is looking for corporate and individual t-shirt sponsors. Every girl who attends After Prom receives a t-shirt. For more sponsorship information contact [kirnl@ndapandas.org](mailto:kirnl@ndapandas.org).

**Please consider donating it to this year's After Prom.** The After Prom committee is collecting items for the April 25, 2014 After Prom. Gift cards, gift items for themed baskets, electronic items, and accessories would all make great gift ideas for After Prom. Please send in your donations (marked "After Prom") to the school office.

## COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀



### Attention Freshmen Parents

There will be a Freshman Parent Meeting on Thursday, February 6 at 7:00 p.m. in the Theatre. We will discuss scheduling for next year as well as touch on some information about college, ACT, standardized testing and many other topics. This is for current freshman parents.

### Looking for student summer opportunities?

Please visit our NDA website to link to many different opportunities this summer. It is being updated as materials arrive at school. Some things include a Commonwealth Academy at Murray State for juniors interested in getting some free college credits, a Xavier Jump Start Program, and many other activities. [Click here for the website link.](#)

**ACT for juniors:** All juniors will be taking the ACT on March 18, 2014 during the school day. This Diocesan wide ACT will be like the other National tests and scores can be sent to colleges. We will register during long homerooms for the test, so there is no need to do so online. Students will need to pay the fee (\$36) for the test to the school office in March. Juniors and junior parents will receive more details in an upcoming email about this test.

**Cinderella's Closet** is ready to "turn dresses into dreams" for any junior or senior who needs assistance getting a prom dress and accessories. Please see Mrs. Taylor if you would like to be referred to Cinderella's Closet. Appointments to pick out a prom dress are March 21 & 22, but you'll want to sign up as soon as possible because spots fill up quickly. See [Cinderella'sClosetusa.org](http://Cinderella'sClosetusa.org) for more info.

### Northern Kentucky Spring College Fair

Monday, February 24, 2014 | 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | Thomas More College - Connor Convocation Center  
For a list of colleges attending and more info: [http://www.thomasmore.edu/admissions/college\\_fair\\_list.cfm](http://www.thomasmore.edu/admissions/college_fair_list.cfm)

This is during the school-day. This is not a school-sponsored event.

Juniors and seniors will be allowed to use a "College Visit Day". See Mrs. Witt to pick up a College Visit Form.

### Governor's School for Entrepreneurs (GSE)

Due to school closings, the deadline to submit applications to the Kentucky Governor's School for Entrepreneurs (GSE) has been extended until 6:00 p.m. on Friday, February 7, 2014. GSE is a three-week residential summer program where students, working in teams, take an idea for a product or service and utilize science, technology, engineering, art, math and business skills to design a product and develop a business model for it.

Required are:

- a two-minute video
- a completed application
- two recommendations

Descriptions and directions for everything are on their website: <http://gse.kstc.com>. Apply now!!



## WHAT'S FOR LUNCH? ◀

Did you know that the lunch menu is on website? You can find it by going to [Quicklinks](#) or directly to the [Cafeteria page](#) (Students>>Policies and Procedures>>Cafeteria).

## SUMMER ART OPPORTUNITIES ◀

### Junior High Summer Studio Art Class 2014: Portrait in Words

This year, the project that students will make is called 'Portrait in Words'. Students will choose a person to create a portrait of and they will be instructed on how to create a portrait painting of that person, using words.

**Who:** Any current 6th, 7th, and 8th Grader (Limit 25 students per session)

**What:** Students will:

- learn some basics of Photoshop
- basics of creating a drawing while using the gridding process
- be introduced to artist Phil Hansen
- learn the process of painting while working in layers

**When:** Session A: The week of Monday, June 30th – Thursday, July 3rd, 10am – 12pm

Session B: The week of Monday August 11th – Thursday August 14th, 10am – 12pm

**Where:** The Art Studio at Notre Dame Academy

**Cost:** \$75 per student. Payment includes instruction, studio costs, canvas, paint, and a t-shirt. Students will need to provide a picture of a person for them to work from.



**If interested, please fill out form found [HERE](#) and return form and payment to Notre Dame Academy by Friday, May 30th.**

### Summer Studio Art 2014 - For High School

- Forms and payment are due by Friday May 30th

- Class runs Monday thru Friday, 8:30am – 11:30am

- Any scheduling conflicts (vacation, camps, sports camps) can easily be worked out if I am notified prior to the class.

- If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at [eckerlem@ndapandas.org](mailto:eckerlem@ndapandas.org)

- If AP students, future AP students, and students interested in applying for Governor School for the Arts take the summer course, their assignments will be individualized.

