



An e-Newsletter for the Families of Notre Dame Academy

## LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Blessings friends,

Our mission at Notre Dame Academy clearly states our goal...

*“Notre Dame Academy,  
a Catholic high school dedicated to Mary  
and committed to academic excellence,  
exists to educate young women  
to make a difference in the world.”*

In line with our mission, we strive to provide our students with an exemplary education. We see the fruits of our labor in many ways at NDA. This week, we see it in the success of our Commended Students in the National Merit Program. Congratulations to Emma Duerstock, Julia James, Julia Mathew and Jo Meyer-Hogan who were all named National Merit Commended Students. These students placed among the top five percent of more than 1.6 million students who entered the 2017 competition by taking the PSAT as juniors.

Our NDA community continues to live our mission. I am privileged to witness this throughout our campus each and every day. I see it in the classrooms, on the field, in the theatre and even in the cafeteria. One way in which our students are able to live our mission is by attending the Life March in Washington D.C. in January. I encourage you and your daughter to give prayerful consideration to this opportunity. There is information below about sign-ups which are currently taking place.

Every day at NDA I see your daughters thriving as they learn the true value of an NDA education which inspires them to share their God-given gifts. Thank you for partnering with us in this important work and for your continued support of Notre Dame Academy.

In that spirit of partnership, I invite you to join me this Saturday night at our annual fundraiser, the Autumn Gala. We will gather at this event with NDA faculty, families and friends in celebration and support of our mission of educating young women to make a difference in the world. I look forward to seeing you there!

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf



## DON'T MISS THIS YEAR'S GALA? ◀

**It's not too late to RSVP for the Autumn Gala!** Don't miss this great opportunity to get together with your NDA friends! The 2016 Autumn Gala will be held this Saturday at Notre Dame Academy. It will feature cocktails, a gourmet sit-down dinner, specialty raffles, a Bourbon Tasting Bar, Keepsake Photos, Signature Cocktail, and enhanced Live and Silent Auction items. An open bar will be available throughout the evening.

### SOMETHING NEW THIS YEAR

This year we will be featuring electronic bidding for auction items. All bidding will be done through your cell phone, mobile device, or computer. You can bid from anywhere, anytime, before the close of the auction, from your own device. You even get an update if you are out-

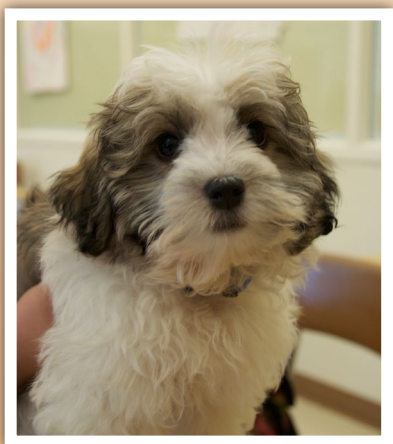
bid. If you don't have access to a Smart phone, DON'T WORRY! You can still bid on any item or make a donation via text messaging or through a Gesture Pro member at the event.

### EARLY BIDDING FOR REGISTERED GUESTS! TO REGISTER:

Starting today and right up to the night of the event, you can register your cell phone via a text prompt or computer at [nda16gala.gesture.com](http://nda16gala.gesture.com). You will be asked to enter your name, cell phone number and email address. After a few moments, you will receive a text message from Gesture. Confirm your participation in the Gesture Mobile Bidding system by replying "Y" to this text. You will receive a welcome text message including a blue link to the auction site. Once you are registered, you can begin bidding!

At the event: If you have not registered your cell phone prior to the Auction, Gesture representatives will be on hand to assist you in registering your phone and will also be available throughout the evening for assistance, or to be your "personal shopper" to bid for you, should your phone be unavailable. \*Free WiFi will be available at NDA and a Gesture representative will be on staff to assist you.

**If you cannot attend the Autumn Gala but would like to support the event**, you can either register with Gestures online and take part in the bidding OR purchase a **First Choice** ticket for **\$50** from Sr. Paul Ann and Sr. Rachel. Only 100 tickets will be sold and the lucky winner will get "First Choice" of all of the amazing Live Auction items! If you are interested, contact the Sisters today at 859.292.7736. You can check out all of the Live Auction items [HERE](#).



