

NEWS FROM NAZ



MARCH NEWSLETTER

NAZARETH ACADEMY

Principally Speaking

Dear Families and Friends,

We kick off this month with a great deal of exciting news and much gratitude as well. As you know, January's number of 8th graders taking our entrance exam was the highest in ten years. This past week we registered over 200 in-coming freshmen for our Class of 2014! We look forward to another large and strong class to further round out our student body for the 2010-2011 school year. In addition, our 31st Annual Dinner and Auction was attended by 400 guests and the donations were phenomenal! In the midst of terribly difficult economic times, your generosity continues to humble and amaze us. We remain blessed in your sharing of time, talent and treasure.

During the month of March we join with The Congregation of Saint Joseph in the celebration of Saint Joseph's Day on March 19th. This day serves as a reminder to all of us of our roots and mission. We have spent the past 110 years building upon the foundation set forth by the Sisters who first founded our school. Their desire to educate the whole person and to help us see all of creation as connected through God remains the cornerstone of Nazareth Academy's education today. We express our gratitude the best by living and working out of this mission each day. Thank you for the many ways you enable us to keep this mission and spirit so fully vibrant and alive!

In gratitude,

Deborah A. Vondrasek
Principal

Dennis P. Moran
President

National Merit Scholarships

Nazareth Academy is proud to announce that senior, Mitch Serafin has been named a National Merit Scholarship Finalist. He has met the requirements to advance to Finalist standing in the competition for Merit Scholarship awards to be offered in 2010. Congratulations on job well done!

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*"Bridging Our
Differences.....
That All May Be One."*

Fine Arts Hall of Fame

An appreciation of Fine Arts has been an integral part of Nazareth Academy's educational program since the foundation of the school. On April 15, 2010, Nazareth Academy will honor this commitment and induct its first members of the Nazareth Academy Fine Arts Hall of Fame. This celebration will occur as part of the Opening Night Benefit for the spring musical, "Guys and Dolls." There will be a ceremony and reception beginning at 6:00 pm. Honorees are: Outstanding Graduates: Jeff DeLong, '84; Jamie Gangi, '84; Mary Grill, '99; Nora Ryan Taylor '98; and Jill Ann Thompson, '84; Outstanding Educator: Sr. Mary Ricardo DiSanto; and Outstanding Friend of the Arts: Bill Shell. Money raised from this event will help support the efforts of our Capital Campaign. Tickets for the evening are priced at \$100, \$250 or \$500. For more information, please contact Carey Harrington at 708-387-8542.

Snowball

On March 5 and 6, 2010, Nazareth students will attend a Snowball weekend at Camp Duncan in Ingleside, IL entitled "2010 Snowball VMAs." The focus of Snowball is making healthy choices and is based on the belief that with accurate information and self-understanding, everyone has the ability to make sound decisions regarding their life. Students will discuss issues involving drug and alcohol use, have an opportunity to learn how to relieve stress, enhance communication skills and make good decisions. Mrs. Linda Dunne and Mrs. Cathy Kokontis, Youth Initiative Coordinator, have been working with members of the Youth Initiative who are planning the Snowball and will present mini-workshops. There will be speakers who will talk about issues that are important to teens. Presenters include Mike Bruni, Nazareth Advanced Theater, "Watch My Feet," Imagination Theater and David Sutor. Nazareth Faculty Member Leaders are: Melissa Byram, Kate Dunne, Sr. Terry Middendorf, Janet Rausch, Tim Rehor and Lorraine Weber. The cost is \$75 and a limited number of scholarships are available. Brochures are available in the Guidance Office or contact Mrs. Kokontis at 708-387-8535.

Fine Arts

On March 21, 2010, the Nazareth Academy Spring Concert will be held in the Auditorium. The Choir will present its concert at 2:00 p.m. and the Band will present its Concert at 4:30 pm. All are welcome.

On March 23, 2010 at 7:00 pm the Fine Arts Department will perform a one act play entitled "I Never Saw Another Butterfly" a play about the children who survived the Auschwitz Concentration Camp. Tickets are general admission, sold at the door for \$3 and \$1 from each ticket will go to the Relay for Life Cancer Fund.

