



*An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy*

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT ◀

Greetings parents!

It is hard to believe the month of May is upon us! Friday we celebrate the May Crowning Mass as a school community. This is a special day to honor our patroness Mary and to reflect on our educational mission as a school dedicated to Mary. We give thanks in a special way to the Sisters of Notre Dame whose dedication to Mary is an inspiration for our Notre Dame education.

Congratulations to our Seniors at the top of their class! I am honored to announce that the valedictorian this year is Ellen Kendall and our Salutatorian is Hannah Ziegelmeier. These young women have excelled in their high school careers and this recognition is a sign of their ongoing commitment to academic excellence.

On Monday evening, the Greater Cincinnati Northern Kentucky Women's Sports Association honored student athletes and coaches at their Annual Banquet. Congratulations to our Swim Coach, Mrs. Emily Maier Knoll (Class of 2000), who was named Coach of the Year. Our former Athletic Director, Kim Gunning, received a lifetime achievement award as well. Freshman Sophie Skinner was also acknowledged for her state title in swimming. Each of these individuals represents NDA athletics very well and we are glad to see them recognized for their accomplishments.

Speaking of athletics, as I write, many student athletes and parents are assembling for the middle school track meet. Many thanks to Ms. Webster, Mr. Foust and all the coaches, parents and students who make it possible to host events like these at NDA. It is so nice to see hundreds of people in our community enjoying athletic competition at the NDA Track and Field complex

The Junior/Senior prom was wonderful evening enjoyed by many. We are grateful to our Senior Co-Presidents, Hannah Good and Katie Kloska for planning our Prom this year. Much gratitude to Mrs. Grayson and faculty Mrs. Sampson, Mrs. Phillips, Mr. Schlosser and Mr. Greife for all of their hard work leading up to this event. Our After Prom would not be possible without the support of our PTO, and a special thanks goes out to the many parents who made this fun and safe evening possible.

Congratulations to senior Megan Kathman, playwright and director for the NDA production of a *The Winter's Tale*. This rendition of a Shakespearean classic was performed at the Cincinnati Shakespeare Company's Project 38. Students also performed a special show to a "sold out" student audience this morning before school! Mrs. Bricking served as the faculty moderator for the event and we are grateful for her guidance.

Congratulations also to Seniors Hannah Good, Jessica Peck, Maria Topmiller and Sydney Stallman who were all named Scholastic National medalists in the Scholastic Writing Competition. I hope you will take a few minutes to read through the many announcements about student accomplishments below. We have much to celebrate at NDA in the many talents and dedication of so many students and faculty. You will read about student accomplishments at the State History Day Competition, the National French Exam, the Governor School for Entrepreneurs, Northern Kentucky Youth Leadership and student art projects. We are truly blessed and grateful to all those students who work hard, the teachers who mentor them and the parents who support them.

May you know God's goodness each day,

Dr. Laura Koehl

# STUDENT LIFE

## STUDENT LIFE UPDATE ◀

### Orange and White Flag Football Game

Thanks to everyone who cheered for the NDA senior Pandas as they took on the St. Ursula Bulldogs at

Sunday's Orange and White Flag Football Game. The Bulldogs may have won the game but the Pandas certainly took the prize for school spirit! Thanks to everyone who participated in making a difference in the support of Leukemia research!



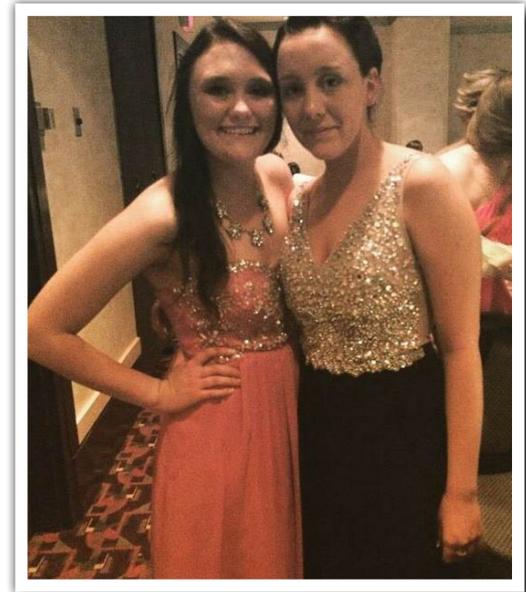
### Prom Day

While our juniors and seniors enjoyed prom night, all of our Pandas enjoyed Prom Day! Thanks to all of our faculty members, staff and students who worked to make last Friday such a fun day for everyone. From the flag football game to the prom fashion show, our Student Council did a wonderful job planning this special day.