**Who wouldn't love to take this puppy home Saturday night?**

### LIVE AUCTION #L710

Outgoing, funny and intelligent is how the American Kennel Club describes the Havanese breed of dog. This small breed – considered to be in the Toy Group – is smart and easily trained. This puppy -- approximately 10 weeks old -- is veterinarian-checked with starter and booster shots and is ready to become a member of your family tonight!

Hypo allergenic and non-shedding makes this puppy the perfect house mate. Small but mighty, the Havanese breed makes a loyal watchdog. And to make sure your puppy has a secure and safe haven for those special times, included is a metal dog crate that folds for easy storage and portability.





# EMBRACING DIGNITY IN SELF, OTHERS AND COMMUNITY

## MARCH FOR LIFE ◀

Are you part of the March for Life Movement? If you would like to be, sign-ups for the annual March for Life in Washington D.C. are currently taking place. The March will take place on January 27, 2017, and the cost is approximately \$90.00 a person. Buses will leave Thursday evening and return Saturday morning. If you have any questions please email Mrs. Theresa Van Auken at [vana-ukent@ndapandas.org](mailto:vana-ukent@ndapandas.org).

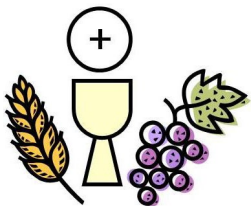


*Pictured: Julia Mathew, Emma Duerstock,  
Jo Meyer-Hogan, and Julia James*

## FOUR NDA STUDENTS NAMED NATIONAL MERIT COMMENDED STUDENTS ◀

Four Notre Dame Academy students have been named National Merit Commended students in the 2017 National Merit Scholarship competition. NDA seniors, Emma Duerstock, Julia James, Julia Mathew and Joe Meyer-Hogan placed among the top five percent of more than 1.6 million students who entered the 2017 competition by taking the PSAT as juniors.

"These students are to be congratulated on their selection as National Merit Commended students," said Mr. Jack VonHandorf. "We are very proud of these NDA seniors and their commitment to their education."



## JOIN US FOR EUCHARISTIC ADORATION ◀

Eucharistic Adoration will be held on September 28 from 2:40-3:40 p.m. We will be praying for the success of Youth2000 which will be held at NDA. All are welcome to join us.



## CONGRATULATIONS RHO KAPPA INDUCTEES ◀

Congratulations to the 47 seniors who were inducted Rho Kappa, the social studies national honors society last night!



# 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, we will hold an information meeting on Tuesday, September 27 during the homeroom time. Interested students will receive an application for Homeroom Representative, and 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 schoolwide activities? Then this is the position for you!

### Panda Buddies

Calling all freshmen! Next Wednesday, September 28 starting at 8:00 a.m, the senior class will be hosting a muffin breakfast in the cafeteria for our freshmen students. During the breakfast, freshmen will meet their senior buddies who have volunteered to be a support system to our newest Pandas. Freshmen should check their email later this week for specific information.



## GOT SHOES? ◀

**Shoe Drive** - Next week, September 26-30 we will be holding a used shoe and purse drive benefitting the Sisters of Notre Dame. We can accept old but wearable shoes, duffel bags, backpacks, other bags (no rollers on them) and any type of purse. All collected items are sold to Clean Water Missions in St. Louis. This is a win/win drive:

1. Items are kept out of the landfills
2. The Mission in Uganda can replace unsafe but necessary water equipment
3. The used shoes and purses are sold to people in developing countries who fix them up and sell them, creating a small business.

Please help us support the Sisters of Notre Dame's Ugandan Mission. Barrels will be in the foyer all next week.

## 2017 SUMMER NDA TRIP ◀

We are excited to announce the school trip for the summer of 2017. Next June we have an exciting chance for our students to explore the Eastern Seaboard of the United States. They will have the opportunity to travel to Boston, New York City, Philadelphia and Washington D.C. If students are interested in this incredibly valuable trip, we will be having a parent informational meeting here at NDA this Thursday, September 22 at 7:00 p.m. Here we will share the trip itinerary, everything that is included in the cost and much more! If you are unable to attend the meeting, please feel free to email either Theresa Van Auken ([vanaukent@ndapandas.org](mailto:vanaukent@ndapandas.org)) or Hillary Johnson ([johnson@ndapandas.org](mailto:johnson@ndapandas.org)) for all of the information. Thanks and we look forward to seeing you on the 22nd!



