



An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Blessings friends,

We continue this Lenten Season at NDA to prepare ourselves for the gift of the risen Christ on Easter. As you know, our students have many opportunities at NDA to deepen their relationship with God, especially during Lent. I would hope that our students take advantage of the opportunity to go to our weekly Mass on Wednesday afternoons or attend our daily decade of the rosary sometime before Easter. Through participating in these opportunities, they will further understand what it means to live the mission of Notre Dame Academy.

Our College Planning meetings have all taken place and we now move on to registration of classes for the 2018-19 school year. Students can now go online to view recommended courses and register for electives for next year. All students have received an email explaining how to register and links for the process. Ms. Burgei and Mrs. Monohan will be in the cafeteria this week and next to help students with any questions they may have about schedules. You can find a link below in the Counseling and Student Services section to find out more information about Powerschool Registration.

Next Tuesday, February 27 is SUPER TUESDAY at NDA! On that day, our freshmen and sophomores will be taking the College Equipped Readiness Test (CERT). Our juniors will be taking the ACT and our Seniors will be taking part in their Senior Mission Retreat at St. Joseph Heights. **PLEASE NOTE: Students need to pack a lunch on Tuesday, February 27 and will be dismissed at 2:00 p.m.**

I am grateful for the many ways we are connected through our mission at Notre Dame Academy. In the tradition of the Sisters of Notre Dame, our goal is to produce young women who have a fundamental desire to seek excellence and make a difference not only for themselves, but also for the world at large. We do this by offering challenging academic programs and a multitude of co-curricular opportunities that include community service, student life, fine arts, leadership and athletics. We are blessed with the support of so many parents, families, alumnae and friends of NDA who deeply believe in our mission. We appreciate their continued support in our efforts to provide a premiere 21st century education rooted in the Catholic faith.

Thank you for your continued support of our mission and please know I am grateful to partner with you in this important work!

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf

Notre Dame Academy
is built on the
Four Educational Principles
of the Sisters of Notre Dame:



- The centrality of a good and provident God
- The human dignity of each person as an image of God
- The Notre Dame educator as a Gospel witness
- An integrated education for transformation



STUDENT LIFE UPDATE ◀

Safe Environment Training

The Diocese of Covington is committed to creating and building safe environments in its schools and parishes. Next Friday, all Notre Dame Academy students will attend a safety presentation facilitated by Julie Feinauer, School Counselor at St. Henry District High School. Mrs. Feinauer will be speaking to our students about her experiences and how to be safe and aware in your environment. She will touch upon how to identify abuse of all types.

All students will participate in this program unless Notre Dame Academy receives written notification from a parent or guardian indicating that permission is not granted for his or her daughter to participate. To opt out of the Safe Environment Training, please provide written notification by Thursday, March 1 to the attention of Mrs. Amber Grayson, Assistant Principal.

Attention Freshman Parents Help Needed!

Sophomores through Seniors are invited to attend the annual Silver Bells Dance on Saturday, March 10 from 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. To assist with clean up, we ask for the help of Freshmen parents to clean up immediately after the dance. This takes the responsibility off of the Sophomore class who hosts the event.

We are looking for 12 to 15 Freshmen parents to help clean up after the dance which is held at Notre Dame. Clean up would begin at 11:00 p.m. and should take no longer than one hour. We appreciate your help! [CLICK HERE](#) to volunteer!

Next Year's Calendar

[CLICK HERE](#) to access NDA's Google Calendar. The dates and times for next year's events have been entered. Other pertinent information is listed below for quick reference.

September 4	First Day of School
October 12	No School: Professional Development Day
November 1	No School: All Saints' Day
November 2	1st Quarter Ends
November 21-23	No School: Thanksgiving Break
December 20--January 2	No School: Christmas Break
January 15-17	Exams
January 17	2nd Quarter Ends
January 21	No School: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
February 18	No School: Presidents' Day
March 21	3rd Quarter Ends
March 22	No School: Prom
April 18-26	No School: Easter Break
May 20-22	Senior Exams
May 24	No School: Graduation
May 27	No School: Memorial Day
May 28-30	Exams
May 31	4th Quarter Ends/Cleaning Day

GROW CLOSER TO GOD THIS LENT ◀

Lent is a time to prepare ourselves for the gift of the risen Christ on Easter. To help our students deepen their relationship with God this Lenten season, **we will celebrate Mass each Wednesday at 3:15 in room 102.** All are welcome!

