



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

## LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL ◀

Blessings friends,

In our Advent Journey we are reminded of the significance of prayer and community in our lives. While time seems to pass even more quickly than usual throughout the holidays, it is important for us to take time out during this busy season to pause and remember the blessings of people and community.

This Saturday, December 8, is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. I hope you are able to attend Mass with your daughter on Saturday as it is a Holy Day of Obligation. On this day we celebrate that Mary, "full of grace" through God, was redeemed from the moment of her conception. By giving Mary this grace from the first moment of her conception, God showed us an image of our own destiny.

It is difficult to believe that we only have two more weeks of classes before our Christmas break. Our Student Council has done a terrific job decorating our school building with all sorts of holiday cheer to prepare us for the upcoming holidays.

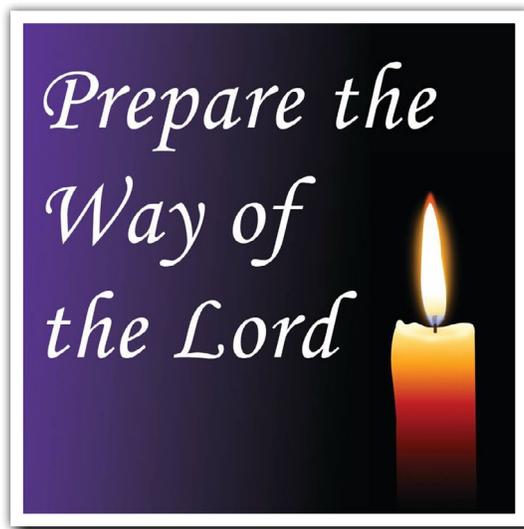
Our Interact Club is holding NDA's annual Hygiene Drive benefitting BeConcerned this week. Toiletries, cleaning products, feminine products, dental supplies (toothpaste, tooth brushes, floss etc), shampoo, conditioner, body wash, hand soap, laundry detergent etc, are all accepted and greatly appreciated!

**Please note:** Due to our adjusted calendar this year, our exams will be January 15, 16 and 17. An exam schedule was recently shared with the students.

I suggest that you encourage your daughter to take some time during this season of Advent for joyful preparation and peaceful reflection of the importance of prayer and community in our lives and the coming of our Lord on Christmas day. As you begin your Advent journey this week, may God's blessing come upon you and your family!

In Notre Dame,

Mr. Jack VonHandorf



# STUDENT LIFE

## STUDENT LIFE UPDATE ◀

### Silver Bells: Silver and Gold

Ticket sales for the annual Silver Bells Dance began this past Monday and can be purchased via card or check made payable to Notre Dame Academy. Tickets are \$12 per person. The registration link was emailed to all sophomores through seniors.



Silver Bells is on Friday, December 14, 2018. Doors will open at 8:00 p.m., and all students must arrive by 9:00 p.m. The dance ends at 11:00 p.m. Thank you to the Class of 2021 for coordinating!



### Freshman Winter Wonderland Dance

The Freshman Winter Wonderland Dance [FORM](#) will be open through Thursday, December 6. The form is the ticket for students coming to the Dance! Payment is expected in advance, as we will NOT be taking payment at the door! Preferred Payment can be made using a credit card on the form. There is a box on the counter in the main school office for students who want to pay by check (payable to Notre Dame Academy) or in cash - Please have these payments in sealed envelopes with the student's name on the envelope.



### Midterm Exams

Midterm exams will take place the middle of January, and Mrs. Monohan has shared the midterm exam schedule with all students. Please see the school's policy below as it relates to exams and exam exemption for Seniors.

## Examinations

An exam is intended to be a learning experience in synthesizing, reviewing, and selecting important information. All students are required to take mid-term exams in every subject. A student taking a freshman, sophomore and junior course is required to take final exams in that subject. A student taking a full credit senior level course, who has a passing grade for three quarters and a 92% or above average for the fourth quarter, may be exempt from their final exams. To be exempt for a half credit senior level course final exam, a student must have an 83% or higher in the first quarter of the class and a 92% or above in the second quarter to be exempt from the exam if the teacher offers exemptions. Exemption is granted to students who maintain the required average and who have not exceeded 5 unexcused absences in a semester.