**Congratulations to this year's Prom Princess - Maggie Chalk, and Prom Duchess - Emma Kramer!**



*Prom Princess: Maggie Chalk (right) with Megan Schwartz*



*Prom Duchess: Emma Kramer (left) with her sister Anne*

## Important Reminder:

Please check PayPams for your daughter's cafeteria account balance as many currently have insufficient funds.

If balances are unpaid at the end of the school year, students are unable to receive their report cards and seniors will not receive their transcripts.

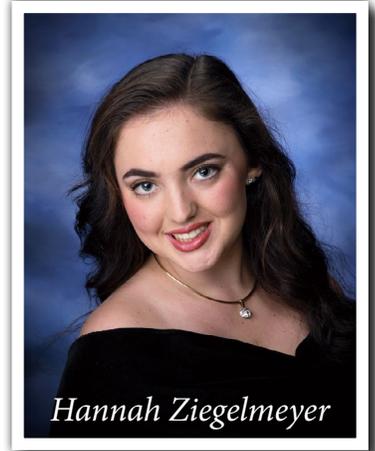
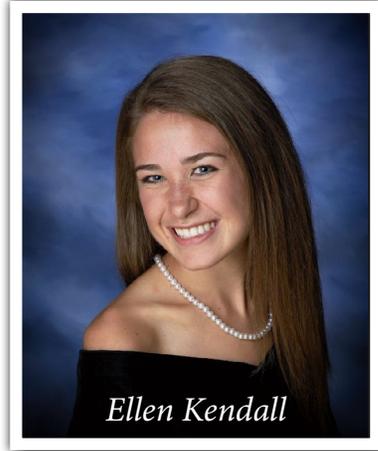
Seniors can receive a lunch money refund or transfer balance to a younger sister if a request is made by email to [brungsk@ndapandas.org](mailto:brungsk@ndapandas.org).

Thank you!

# CONGRATULATIONS!

## NDA NAMES VALEDICTORIAN & SALUTATORIAN ◀

Notre Dame Academy is proud to announce the valedictorian, Ellen Kendall and salutatorian, Hannah Ziegelmeyer for the Class of 2015.

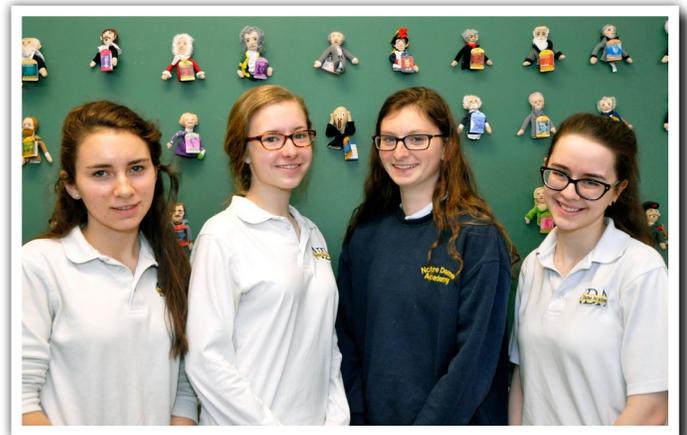


## NATIONAL HISTORY DAY WINNERS ◀

We had two state winners at the state contest held at UK last Saturday for National History Day. Both groups won first place and qualify to compete at the national contest at the University of Maryland from June 14-18.



1st place senior group documentary on Benazir Bhutto: Harper Lamb, Paige Montfort, Brooke Schulte and Julia James.



1st place senior group performance on Princess Diana: Lauren Reinersman, Bridget Plunkett, Alecia Radford, and Liz Urban.

