



An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Blessings friends,

First of all, I would like to thank all of our parents who attended Mini-Night last week. I know how busy life can get and I appreciate you taking time to learn more about your daughter's classes and teachers.

I am pleased to announce that we have four National Merit Semifinalists this year! Students are selected for their scores on the PSAT they took as juniors. Congratulations to Andrea Davis, Carly Gross, Kelsey Sucher and Lily Thaman. These students are among a select group of students in our nation to receive this distinction. They scored in the highest category on the national level and were among the highest scoring students in Kentucky. This honor is a testament to their commitment to academic excellence. We wish them luck as they move forward in the scholarship competition.

Today our seniors attended the annual Diocesan Senior Mass at the Cathedral celebrated by Bishop Roger Foys. Our students represented NDA well with several of them participating in the ministry of the Mass. Bishop Foys congratulated them on being seniors and spoke to them about setting a good example. He also encouraged the seniors to think about what sort of legacy they want to leave. Bishop Foys followed tradition giving the seniors a day off school. I will let you know when the senior off day is scheduled.

On Thursday, our Student Council will hold their first "Friend Flop" at lunch. Students will be assigned to seats to encourage intermingling between grade levels. There will be an activity that the tables will do together to help them get to know each other and bond. This will be happening at least four times throughout the year and each time they will sit with the same group so they can hopefully build relationships with their group which encompasses all four grade levels. Thank you to our Student Council and their moderator, Kimberly Wagner, for all they do to encourage such strong school spirit among our students.

On Friday, we will hold our annual Club Orientation program highlighting the incredible number of clubs at NDA. I encourage your daughters to get involved during their time at Notre Dame Academy. These activities provide not only ways to excel but also ways to give glory to God. With the support and encouragement they receive participating in these co-curriculars, our students are able develop into women according to the blessings they bring to the table. At the end of their four years, they find that NDA is more than just a school; it is their home, one where they feel connected by the relationships formed on this campus.

I hope to see you at our Autumn Gala on Saturday, September 26. This annual event is NDA's largest fundraiser and a great evening filled with fun, enthusiasm, good food and great fellowship. The Gala raises funds to help support our programs and services and keep our tuition at a reasonable rate. **Your support of the event is critical in maintaining these programs and keeping our tuition affordable.** I hope you are planning to attend and share the evening with NDA faculty, families and friends. Time is running out, so if you have not reserved your place at the Autumn Gala, please drop your RSVP in the mail or call 859-292-1850 to make a reservation today.

Working with your daughters each day is a privilege for all of us. Thank you for trusting us and partnering with us as we strive to educate young women to make a difference in the world.

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf

Living Our Story of God's Goodness!

STUDENT LIFE

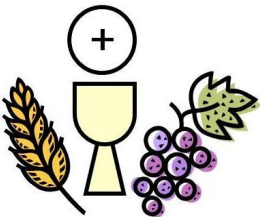
STUDENT LIFE UPDATE ◀

Freshmen Homeroom Representative Elections

If you are a freshman and would like to serve as a Student Council Homeroom Representative, you must attend the information meeting on Wednesday, September 23. The meeting begins at 8:30 a.m. in Alumnae Hall, and interested students will receive an application for Homeroom Representative. The application must be completed before a student is able to run for office. Elections will take place in October. Looking to develop your leadership skills, guide your homeroom and help facilitate school wide activities? Then this is the position for you!

Mixer

This Saturday, September 19, the Student Council will host the first dance of the year. The Mixer kicks off at 8:00 p.m. and ends at 11:00 p.m. All students are invited, and Hawaiian luau attire is encouraged! Admission is \$5 per person with the proceeds supporting the Uganda mission and NDA's Student Council. This event is held on NDA's campus and is drug and alcohol free. A breathalyzer test will be administered to a student if alcohol use is suspected. Any student who arrives after 8:30 p.m. or who needs to leave early should have a note from their parents. Thank you!



JOIN US FOR MASS ◀

Please join us for Mass this Friday, September 18, at 7:15 a.m. in our Chapel. We welcome students, faculty, staff and visitors from our community! This is a wonderful opportunity for our NDA community to celebrate the Mass together.