Exams are given on assigned days. To take an exam on a day other than the one assigned requires a \$25.00 fee to be paid to the school office. The exam is given at the convenience of the teacher. The fee applies even if the student has missed the exam because of illness.

Final exams constitute 1/4 of the fourth quarter grade. Midterm exams may be weighted differently by the teacher but may not constitute more than 1/4 of the second quarter grade. Students taking AP exams are excused from classes on the day of the AP exam.

## IMPORTANT DISMISSAL INFORMATION:

There will be early dismissal next Friday, December 14 at 2:00 p.m. for the Silver Bells Dance. ALSO, School will dismiss at 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 19 due to the Faculty/Staff Christmas Party.

## CAMPUS MINISTRY NEWS ◀

**The Interact Club** is holding the annual Hygiene Drive benefitting BeConcerned this week. All items need to be turned in by Friday. Toiletries, cleaning products, feminine products, dental supplies (toothpaste, tooth brushes, floss etc), shampoo, conditioner, body wash, hand soap, laundry detergent etc, are all accepted and greatly appreciated.

**Advent Reconciliation Services** will be taking place during Religion Classes next week. Our Advent Prayer Service will take place on December 18 in the morning. A reminder that the Rosary is prayed each morning before school, beginning at 7:30 a.m. in Heritage Hall. All are welcome!

**Senior Retreat:** Please pray for our Seniors as 47 of them will be making their retreat next week at St. Anne's in Melbourne. We pray that they may have an experience that draws them to a deeper understanding of God's love for them and that they will be awakened to the many ways He is working in their lives.



*Please join us for the following holiday events at*

## NOTRE DAME ACADEMY

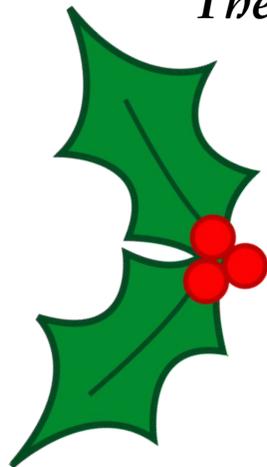
### *Christmas Choral Concert & Dance Show*

*featuring*

*The Dance Pandas and the Panda Tones*

*Friday, December 7 at 6:30 p.m.*

*in the NDA Theatre*



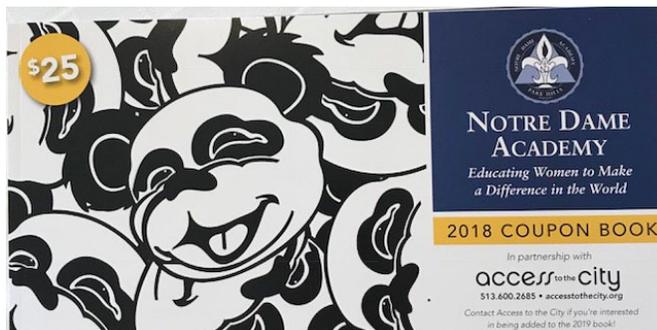
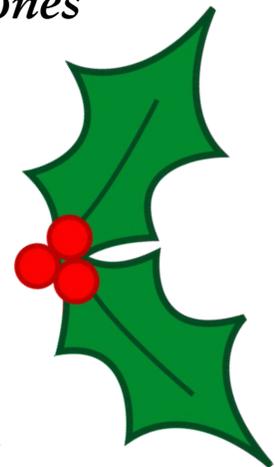
### *Christmas Band Concert*

*featuring*

*The NDA/CCH Band*

*Sunday, December 9 at 4:00 p.m.*

*in the NDA Theatre*



## ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT NEWS ◀

**Coupon book money is due Monday, December 10.**

### **Coupon Book Sellers:**

Looking for some great deals? Check out NDA's Access to the City coupon book! If you would like to purchase a coupon book, you can contact Susan Colvin in Athletics at [colvins@ndapandas.org](mailto:colvins@ndapandas.org). The books cost \$25 and checks can be made pay-able to Notre Dame Academy.