#### **WEEK 1: 2D OR NOT 2D July 7th – 11th**

Week 1 takes a basic look at some 2D techniques. Beginners will be dealing with basic values in pencil/colored pencil/oil pastel drawings while referencing images and looking at Impressionist works from Manet, Monet, Van Gogh, etc. The more advanced students will be exploring techniques using printmaking, chalks, and drawing from life. Artists that will be looked at will be Andy Warhol, Ryan McGinniss, Kathe Kollwitz, and Tom Shaw.

#### **WEEK 2: Original Digital/Photography/Design July 14th – 18th**

Week 2 will get us out of the studio and into the lab, for the majority of the week, where we will learn and experiment with some basic tools in digital design. We will be using, collaging, experimenting, and working with images, digital photographs, original sketches and anything that we can upload, scan, take a photograph of, or find. We will use Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Illustrator to create our own designs and our own Original, Digital works of Art. Artists that will be looked at will be Jason Hargis (local designer), Andy Warhol, and Ryan McGinniss.

#### **WEEK 3: Old Clothes Week (Painting) July 21st – 25th**

Week 3 will get us experimenting with paint. New students will be using Acrylic Paint while more advanced students will get a chance to use either Acrylics or Water Soluble Oil Paint. We will somehow try to cover different styles of painting, (Photo- Realism, Realism, Abstract, Non-Objective, Minimalist, etc.). Students will have the option of working from an image, working with an image to reference, from a still life, OR a student is free to create their own idea as well. A canvas and paint will be provided. Artists that will be looked at will be Chuck Close, Kevin Muenta (local painter), Picasso, Rothko, Motherwell, Andy Eckerle (BROTHER and local artist), street artist Banksy, and countless others.

#### **WEEK 4: Mixed Media Week (BERSERKER WEEK) July 28th – August 1st**

This week we will be taking a more Contemporary look at Art. We will be learning how to make Art out of anything and everything. Nothing is safe from possibly being adhered on, nailed to, drawn with, or painted over. We will be working with mixed media, some sculpture, and also how to integrate the two. A mess will be made, a different type of Art will be created, but fun will be had. Artists that we will look at will be Louise Nevelson, Jasper Johns, and Robert Rauschenberg.

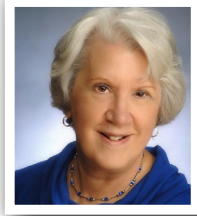
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# 2014 Women Making A Difference

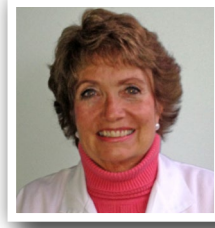
On Friday, February 28, 2014, Notre Dame Academy will honor four graduates who are living the mission of NDA and making a difference in the world. This year's honorees are:



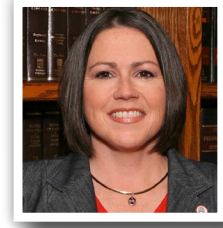
Mary Ann Blewett Robinson '55



Marcia Klaene '61



Joan Kluemper, DMD '69



Gabrielle Summe '84

The 2014 Women Making A Difference Luncheon will be held on February 28, 2014, at Receptions in Erlanger, Kentucky. The event will begin with registration at 11:30 a.m. followed by a luncheon and program at noon. Tickets for the Women Making A Difference luncheon are \$55 and can be purchased by calling 859.292-7729.

## ► Important Dates

February 8	6:00 p.m. - Dead Serious...About Life Production
February 9	3:00 p.m. - Dead Serious...About Life Production
February 14	NASC LEAD Conference
February 17	NO SCHOOL
February 24	Registration Opens for Returning Students
February 28	Women Making A Difference Luncheon

## COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

### Evening to Treasure

Blessed Sacrament School cordially invites you to the 21st Annual *An Evening to Treasure* - Mardi Gras Style, Saturday, February 22, 2014, from 6:00 p.m. - 12:30 a.m. at Cincinnati Airport Marriott. Cost is \$65/ticket. For more information visit [www.eveningtotreasure.com](http://www.eveningtotreasure.com).

### Part time dish room

The Sisters of Notre Dame are currently seeking a NDA parent to work part time as a dishwasher operator on Monday, Tuesday and every other Friday from 12:30 p.m. to approximately 2:30 p.m. in their Provincial House located in Park Hills, Kentucky. Although this position is run through the work study program, all families are eligible. Experience is not necessary. If interested in working in this loving, home environment please email us at [humanresources@sndky.org](mailto:humanresources@sndky.org), or call 859-291-2040.

Attention Future Pandas...  
How would you like to win an iPad?

If you are interested in applying as an incoming freshman for the 2014-15 school year, don't forget to submit your **ONLINE APPLICATION** and registration fee to Notre Dame Academy on or before February 7, 2014 to be included in a drawing for a new iPad!