CAMPUS MINISTRY NEWS ◀

Grandparent's Day

Get excited to celebrate Grandparent's Day with all our lovely Grand-pandas! Our Grandparent's Day Mass is October 2 at 1:00 p.m. Please invite all your grandparents and grand-friends! After mass, students are welcome to show their grandparents and grand-friends around the school.

Students have also been asked to bring in photos of any/all of the grandparents to be included in picture boards! These photos will be returned so they need to have student name and homeroom on the back. They can be turned into their homeroom. Photos are due by September 18.

Junior Retreat

Junior Retreat is this Friday, September 18 from 3:30-9:00 p.m. here at NDA. Juniors must attend school that morning in order to stay for retreat. The Youth Ministry Team from the Jesuit Spiritual Center of Milford will be here to lead our Juniors in a faith filled and spiritually uplifting evening!



PPC NEWS ◀

The Panda Parent Club Spreads Hospitality - Our PPC parent reps have been busy spreading Panda spirit! Recently our Panda parents baked cookies and gave them to all attendees at one of our volleyball games. Next they are making chili for the September 28 soccer match! Way to show our Panda Pride parents!

IMPORTANT SAFETY REMINDER:

In the interest of keeping our students safe and our dismissal as easy as possible for everyone, **PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN THE FIRE LANES.** Please park in the theatre parking lot or in the student lot in a space.

CONGRATULATIONS!



NDA STUDENTS NAMED NATIONAL MERIT SEMIFINALISTS ◀

Four students from Notre Dame Academy have been named National Merit Semifinalists. NDA seniors, Andrea Davis, Carly Gross, Kelsey Sucher and Lily Thaman, were among the 16,000 Semifinalists named in the 61st annual National Merit Scholarship Program.

These academically talented high school seniors now have the opportunity to continue in the competition for some 7,400 National Merit Scholarships worth more than \$32 million that will be offered next spring. To become finalists in the National Merit Scholarship Program these young women must now submit scholarship applications that include information about their academic records, co-curricular activities, leadership abilities, honors, awards and employment.

“We are extremely proud of these NDA scholars and their selection as National Merit Semifinalists,” said Mr. Jack VonHandorf, Principal of Notre Dame Academy. “They are to be commended for their commitment to academic excellence and diligence in the classroom. We congratulate these young women and their families as we celebrate this honor.”

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**LAROSAS
MVP.COM**

CONGRATS MORGAN! ◀

Congratulations to NDA senior Morgan Hentz on being named LaRosa’s MVP of the Week!

A four-year varsity starter and a volleyball All-American, Morgan is one of the top volleyball players in the nation in the class of 2016. An outside hitter/libero, Morgan last season led the Pandas to a 4th straight 9th region championship and a 2nd straight state runner-up finish.

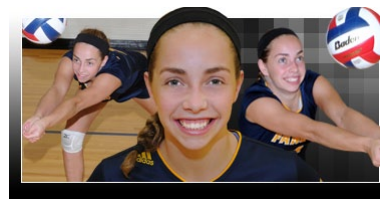
Morgan recorded 304 kills, 253 digs, 52 blocks and 14 aces last season and was a PrepVolleyball.com finalist for National Junior Player of the Year.

She was named the Enquirer’s NKY Player of the Year, Kentucky 9th Region Player of the Year and 1st team all-state. She was named to the all-tournament team of the Kentucky state championships and was MVP of the district and regional tournaments.

This summer, Morgan was named to the all-tournament team of the USA Volleyball girls’ national championships in New Orleans. She also was one of 12 players representing Team USA at the FIVB Girls U-18 world championships in Peru.

Active in community service, Morgan earned first honors every quarter at NDA and is a National Honor Society student. She has committed to Stanford University.

COACH’S QUOTE – “In addition to her phenomenal talent, Morgan is one of the hardest working, most intense and best leaders I have worked with in 10+ years of coaching.” — Matt McCort, Volleyball Coach



PANDA SWIMMERS MAKE NEWS ◀

This morning, Perry Schaible of Local 12 paid a visit to the Clipper’s swim practice to interview their four Olympic Trials qualifiers - **NDA’s Madeleine Vonderhaar, Amanda Smith and Sophie Skinner** and CCH’s Brendan Meyer.



INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY UPDATE ◀

NDA's Friday Video Announcement

Last Friday, our Media and Production course and some of our SWAT course students produced NDA's first Friday Video Announcement. Students worked from a project management angle to script, tape, and edit using high end software tools in the Help Desk's Digital Learning Lab. After the video airs each week, students will critique all aspects that go into making and producing a video for broadcast. All of the tools in the

Digital Learning Lab were provided by a generous grant received from the Sisters of Notre Dame several years ago.

NDA INTERAlliance Chapter News

This weekend, Tess Witt will be attending a leadership retreat with all of the INTERAlliance chapter representatives from the Tri-State area. NDA has recently rebuilt our chapter with INTERAlliance with a resurgence of interest from our students. In November, we will be attending the annual Women in Technology Conference. Then in February, we will have a group attend the annual Tech Olympics. Two of our students, Jackie Noll '17 and Alenna Fletcher '18, attended the INTERAlliance Summer Technology Camps. Women have never been stronger in Technology and we are working to promote this everyday here at NDA.



EXCITING GALA NEWS ◀

This just in!

How much fun could you and 14 of your friends have on a 15-person pedal wagon through Cincinnati? How about a one-night stay with dinner and a wine-tasting at Elk Creek? Tennis anyone? We've got an evening of tennis and drinks for 16 at Five Seasons. Those are just a few of the amazing items in our Super Silent Auction this year. Time is running out - if you have not already done so, **PLEASE SEND IN YOUR RSVP** for the 2015 Autumn Gala. If you can't find your invitation, call 859.292.1850 to make your reservation.



Raise Your Panda Paw!

Our Panda Paw goal is to once again raise \$20,000 to be used towards the purchase of several items that support 21st Century Learning at NDA. These items are necessary components in expanding our science and technology programs and maintaining NDA's status as a premiere STEM high school. These resources would support many opportunities for NDA students to conduct research and engage in creative and collaborative projects that will expand their knowledge and critical thinking skills.

If you are unable to make it to this year's Gala but would like to support our Panda Paw, please call 859.292.1850.



2015-16 College Rep Visits at NDA

Throughout the school year many college representatives visit NDA to speak with students during lunch mods (M/T/Th/F 10:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. - Wednesdays 11:12 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.) Below is a list of upcoming visits.

September

| | | |
|----|--------------------------------|-------------|
| 22 | Indiana University Bloomington | 10:45-12:15 |
| 22 | Baldwin Wallace University | 10:45-12:15 |
| 23 | Ohio Wesley University 1 | 1:15-12:30. |
| 25 | University of South Carolina | 10:45-12:15 |
| 28 | Regis University | 10:45-12:15 |
| 29 | Miami University Oxford | 11:15-12:30 |
| 30 | Miami University Oxford | 11:15-12:30 |

October

| | | |
|---|-----------------------------|-------------|
| 1 | Marian University | 10:45-12:15 |
| 7 | Mount St. Joseph University | 11:15-12:30 |

October cont.

| | | |
|----|-----------------------------|-------------|
| 9 | Vanderbilt University | 10:45-12:15 |
| 15 | Brescia University | 10:45-12:15 |
| 15 | Eastern Kentucky University | 10:45-12:15 |
| 15 | University of Louisville | 10:45-12:15 |
| 15 | Western Kentucky University | 10:45-12:15 |
| 19 | Otterbein University | 10:45-12:15 |
| 21 | Ohio Northern University | 11:10-12:30 |
| 30 | Denison University | 10:45-11:30 |

NOVEMBER

| | | |
|---|-----------------|-------------|
| 9 | Hanover College | 10:45-12:15 |
|---|-----------------|-------------|

COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀



An informational meeting for Juniors and anyone else interested in learning more about the Governor's Scholar Program will be held after school on **Wednesday, September 16**

in the NDA Library. The Governor's Scholars Program is a 5-week summer residential program for outstanding high school students in Kentucky who have completed their Junior year. The Kentucky Governor's Scholars Program originated in 1983 as a way to keep the state's "best and brightest"

in the Commonwealth to pursue educational and career opportunities, and to develop Kentucky's next generation of civic and economic leaders. The approximately 1,050 students who are selected attend the Governor's Scholars Program, or GSP, on three college campuses without charge. Come learn more about the application process for this amazing opportunity Wednesday, September 16 after school in the Library.