Also, **we pray a decade of the rosary to "Notre Dame" Our Lady everyday at NDA at 7:25 a.m. On Mondays and Fridays we pray the decade in the Reflection Room (301) and on Tuesdays and Thursday we pray in Heritage Hall.** We welcome students, faculty and staff. Please make an effort to join us this Lent!





BECKY HAMMILL

FEBRUARY STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to Notre Dame Academy Sophomore, Becky Hammill, who has been selected as February's Student of the Month. Becky, who serves as a homeroom representative is responsible and takes initiative. "Becky doesn't need to be told what to do because she is tuned in to what needs to be done and consistently does it with consideration and confidence. I feel very lucky to have her as our 304 student council rep," says her teacher Ms. Dickman. Becky also serves as an ambassador for NDA and brings a unique perspective as she came from a coed public school in Cincinnati. Thank you, Becky, for contributing positively to Notre Dame Academy!

SOMETHING ABOUT BECKY

Becky's advice to her fellow Pandas: "Just get involved. People will get you."



According to her AP Biology teacher, Mrs. Proudfit, Becky is "intelligent, works hard and takes the time to help others . . . She is warm and has a good sense of humor, and can even laugh at herself."

Becky volunteers at the Cincinnati Zoo on a regular basis where she helps with various educational programs for young children. She reports the most unusual animal encounter so far was a porcupine on a leash!



SENIOR MISSION RETREAT ◀

On Tuesday, February 27, all seniors will take part in the Senior Mission Retreat. This is a one day retreat held at St. Joseph Height's (right across the parking lot). Seniors are to arrive at the Height's Meeting room by 8:00 a.m. bringing with them a brown bag lunch (Please note - we do not have access to a microwave or a refrigerator). Students will be dismissed shortly after 2:00 p.m. Students may dress down as long as they are within the dress down policy outlined in the handbook. If you have not yet turned in your parent letter - please send it in by 3:15 p.m. on Friday afternoon (March 2) with your daughter's first and last name on the envelope and "parent letter" underneath. Please ONLY PARENT LETTERS! If you have any questions - please contact Mrs. Price at priceb@ndapandas.org. This is a mandatory event for all seniors.



2019 INTERNATIONAL TRIP- ITALY! ◀

Do you love to travel? Do you want to experience new cultures? We are excited to announce that our student international trip for the summer of 2019 will be to Italy! Come with us to visit Florence, Venice, Rome, Capri, and more! There was an informational meeting for parents and students on Tuesday. The deadline to sign up is March 2, but if students sign up by February 28, they will receive a \$200 discount. You can find out more about the trip and register [HERE](#).



MAKE A DIFFERENCE BY EATING SKYLINE! ◀

NDA's Girl Up Club is having a Skyline Night next Wednesday, February 28. Girl Up will use the proceeds from the Skyline Night to purchase bicycles for girls in other countries so they have transportation to school. It will be from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Fort Wright Skyline. Customers can mention Girl Up or present [THIS COUPON](#) when paying.

JAZZ BAND ◀

Don't miss the opportunity to hear the amazing NDA/CCH Jazz Band at CCH's Spaghetti Dinner this Sunday from 4-6:30!



DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS ◀

Parents, did you know that NDA's daily announcements are posted each day on our website? You can find them [HERE](#).

NDA MOCK TRIAL TEAM WINS REGIONAL TITLE ◀

Notre Dame Academy's Gold Mock Trial Team placed first at the 2018 Mock Trial regional tournament this past weekend in Louisville, Kentucky. The team will move on to compete against fifteen Kentucky teams in the Mock Trial State Tournament at the Kenton County Justice Center in Covington, Kentucky on March 2-4.

Under the direction of moderator, Ms. Hillary Johnson and coaches Katelyn Mollett and Amy Hebbeler, NDA's Gold and Navy Mock Trial teams have worked very hard this year. Their efforts have paid off giving the NDA Gold Mock Trial Team a regional title and individual Best Attorney and Best Witness awards for both teams. Julia Hughes was named a Best Attorney, Elly Piatt and Natalie Gerdes were both named Best Witnesses and Mara Schutt was named both Best Attorney and Best Witness.

This year's tournament is different than in past years. Kentucky teams were divided into two regions (Lexington and Louisville). Each region hosted a two-day (four round) regional tournament. The top eight schools from each region are advancing to the Kentucky High School Mock Trial State Championship in March.