## TO COMPETE, OR NOT TO COMPETE, THAT IS THE QUESTION ◀

ESU Competition - Does your child have a love of Shakespeare? Consider entering the English Speaking Union Cincinnati Shakespeare Competition! A competition rooted in developing the skills needed for and a love of Shakespeare, his dramatic and poetic art, his universality, and his use of the English Language. Deadline to register will be November 1. School competition will be held in January.

## OVERTURE AWARDS ◀

Is your child a star in Creative Writing, Dance, Instrumental Music, Theatre, Visual Art, or Vocal Music? The Overture Awards program is one that recognizes, encourages, and rewards excellence in the arts among Greater Cincinnati students grades 9-12. Its mission is to encourage arts education as an integral part of a student's academic experience and to create an environment that encourages training in, and appreciation of, the arts. If you are interested in entering, please email Ms. Stine ([stinec@ndapandas.org](mailto:stinec@ndapandas.org)). Deadline for registration is November 18th, 2016.

## COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀



### SIGN UP FOR DRUG FREE CLUB TODAY!

Membership in NDA's Chapter of Drug

Free Clubs of America has grown: a 28% increase from last year, with over half of our student body enrolled!!



**THIS IS THE LAST DAY to sign up and still be entered in the early-bird membership prize drawing,** although students can still sign up through November. Currently, Freshmen are in the lead, with 62% of the class enrolled, followed by Seniors and Juniors - both with 45% - followed by 44% of the Sophomores. I am told that many students would still like to join and be rewarded for being drug-free, but it is ultimately up to parents to sign them up! I strongly encourage all parents to give their daughters this opportunity! Contact Mrs. Hildreth with any questions.

### Mentor Center

NDA will start offering homework assistance to students after school in the library on **Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:50-3:40 p.m.** There will be a few staff members there as well as peers to help other students. This service is offered throughout the school year.

### College Financial Aid Presentation

Wednesday, September 28

6:30 pm-7:30 p.m.

NDA Theatre

Description: A Financial Aid Specialist from NKU will be here to provide an overview of college financial aid (grants, loans and scholarships). This meeting is open to all NDA students and parents (of any grade level). Seniors and senior parents may especially benefit from this presentation if applying for Financial Aid for the first time.

### Governor's School for the Arts

There will be an Informational Meeting after school this Wednesday, **September 21**, in the Library for NDA SOPHOMORES AND JUNIORS interested in learning about the **KY GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL for the ARTS**, also known as GSA. Their application process has changed, so there will be important updates. Current information is available on the [GSA Website](#).

There are 9 art disciplines represented at this extraordinary residential 3-week summer program on the campus of Centre College in Danville, KY. The 9 disciplines are:

- Visual Art
- Architecture
- Creative Writing
- Dance
- Drama
- Musical Theater
- instrumental Music
- Vocal Music
- New Media



Come learn more about this exceptional program, and hear from last summer's GSA attendees!



## NEWS FROM THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT ◀

### VOLLEYBALL

Playing for a Purpose is this Friday at Thomas More College. Come support our Pandas and a great cause!

### SOCCER

Varsity soccer takes on Boone Saturday at 1p.m.

### GOLF

Good luck to our Golf Pandas - they have regionals at Eagle Creek on Monday.



## FRUIT SALE 2016 ◀

Friday, September 30th is the kick off for the fruit sale. Your daughter will be bringing home her packet of information and instructions. This year the order form that the girls will be using will be online. The customer can pay with check or cash either when they order the fruit or when it is delivered to them in December.

### Fruit Sale Information

**Selling Time: September 30th – October 21st**

1. The fruit sale helps support the entire athletic program. Your daughter needs to sell at least 12 boxes. We hope that everyone does not stop at 12 boxes but continues to sell even more (the fruit is sold by the box). The fruit sale, golf outing, and Panda 250 are the support of the athletic program.