**Athletes should turn all money in December 10th to the front office.** All money and checks should be in a sealed envelope with name and homeroom on it.

Each Athlete must submit and attach her Tally Sheet through the online link under Athletics / Fundraiser - Submit Tally Form on the NDA website

## PROUD OF OUR PANDAS! ◀

NDA's Brooke Murphy and Josie Lawry were recognized at the monthly meeting of Kenton County Alliance for being a part of the "Picture This Campaign". We are proud of Brooke and Josie for choosing to stay drug free. You can see their pictures on a TANK bus in the area!



## SPEECH AND DRAMA PANDAS ◀

Congratulations to our Speech and Drama Pandas who participated in the Boone County Blizzard Blowout last Saturday, December 1. Sarah Zimmer came in 7th in POI, and Oli Marita came in 6th overall in Storytelling.



## PUBLICATION PANDAS VISIT ENQUIRER ◀

Enquirer Executive Editor Beryl Love spoke to NDA's Publications classes today at the Enquirer's offices downtown. "You guys ask great questions," Love told the Pandas.



## CONGRATULATIONS MRS. PROUDFIT! ◀



Congratulations to NDA science teacher Molly Proudfit who recently received her National Board Certification. National Board Certification is a voluntary advanced professional certification for PreK-12 educators that identifies teaching expertise and excellence through a performance-based, peer reviewed assessment. Through National Board Certification, teachers demonstrate that their teaching meets the profession's standards for accomplished practice through a rigorous, peer-reviewed and performance-based process, similar to professional certification in fields such as medicine. In achieving Board certification, teachers prove their ability to advance student learning and achievement.

"Mrs. Proudfit is a valued member of our faculty at NDA. Her National Board Certification is further evidence of her commitment to educating young women to make a difference in the world," said NDA Principal Mr. Jack VonHandorf. He added "We are blessed to have dedicated educators at NDA who continue to challenge themselves to strive to be the best for our students."

In commenting on her recent good news, Mrs. Proudfit said, "I wish to thank Dr. Koehl and Mr. VonHandorf for their support of this endeavor, Ms. Lynn Dickman, for graciously proofreading my work, Mr. Ron Otte (SHDHS) for his mentorship, and my former students for permission to use their classwork in my submissions and for their inspiring work ethic in class."



## SUMMER 2019 FINE ARTS TRIP ◀

The Fine Arts Department has organized a summer Fine Arts trip to San Francisco for the summer of 2019. The trip will be from June 10 - June 13 and will include trips to the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, a tour of San Francisco mural through the Precita Eyes Mural Tours, 2 plays/performances (the shows have not been decided yet), a Hip Hop/Graffiti class at San Francisco: First Amendment, a day trip and tour of Alcatraz, as well as trips to San Francisco's landmarks (Fisherman's Wharf, Golden Gate National Recreational Park, Ghirardelli Square, and San Francisco's Haight-Ashbury area).

The price for this trip is dependent upon how many students are going to attend so...if you are interested in attending the trip or if you are interested in more information, please contact Mr. Eckerle at [eckerlem@ndapandas.org](mailto:eckerlem@ndapandas.org), so that we can get an idea of how many students will be going. The deadline for registration for this trip is December 10.