*Back Row (L-R) Coach Amy Hebbeler, Natalie Gerdes, Julia Hughes, Oliva Bosch, Libby Smith, Sara Barhorst, Chloe Vogel, Sophia Benson, Katelyn (Conner) Mollett
Front Row (L-R) Abby Bruns, Dannie Shoemaker, Elly Piatt, Josie Montfort, Mara Schutt, Nicole Heuker*



Caption: Regional Champions! NDA's Mock Trial Gold Team: Abby Bruns, Dannie Shoemaker, Julia Hughes, Olivia Bosch, Libby Smith, Elly Piatt and Sarah Barhorst (timekeeper)



*Best Attorneys and Best Witnesses from each NDA team
Gold Team: Julia Hughes - Best Attorney, Elly Piatt - Best Witness
Navy Team: Natalie Gerdes - Best Witness, Mara Schutt - Best Attorney & Best Witness*



OVERTURE AWARDS FINALIST! ◀

Congratulations to Ellie O'Hara on being named a 2018 Overture Awards Finalist in the Theater category! Ellie will now move on the Overture Awards Finals Competition & Awards Ceremony on Saturday, March 3 in the Aronoff Center's Jarson-Kaplan Theater. The Overture Awards provides \$4,000 to six area high school students for education and training expenses, with eighteen finalists each winning \$1,000. The program also provides a \$2,500 Arts Educator Award for Excellence in Arts Instruction. Good luck Ellie!

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT NEWS ◀

ARCHERY

The Panda Archers shot at Calvary Christian last Saturday, coming in fifth place out of thirteen teams. Claire Scheffter was our top shot, shooting one perfect end and coming in 5th place in a division of over 100 archers with a personal high score of 286. Other score leaders include Alexis Hehman with a 273, Gracie Seimer with a 271, Gabriella Ficke with a 268, and Courtney Laudick who shot her personal high score of 267, also shooting one perfect end. Madilyn Adamchik shot her personal best. Results for the full roster can be found on nasptournaments.org. Nice shooting, Pandas!



COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀

USA HEAT Presentation

After standardized testing (CERT & ACT) and lunch on Tuesday February 27, NDA Freshmen, Sophomores, and Juniors will attend presentation from the U.S. Attorney's Heroin Education Action Team (USA HEAT). This is an educational partnership in drug abuse prevention between the US Attorney's office and parents who have lost a child to a drug overdose. Mrs. Lynne Hulsing from the Lexington area will be our featured speaker.



Scheduling

Students can now go online to view recommended courses and register for electives for next year. All students have received an email explaining how to register and links for the process. Ms. Burgei and Mrs. Monohan will be in the cafeteria this week and next to help students with any questions they may have about schedules. Here is a link to find out more information about Powerschool Registration: <https://www.ndapandas.org/academics/powerschool.aspx>

Graduate Study Opportunity

Chelsea Esmeier (NDA Graduate, Class of 2010) is a doctoral candidate in the School of Psychology at Xavier University. She is conducting a study for her dissertation that requests the participation from NDA students. The purpose of the study is to examine female adolescents' motivations to control their appearance in photographs presented online, and how these motivations may affect their wellbeing. The results of the study have implications for promoting female adolescents' healthy use of social media. The students who participate in this study will be asked to respond to a series of questionnaires about their personality and their motivations to control their appearance in photographs. All information collected in the study is confidential, and participation is voluntary. Data collection will be held before and after school (at 7:45 a.m. and 3:10 p.m.) on Wednesday 2/28, 3/14, and 3/21) and will last approximately 45-60 minutes. Students can sign up for one of these sessions upon returning their parental permission forms, which were sent home with students. The forms can also be accessed here: <https://tinyurl.com/NDAconsent>.

All students who return a completed parental consent form by Tuesday, February 27 (regardless of their parents' willingness to grant permission for their involvement in the study) will be entered into a drawing to win one of several \$15 Target gift cards. One NDA service hour will also be granted. Please consider helping out a former Panda by allowing your daughter to participate in this study! Please have your daughter return the signed parental permission form to the NDA main office.

Junior ACT and Freshmen/Sophomore CERT

On Tuesday, February 27 all of the freshmen and sophomores will be taking the College Equipped Readiness Test (www.cert-forschools.com). They will be using their Ipads and have immediate results for this practice ACT test. They will be dismissed at 2 p.m. that day.

That same day the juniors will be taking the ACT. They are registering with NDA and the test is already paid for as a part of tuition. They will also be dismissed at 2 p.m. that day.



THANK YOU! ◀

Thanks to everyone who attended this year's Father/Daughter and Mother/Daughter events! Thanks also to the wonderful parents who took the time to plan these special events!