2. We sell fruit in 2/5 size boxes. The grapefruit, navels and tangelos are delivered direct from the groves and the apples direct from the Washington state orchards.

**We will replace any bad fruit until December 8, even one bad piece! Bring in the bad fruit and it will be replaced.**

These are approximate quantities in each box:

Red Grapefruit	\$26 (about 18-20 pieces)
Tangelos	\$26 (about 30-40 pieces)
Navels (seedless)	\$26 (about 20-30 pieces)
Red Delicious Apples	\$30 (40 pieces)
Gift/Mixed Box	\$31 (includes grapefruit (about 6), navels (about 8), & apples (about 12))

3. Fruit trucks will arrive at school December 2nd for unloading and packing the mixed boxes with pickup and delivery to customers 12/3 & 12/4. Exchanges and additional purchases will be made until 12/8. All money is due by 12/09.

4. Mrs. Schmidt has names of past customers if you have trouble selling the fruit. The girls can stop in the morning or at their lunch to get names. She is in the foyer every morning 7:30-8:00 to offer assistance.

5. We ask that all parents and students work at least a 2-hour shift the weekend the fruit arrives.

The fruit sale helps build community among the athletes and the Parents. All are working for a common goal. This is making the Notre Dame Pandas the best sport program in Northern Kentucky. GO PANDAS!!



## SMALL EFFORTS MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE ◀

Thank you to everyone who has continued to send in Box Tops for Education to Mr. Martin. Last week's donations have pushed our Box Tops for Education project to **\$1006.20** since we began in March 2011. For the 2016-17 school year, we have gathered \$32.20 to this point. This is a very promising total for mid-quarter. Box Tops help schools serving grades K-8 and all of our donations go to ACUE schools. PLEASE keep making a difference and sending in those BOXTOPS!

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEND A HELPING HAND? ◀

Do you have just one day a month to volunteer for two hours in the NDA cafeteria? Helping out is neither difficult nor time-consuming and our current volunteers have fun visiting the school and seeing their daughters, granddaughters and friends. Volunteers are also welcome to stick around after their two-hour shift for lunch with "the crew". Grandparents in particular seem to love this job, so please consider asking your daughter's grandparents if they would like to help out. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Karen Brungs at 859.292.1856 or [brungsk@ndapandas.org](mailto:brungsk@ndapandas.org). The schedule is online and you can sign up [HERE](#).



### 2016-17 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

21 Western Kentucky University



22 Otterbein University



27 Miami University Oxford



29 Mount St Joseph University



Northern Kentucky University



30 Bellarmine University



#### OCTOBER

3 University of Southern California



13 Vanderbilt University



University of Dayton



## INFORMATIONAL COFFEE for PROSPECTIVE PANDA PARENTS ◀

Do you know a future Panda parent? Parents are invited for a "sneak peek" at NDA: Who we are, what we value, and how we will prepare your daughter to make a difference in the world.

### Dates and Times:

Wednesday, October 19, 8 - 9 a.m.\*

Friday, November 4, 7:30 - 8:30 a.m.\*

\*Reservations are required for these events. Please RSVP to Katie Caccavari, Director of Admissions, [caccavarik@ndapandas.org](mailto:caccavarik@ndapandas.org), 859-292-1829 at least 24 hours prior to the date you wish to attend.



## ► Important dates

September 22	Summer Travel Parent Meeting 7:00 p.m. in Auditorium
September 23	Fall Sports Pep Rally Playing for a Purpose
<b>September 24</b>	<b>Gala</b>
September 28	College Financial Aid Presentation 6:30 p.m. in Theatre
October 5	Life Mass
October 7	No School Youth 2000 Begins at NDA
October 11	LIFE Club Blood Drive
October 14	First Quarter Ends Junior Retreat
October 19	Super Wednesday: FR Retreat SO/JR PSAT Parent Informational Coffee
October 19	JR College Planning Mtg
October 21-23	Fall Play
October 24	SR Retreat Red Ribbon Week Begins
October 27	NHS Induction
October 29	CCH Halloween Bash

## COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

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

- Free Health and Wellness Fair
- Part-time job opportunity for moms and students
- Now hiring at Chick-fil-A in Fort Wright
- National League of Junior Cottillions

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