## SPEED MENTORING OFFERED TO ALL SENIORS ◀

NDA Alumnae are coming back to mentor and give professional advise to our Seniors! A Speed Mentoring Session will be held on Wednesday, December 12, 2018 at 7:30-8:30 a.m. in Alumnae Hall. The Speed Mentoring session is structured with each mentor set up at individual tables while groups of students rotate through, asking questions in a speed round. Quick informative rounds will be held by:

- Adrienne Boschert Vannarsdall '00 (Finance)
- Emily Roebel Edmondson '92 (Sales)
- Dr. Holly Graziani Danneman '92 (Medicine, Physician, Asst. Professor UK College of Medicine)
- Autumn Richards '10 (Higher Education Professional)
- Kayla Hanser Steltenkamp '02 (Teacher)
- Lynn Cetrulo Watson '85 (Law Firm Security & Compliance)
- Lisa Wintersheimer Michel '81 (Attorney)
- Teri Meyer VonHandorf '88 (Higher Education Administrator)
- Julia Meister '87 (Attorney)
- Dr. Laura Dickman Koehl '75 (Education)
- Dr. Emily Halpin Woeste '94 (Medicine, Physician)



## CHLOE ESMEIER

DECEMBER STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to Notre Dame Academy Junior, Chloe

Esmeier, who has been selected as December's Student of the Month. Chloe's Spanish teacher Sr. Maria Francine nominated her for this recognition because "Chloe is positive and wants to make the road easier for others, so they feel less burdened and more alive. She smiles, talks with others before class and just exudes a satisfaction with life." Not only is Chloe a living example of this year's theme Becoming Fully Alive through Education and Love, but she helps others on their journeys as well. We are proud to call you a Panda, Chloe!

### SOMETHING ABOUT CHLOE

Chloe's English teacher, Mrs. Garrett says, "Chloe is a diligent, focused student. She's most often the first to volunteer, share her knowledge, and does so with a genuine interest in serving others."

Chloe's favorite thing is musical theatre. She actively participates in NDA's theatre program, Panda Tones and Dance Pandas; she also trains and performs at the Cincinnati Children's Theatre. Chloe says theatre is a good way to "get away" and to "express yourself." Theatre enables her to meet new people and to entertain people. Chloe also writes her own music and is currently working on an album!



"Chloe has been on Student Council for several years, and I don't think that I have ever seen her without a smile on her face," says Student Council Faculty Moderator Kimberly Wagner. "That smile brings joy to those around her and helps them realize that, yes, we can accomplish this and yes, it will be awesome!"



### 2019 MARCH FOR LIFE: IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN US ◀

Saving lives, ending abortion, and promoting a culture of life is why we march each year in Washington D.C. If your daughter would like to attend this important event on January 18, 2019 and be a voice for the voiceless please have her stop by front office to pick up permission slip forms. If you have any questions please email Mrs. Theresa Van Auken at [vanaukent@ndapandas.org](mailto:vanaukent@ndapandas.org). Parent chaperones who are virtue trained are needed so please let Mrs. Van Auken know if you are able to join us.



### WORK STUDY AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES IN THE LONGSHORE DINING HALL ◀

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](#).

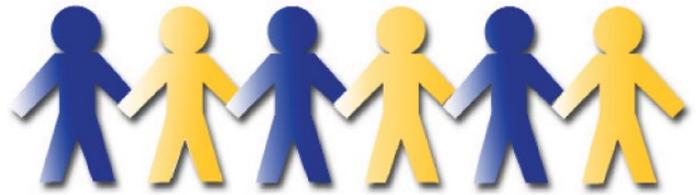
**ALSO**, we have a Work Study position open in the Longshore Dining Hall dishroom as well. If you are interested in this position, please contact Karen Brungs at 859.292.1856 or [brungsk@ndapandas.org](mailto:brungsk@ndapandas.org).

## COUNSELING AND STUDENT SERVICES ◀



### GSE

The [Governor's School for Entrepreneurs](#) Application is open NOW until January 20th for Kentucky 9th, 10th,



and 11th graders! A total of 72 students will be selected to learn about opportunities, benefits, and pitfalls of taking a business concept from the idea phase to pitching it to potential investors! This 3-week residential program at NKU is FREE of charge, and can ultimately result in college scholarships! Program dates are June 23 - July 13. Students can apply as an INDIVIDUAL, as a TEAM (Leadership/CEO, Technology, Speaker, Design/Artist) or - THEY CAN APPLY FOR BOTH!