The Nazareth Academy 2009 Spring Musical, "Guys and Dolls," will be presented on April 16, 17, 18, 22,23,24 and 25, 2010. Thursday, Friday and Saturday performances will be at 7:00 pm and Sunday performances will be at 1:00 pm. The play will be double cast for many roles. Cast members include: Andrew Hammond, Brian Pipal, Kyle Donnelly, Brenna Conroy, Giana Angelillo, Tim Christopher, Ron Meyer, Danny Callaghan, Pat Smith, Henry Byrne, Jack Conlon, Kevin Reardon, Danny Voss, Jordan Maloney, Christy Kostaken, Alex Sarabia, Scott Patterson, Paige Cascio, Erin Dine, Katie Callahan, Marco Alvarez, Anthony Jaskulski and Kevin Shukis. Tickets will go on sale on Monday, March 29, 2010. All seats are reserved and tickets cost \$18. For further information, call Mrs. Clare Paliatka at 708-387-8549.

SPRING HAPPENINGS

March 1-3	Phonathon	March 19	End of 3rd Quarter
March 4	1:30 Dismissal	March 21	Choir Spring Concert 2:00pm
	Parent/Teacher Conferences	March 21	Band Spring Concert 4:30 pm
	Faculty/Staff Retreat	March 22-23	Junior Retreat
March 5-6	Snowball	March 23	Spring One Act Play
March 6	Dodgeball	March 31	Stations of the Cross
March 8-10	Phonathon	April 1-11	Easter Vacation
March 9	Incoming Freshman Party	April 12	Classes Resume
March 13	SAT Testing	April 15	Fine Arts Hall of Fame
March 14	Fashion Show	April 15-18	Spring Musical
March 18	1:30 Dismissal	April 22	1:30 Dismissal
	Winter Sports Awards	April 22-25	Spring Musical
March 19	St. Joseph's Day	April 30	Ring Night

For Your Information

****Parent Teacher Conferences** will be held on Thursday, March 5, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. and from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Appointments with teachers may be made by calling the Guidance Office at 708-387-8530. No appointments will be scheduled after February 26, 2010, in order to allow teachers sufficient time to prepare for conferences.

****For Emergency Closing Information** check: Radio Stations—AM: WMAQ, WGN, WBBM, WLS; FM: WLSFM, B96; TV Channels: 5, 9, FOX, CLTV; or, for a small fee, Phone 1-847-238-1234 and enter Nazareth Academy's phone number-708-354-0061; or, log onto www.emergencyclosings.com.

****In the event of bad weather necessitating a late start for classes**, students should arrive at 9:20 a.m. and report to their Home-room. We will then follow the AM Assembly Schedule. Students who ride the bus will be picked up one hour later than usual.

****The Winter Sports Awards** night will be held on March 18, 2010, at 7:00 p.m.

****Senior Final Exam Exemption:** any senior who achieves an A or a B for third and fourth quarter in any given class may be exempt from taking the final exam providing they have teacher approval and have no more than one detention during the fourth quarter. This will be reviewed with seniors along with other pending senior privileges.

****Course Selection Sheets** for the 2010-2011 school year which were mailed home in February. must be returned to the Guidance Office, with a parent signature, by March 8, 2010. Please contact your child's counselor with any questions.

****All seniors and sophomores** will be participating in a statewide **student survey** to plan for prevention and intervention programs to reduce youth drug use and associated risk behavior. It is entirely anonymous. But if you would prefer that your student not participate please call the School Office prior to March 12, 2010 to inform us that your student will not be participating

****Representatives from Dennis Uniform Company** will be in the Dining Hall on March 27, 2010, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. for uniform fittings and orders. All female incoming freshmen and all female members of the Class of 2011 should attend. Any other girls who would like to order a new skirt may also attend. Payment to Dennis Uniform is expected at the time of the fitting. Nazareth uniform polo shirts and optional fleece pullovers will be available to purchase through the N Zone at a 10% discount on that day. Items that are not in stock may be ordered but must be paid in full when they are ordered. Current sophomore parents will receive a mailing with information regarding the girls' uniforms for 2010-2011.