## NATIONAL FRENCH EXAM ◀

Eighty-two Notre Dame French students participated in the Grand Concours, the national French exam, on March 18. This very challenging annual test, sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of French, assesses the students' knowledge of vocabulary, grammar, and culture, as well as their listening and reading skills. Congratulations to the following students who received national recognition for their excellent performance:



### Honorable Mention:

French I: Abby Darpel & Erin Edwards

French II: Ellie Kathman, Jackie Noll, Caroline Ott, Meg Whelan, & Tess Witt

French III: Kayla Rankin, Tara Rennekamp, Lauren Schmitt, & Anna Schroer

French IV: Hannah Ziegelmeyer

### Bronze Medal:

Julia Goins in French III

### Silver Medal:

Bridget Neltner in French III

## GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FOR ENTREPRENEURS 2015

### ACCEPTED & ALTERNATE STUDENTS ◀

The Kentucky Center Governor's School for Entrepreneurs (GSE) announced that NDA's Kelly Schmahl has been accepted into the Kentucky Governor's School for Entrepreneurs 2015. NDA's Kimmy Birrer and Audrey Field have been selected as alternates.

The Governor's School for Entrepreneurs is a three-week innovative and entrepreneurial experience for teens. GSE gives Kentucky's young aspiring entrepreneurs a hands-on, experiential immersion into innovation and entrepreneurship in order to empower them to make a positive impact on their communities through innovation and to become business leaders of tomorrow.



Kelly Schmahl



Audrey Field & Kimmy Birrer

### THE "POWER OF THE WORD" ◀



The Scholastic Writing Awards ceremony was held on April 26 at the Griffin Center on the CCH campus. NDA students won regional and national awards, standing out as the most accomplished high school writers in terms of Gold, Silver and National medalists. Seniors Hannah Good, Jessica Peck, Maria Topmiller and Sydney Stallman were all named Scholastic national medalists who are invited to Radio City Music Hall in NYC in June to claim their awards. Morgan Zumbiel was presented the NKU Danny Miller Award in recognition of her persistence in pursuing the highest standards in written artistic expression over the course of her high school career.

Another literary/dramatic endeavor featuring NDA students involved 12 NDA thespians who participated in Project 38 in conjunction with the *Cincinnati Shakespeare Company*. Senior Megan Kathman rewrote a farcical version of Shakespeare's **The Winter's Tale**, which students rehearsed over three months and performed at Memorial Hall in Cincinnati on April 21st under her direction. Megan was able to attend the *Revel and Applause* celebration that followed the next day in recognition of her efforts as a playwright, director and producer.



All in all, NDA English students have shown themselves to be adept in a variety of genres and demonstrated their proficiency in writing, speaking and performing, much to their credit and that of the English Department. In the Facebook age where texting and tweeting seem to dominate communication, our students are insurance that the "power of the word" in its finest expression remains intact and valued.

### REGIONAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP REPRESENTATIVES CHOSEN ◀

Congratulations to Julia James and Meg Whelan who were both chosen to represent NDA in the Regional Youth Leadership Program in Greater Cincinnati. This is a wonderful achievement as there were over 120 applicants for the program. NDA was one of only a few Cincinnati and Northern KY schools to have two winners from their school. Regional Youth Leadership Program is a competitive program that helps students explore the business world and interact with leaders in the community. It fosters the development of young leaders in our area.

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO HOST AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT? ◀

NDA is in the process of recruiting international students as part of our Fall 2015 enrollment. We are working with our sister school in Germany (Liebfrauenschule Vechta) to arrange for 2 German exchange students. We are also working with the Cambridge Institute to recruit students from China, Korea and/or Viet Nam. We are hoping to enroll 3-4 students through this program. At this time we are seeking families who would consider hosting any of these students. Please email Mrs. Katie Caccavari at [caccavarik@ndapandas.org](mailto:caccavarik@ndapandas.org), if you would be interested in more information about this opportunity. Your reply is not a commitment, but would help us to know which families would consider supporting our international student enrollment by serving as a host family. Thank you for your interest.