### GSA

[The KY Governor's School for the ARTS](#) from Kentucky 10th and 11th grades are due January 11! Students can apply in TWO of the nine Art Forms! Creative Writing is one Art Form that some students do not realize is an option, so we are hoping that some talented student writers will apply!

**1n5 is an organization** focused on making a difference in how we talk about mental health. The name of the organization comes from the statistic that approximately 1 in 5 youth aged 13–18 experiences a severe mental disorder at some point during their life. "The Big Picture Project" features students affected by mental health issues. The project includes portrait photographs of the students and an audio recording of them telling their story, giving these students a chance to share their story creatively while encouraging others to seek help and to cultivate empathy in our communities. The Big Project is looking for high school students who are willing to volunteer to share their mental health story to make a change in their community. For more information or if interested in participating, contact Mrs. Hildreth.

## IT'S HOLIDAY SHOPPING TIME AT THE BAMBOOTIQUE ◀

Santa came early this year at NDA and he left many awesome new items for you to purchase for your Panda! Stop in and check them out!



## Holiday Hours

The Bambootique will be open for Holiday Shopping:

Nov 17th 10:30-12:30

Nov 27th 5:30-7:30

Nov 28th 5:30-7:30

Nov 29th 5:30-7:30

Dec 1st 10:30-12:30

Dec 4th 5:30-7:30

Dec 5th 5:30-7:30-

*Saint Nick comes tonight*

Dec 6th 5:30-7:30

Dec 8th 10:30-12:30

Dec 11th 5:30-7:30

Dec 12th 5:30-7:30

Dec 13th 5:30-7:30

Dec 15th 10:30-12:30

Dec 18th 5:30-7:30 Final Night to shop before SANTA comes!



**NOW SHOWING**

# **ON BROADWAY**

**NDA**

## **Mother Daughter Dance**

**January 12, 2019  
6:30-10:30pm**

**Receptions Banquet Center  
1379 Donaldson Road  
Erlanger, KY 41018**

**Register by Monday, January 7<sup>th</sup>  
\$25 per person**

**Come dressed as your favorite Broadway characters/cast, theatre patron or stage hand. Plan to walk the red carpet, enjoy dinner and dance the night away to the tunes of DJ BCD (aka Brian Dunham). The costume parade will be after dinner & winners announced.**

Make your reservation online at <https://www.cognitoforms.com/NotreDameAcademy1/2019MotherDaughter>

OR send cash/check along with this form to the school office.

**Tickets must be paid for at the time of reservation. DUE BY January 7, 2019**

Questions – [stephanie\\_m\\_ahlers@yahoo.com](mailto:stephanie_m_ahlers@yahoo.com) or [mklaird@fuse.net](mailto:mklaird@fuse.net)

Send in a cash or check with this form to the school office.

Student Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Mom's name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mom's email and phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

## NEWS FROM THE SISTERS OF NOTRE DAME ◀

Mark your calendars! The Sisters of Notre Dame are hosting an Adventure to Give Service Event on Sunday, December 9. For information, go to:

<http://www.sndky.org/newsfeed/entry/advent-volunteer-opportunity-284/>

### ▶ Important dates

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| December 5             | Sophomore Retreat  |
| December 6             | Seniors out of uniform   |
| December 7             | Mid quarter<br>Christmas Choral Concert with Dance Team                              |
| December 8             | High School Placement Test - HSPT<br>ACT at NDA<br>Freshman Semi-Formal Dance at NDA |
| December 9             | Band Concert   |
| December 10            | Seniors leave for retreat  |
| December 14            | Silver Bells Dance (school dismisses at 2:00 p.m.)                                   |
| December 19            | Faculty Christmas Party  |
| December 20- January 2 | Christmas Break  |
| January 3              | School Resumes   |
| January 7              | HSPT meeting for Incoming Freshmen   |
| January 12             | Mother/Daughter Dance  |
| January 15-17          | Mid-Term Exams   |
| January 18             | Life March   |

## COMMUNITY NEWS ◀

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

- NCYC
- B.R.A.K.E.S. - Teen Pro-Active Driving School

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