****18 Nazareth Juniors** submitted 11 exhibits to the **Regional History Fair** to be held on February 27, 2010. The projects included: "I Fosse! We Fosse!" by Cassie Levitske; "Fred Hampton — I am a Revolutionary" by Garrett Mitchell; "Tearing Down the Walls of Nationalism: How the Back of the Yards Neighborhood Council United a Community" by Matthew Steinbrenner; "The I & M Canal: Unlocking the Door of Midwest Trade and Commerce" by John Flach and Dave Lemkau; "Special Olympics: Forever Changing Views of the Handicapped" by Riley Vaughn and Liz Kusper; "Tampering with Lives: The Tylenol Murders" by Rebecca Sukacz; "What's Black and White and Read All Over? The Chicago Defender" by Brian Duranty and Kevin Reardon; "The Telegraph: Revolutionizing Chicago One Wire at a Time" by Kelly McCarthy and Jake Ramsey; "Polish National Alliance: Keeping Up With the Community" by Magda Falat and Brianne Mahoney; "Julia Lathrop: Guardian Angel of Youth" by Julia DeStefani and Tasha Serafin; "The Chicago Vice Commission: A Fight Against Prostitution" by Katie Callaghan and Vicky Marshall.

****All juniors taking the SAT Test** on March 13, 2010, should report to their assigned testing rooms by 8:00 a.m. Testing rooms will be posted. All concerns or questions should be addressed prior to the testing date. Bring your admit card, ID, approved calculator, and two #2 pencils with an eraser. Dress comfortably. Coats and hats may not be worn during testing. Students are encouraged to leave their cell phones at home. Contact Mrs. Gurney at 708-387-8532 with any questions.

****Bus Registration** Forms for the 2010-2011 school year were distributed to current riders in February and are also available in the School Office or on the Nazareth website. Those students who take the PACE or METRA to the La Grange/Hill grove stop and then the school bus shuttle to Nazareth must also fill out a Registration Form. The deadline is May 1, 2010. For additional information, please contact Mr. Phil Nache at 708-387-8562. Routes are filled on a first come first served basis.

****Living Stations** will be held in the Sisters' Chapel on March 31, 2010, at 8:50 a.m. and at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome.

****The Junior Ring Mass** will be held on April 30, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. in the Sisters' Chapel. The Junior Board, along with their moderator, Ms. Jeanne Paliatka is making plans for the event. Rev. Gerry Riva will be the Presider. More Information will be mailed to Junior Parents in the near future.

****Information on the Guidance Department Spring Seminar Series** is posted on line at www.nazarethacademy.com.

**** Tuition accounts** must be current for students to begin the 4th quarter. Contact Ms. Debra Evert with questions at 708-387-8544.

****All seniors** will participate in an **Environmental Summit** which will be held on April 26, 2010 during G and H Periods. There will be a keynote speaker and break-out sessions on a variety of Environmental Issues.

****The Solsbury Summer Service Trip** will be held from July 26 to July 30, 2010. There will be an informational meeting before spring break. If you have any questions contact Mr. Joe Wejman at (jwejman@nazarethacademy.com) or 708-387-8580.

****Congratulations to the Girls Cross Country Team, the Girls Volleyball Team, the Boys Golf Team, the Girls Tennis Team and the Girls Golf Team** for achieving a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher during the entire 2008-2009 season which qualified the teams for the IHSA Team Academic Achievement Award.

****Congratulations to Julia Kilcommons** who has been awarded a **Chick Evans Scholarship**. Way to Go!

****And Congratulations to Patricia Gawlas, '08,** named one of eight **Ricci Scholars** by Loyola University which will provide her with a year of foreign study and travel abroad.

****Congratulations to Patrick Vitek** who was nominated for Athlete of the Month by the Chicago Tribune. Cast your vote for him at (www.athletics2000.com/nazareth).