NDA SUMMER CLASSES ◀

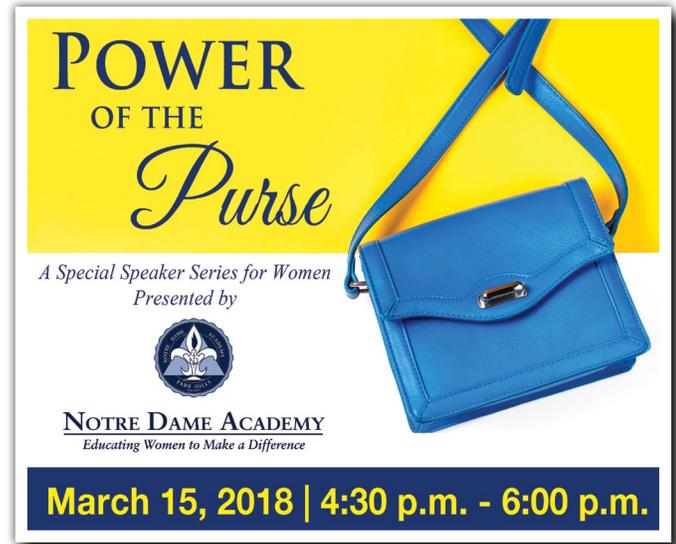
NDA has all sorts of Summer Enrichment Opportunities. You can find information about our 2018 Summer Art Classes online [HERE](#).

POWER OF THE PURSE ◀

Notre Dame Academy is hosting a **FREE** speaker series for NDA alumnae and friends of all ages to learn about a variety of financial topics on **Thursday, March 15 from 4:30 - 6:00 p.m. in Alumnae Hall.**

This session will cover:

- Should you open your first IRA, or should you plan for retirement?
- Did you know you now can use your 529 to help pay for grade school or high school education?
- Understanding the up's and down's of the market
- What should every young professional know about investing?
- How can you navigate through the Social Security process?



The session will be moderated by Jessica Birkenhauer Rawe '99 and our panel of experts will include:

- Julie Tapke Dusing '94 Financial Planning and Investment
- Donna Bloemer '87 Estate Planning
- Jody Rutterer Lange '00 Taxes and Strategies
- TBD Social Security

Presentation Schedule:

- 4:30 p.m. Networking/Happy Hour - Notre Dame Academy Alumnae Hall
- 5:00 p.m. Panel Discussions and Q & A begin
- 6:00 p.m. Formal program ends, but Q & A could continue if needed

Please join us for this special presentation and bring your business card for our Panda Business Connection! We will have door prizes and baby-sitting will be provided. Also, tours of NDA will be available. You can register online [HERE](#). If you have questions about the speaker series, please contact NDA's Advancement Department at 859.292.7729.

WOMEN MAKING A DIFFERENCE 2018 ◀

You are cordially invited to attend Notre Dame Academy's Seventeenth Annual Women Making A Difference Award Luncheon on Thursday, March 8, 2018, the at Northern Kentucky Convention Center beginning at 11:00 a.m. with Registration & Networking followed at 12:00 p.m. with Luncheon & Awards Ceremony. Please contact NDA's Advancement office at 859.292.7729 to RSVP.



SAVE THE DATE ◀

Mark your calendars for this year's NDA Gala! Last year's Gala was a sellout crowd and a full evening of entertainment! Save the date for Saturday, October 13, 2018 for this wonderful event which will once again be held at Summit Hills Country Club. Invitations will be mailed in early September. We hope to see you there!

▶ Important dates

February 22	Sophomore Ring Ordering - Foyer Theatre Parent Night 7:00 p.m.
February 24	Ski Club Perfect North Trip
February 26	Body Peace Week begins
February 27	Super Tuesday! (FR/SO CERT, JR ACT, SR Mission Retreat)
March 3	8th Grade Conferences
March 4	Scholastic Writing Awards in Theatre
March 8	Women Making a Difference Service Day/Luncheon
March 10	Silver Bells Dance at NDA
March 13	Blood Drive Winter Sports Awards
March 15	Power of the Purse Speaker Series
March 16	Third Quarter Ends
March 17	8th Grade Conferences
March 20	Seniors to Play
March 20	Panda Preview Night
March 29 - April 6	No School: Easter Break

COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

Check out the **Community News** section of NDA's website for news about.

- Bible Study Class
- Positions Available for Students
- SND Charis Retreat
- World Meeting of Families

You can find a complete list of community news [HERE](#).