An Informational Meeting for those interested in learning more about the Kentucky Center Governor's School for the Arts (GSA) program will be held in the NDA Library after school on Wednesday September 30. GSA is a competitive residential summer program for Kentucky high school sophomores and juniors interested in top-quality instruction in one of nine different arts disciplines:

Architecture & Design
Drama
New Media

Creative Writing
Instrumental Music
Visual Art

Dance
Musical Theater
Vocal Music

Check out the 2016 Kentucky Center Governor's School for the Arts E-Brochure: http://issuu.com/thekentuckycenter/docs/gsa_2016_brochure

Interested students can apply for ArtShops and Summer Program Auditions beginning Thursday October 1. More information can be found at <http://www.kentuckycenter.org/education-community-arts/gsa/discover-gsa>. Contact Mrs. Hildreth with questions: hildrethk@ndapandas.org



An Informational Meeting for the Governor's School for Entrepreneurs (GSE) will be held in the NDA library after school on Wednesday October. GSE is a 3-week residential summer program for 9th, 10th and 11th graders. It offers a creative, free-thinking environment for Kentucky teens to share and develop their ideas for innovative products and services. No minimum GPA or ACT scores are required to apply.

Applications open on October 19, 2015: [Governor's School for Entrepreneurs](#)
Click [here](#) to see the application instruction video playlist!

6th GRADE SCAVENGER HUNT ◀

All 6th-grade girls are invited to NDA's annual Scavenger Hunt on Friday, September 25, from 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. You can find the registration form [HERE](#). Please return the Registration Form to the NDA Admissions Office by September 23.

THANK YOU! ◀

Thank you to everyone who came and had their car washed on Sunday at NDA for a good cause. Some of our NDA students were supposed to go on a mission trip to Peru this past June but the trip got cancelled due to an outbreak of tuberculosis in the community we were supposed to help. They wanted to do something to support the community of Luz Divina so they organized a car wash at NDA. They raised \$1000 and that will make a tremendous difference to the people of Luz Divina!

HOST FAMILY NEEDED ◀

Would you like to open your home to an international student? An NDA sophomore from China needs a host family in Northern Kentucky for the rest of the 2015-16 academic year. She is a terrific young lady and would be a wonderful addition to any family. Please contact Katie Caccavari, NDA Director of Admissions, 859-292-1829, if you would like more information. You can also email caccavarik@ndapandas.org.



2016 WOMEN MAKING A DIFFERENCE ◀

Do you know a Notre Dame Academy graduate who has made a difference? The nomination form for the 2016 Women Making A Difference is available online [HERE](#).

The Women Making A Difference Luncheon will be held on Thursday, February 25, 2016, at the Radisson Hotel Cincinnati Riverfront in Covington, Kentucky. Nominations are due November 2, 2015.

Important dates:

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| September 16 | Scholarship Breakfast Senior Diocesan Mass |
| September 18 | 7:15 a.m. Mass in Chapel Club Orientation Junior Retreat |
| September 19 | 8:00 p.m. Student Council Fall Mixer |
| September 23 | NDA & CCH ACT Parent Meeting |
| September 25 | 6th Grade Scavenger Hunt |
| September 26 | The Autumn Gala - A Taste of NDA |
| September 30 | Informational Coffee for Prospective Families |
| October 2 | Grandparents's Mass |
| October 5 | NDA Blood Drive |
| October 9 | First Quarter Ends |
| October 9, 10, 11 | Youth 2000 |
| October 14 | PSAT Testing Freshman Retreat |
| October 16 | NO SCHOOL |
| October 16-18 | Senior Retreat |

COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

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

- NDA HOSTS 11th ANNUAL YOUTH 2000
- SND Open House - September 27
- St. Agnes Weekend
- Chastity Project
- Street Smartz

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