## BAMBOOTIQUE NEWS ◀

Have you had a chance to stop in and check out the latest items in the Bambootique? We've got a few new things as well as LOTS of items that have been marked down in the hopes of clearing out the inventory in preparation for next school year. Come check us out! If anyone is interested in working in the shop, please email Aimee Dickhaus at [ddickhaus@yahoo.com](mailto:ddickhaus@yahoo.com) with your availability - we can always use more help!

## COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀

### Junior Parents and Students: College Planning Meeting

Date: Wednesday, May 6

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Location: NDA Theatre



#### Topics to be covered include:

- Important Role of Networking! / Campus Visits / Making the most of Campus Visits
- Selecting schools to apply to...How many?
- Considering Cost \$
- When students can start applications
- When applications are due
- What kinds of scholarships are available and how to find them
- Applying for Financial Aid...When & How?
- Q & A time

Please note: Notre Dame requires that all students have a Family Meeting with Ms. Burgei before November of their senior year. This meeting does not replace these Family Meetings. The goal of this meeting is to get the largest number of students/families helpful information as soon as possible.

Questions: Contact Ms. Burgei at [burgeik@ndapandas.org](mailto:burgeik@ndapandas.org).

### ACT Prep for June 13 test

There will be two intensive Torch Prep Boot Camps for ACT prep this summer. There is a Weekend Warrior program May 30-31, and June 6-7. There will also be a 4 day intensive training offered June 8-June 11. Please see the website at [www.torchprep.com](http://www.torchprep.com) for more info.

### Pandas, Looking for a Summer Job??

Student's ILP (Individual Learning Plan) can be a tool for locating jobs!

The Employment Tab on the ILP offers an Employment Guide with information on many topics, including:

- Job Market
- Networking Strategies
- Interview Skills
- Job Search by Zip Code

Check it out!



## KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS RE-ENROLLMENT ◀

Parents, thank you for being a part of Kroger's Community Rewards program. This is just friendly reminder that the new cycle for Kroger Community Rewards begins May 1 and you will be able to re-enroll beginning today, April 1, and running through April 30. If you need assistance with your online account, please call our tech team at: 1-866-221-4141.

## THANK YOU! ◀

Thanks to all that supported the Chipotle Fundraiser on Monday the 27th. You helped raise \$1191.00 for After Prom. Thanks also to everyone that helped out in some way with After Prom. It was a big success with over 300 students and their dates attending. They had a great, SAFE time enjoying wonderful food, games, and entertainment. We couldn't have done it without our great NDA parents.

## ATHLETIC NEWS ◀



### 2015 NDA GOLF OUTING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you are interested in serving on the committee or volunteering for the Notre Dame Boosters 17th annual Golf outing please contact the AD, Myanna Webster, at [websterm@ndapandas.org](mailto:websterm@ndapandas.org). The outing will take place at Twin Oaks golf course on July 31, 2015.

### Lacrosse and Track and Field Pandas!

If you haven't been to an NDA LaCrosse game or a track meet to see your fellow Pandas perform, you are missing out! Both our Lacrosse and Track teams are working hard and having a great spring season - take time to check them out!



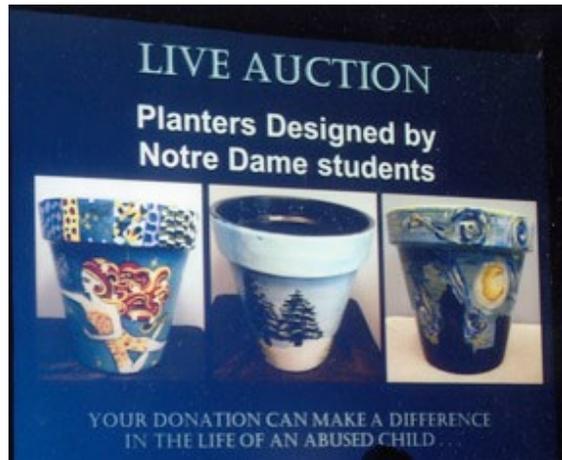
### BASS FISHING NEWS

The Bass Fishing team is looking for people who own boats to be boat volunteers for tournaments. If you can help them out, please contact Pete Salkowski, Bass Fishing Team Coach, at [salkowskip@ndapandas.org](mailto:salkowskip@ndapandas.org).

## NEWS FROM THE ART DEPARTMENT ◀

### Art Students Raise \$20,000 for NKCAC!!!

Earlier this year, NDA's Art students were approached with the chance to paint flowerpots that were going to be sold at a Northern Kentucky Children's Advocacy Center fundraiser. All of the funds from sales of the flowerpots would go back to the NKCAC to help with their mission of providing a coordinated response to concerns of child abuse in a child-focused environment, offering prevention, evaluation and treatment to children and families. NDA Students painted about 40 flowerpots for the event and raised \$20,000 from the sales of the pots. The students did an excellent job of stepping up and offering to help, some participating on more than one project, and their hard work is certainly going to help the center as well as the many children who benefit from their services.

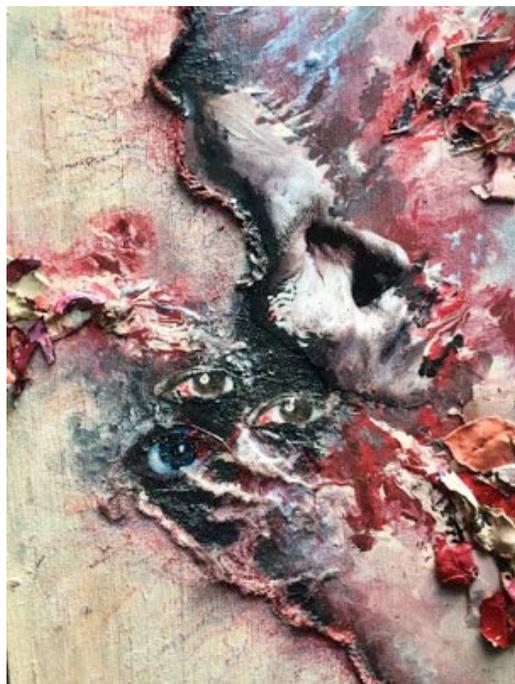


### Governor's School for the Arts

Each year, many students at NDA prepare portfolios in order to get a chance to attend Governor's School for the Arts. Over 2,000 juniors and seniors from all over Kentucky interview / audition for the chance to be selected to fill one of the 200 spots in the program. As always, the NDA Visual Arts Students put in countless hours fulfilling their portfolio requirements and as always, all of the Visual Arts students represented NDA and the Arts program very well. So a huge 'thanks' to all of the Art students for your time and effort. Congratulations to Kaylan Frisch for earning alternate in Visual Arts, Amanda Sauer for earning alternate in Visual Arts and Architecture, and to Lauren Darpel for being selected to attend this year's GSA program.



*Kaylan Frisch*



*Lauren Darpel*



*Amanda Sauer*

\*Note: In the Creative Writing category, NDA's Rikki Buchberger has been selected to attend GSA and Julia James was selected as an alternate. Also, Andria Burden and Courtney Ziegelmeyer were selected as alternates in the Dance category.



## at NOTRE DAME ACADEMY

Whether you are **Artistic** **ATHLETIC** **Musical** **Dramatic**  
or you are just looking for **Something Fun**  
to do this summer, NOTRE DAME ACADEMY has all  
sorts of opportunities for you! Check them out at:

[www.ndapandas.org](http://www.ndapandas.org)

### ► Important dates:

April 30	Diocesan Teacher Recognition Luncheon
May 1	Mass and May Crowning
May 4	AP Testing begins
May 5	Incoming Freshmen Parent Meeting
May 8	7th Grade Olympics
	Choral Concert
May 10	Band Concert
May 12	PTO Meeting
May 13	Academic Signing
May 14	Academic Awards
May 15	Senior Send Off
May 20	Senior Alumnae Luncheon
May 21	Baccalaureate Mass
May 22	No School - Senior Awards Breakfast/Graduation

### COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

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

- Part-time Position for Students
- Stem Camps now open
- Sisters of Notre Dame Women's Weekend Retreat

For a complete list of community news [CLICK HERE](#).

