



Nazareth Academy Grade School

OUR MISSION IS FAMILY

OPENING THE DOOR OF FAITH

The Class of 2013



Left to right - FRONT ROW: Mia Thomas, Donald Vittorelli, Emily Beck, James Wagner, Emily Yost, Joseph Moran, Taylor Neals. SECOND ROW: Stephen Pons, Mrs. Maura Fox, 8th Grade Teacher; Jenna Severa, Brianna Pudlo, Mary Kate Gould, Brianna Brophy, Shannen Conner, Melissa Aykit, Stephanie McGady, Briana Wiley, Sr. Mary Ellen Gemmell, Principal; Tristen Mordan. THIRD ROW: Lauryn Stride, Michael Kennedy, Molly Fluehr, Joseph Wons, Paige Cudeyro, Eric Lorenzo, Taylor Jennings. FOURTH ROW: Marne Brown, Denver Harr, Katelin Gindhart, Katherine Schramm, Jacob Malcolm, Delancey Showers.



On June 3, 2013, family, faculty and friends gathered for the Eucharistic Celebration of the Graduating Class of 2013 at Nazareth Academy High School Chapel.

Tristen Mordan, '13, opened the liturgy by explaining the class' chosen theme, "Opening the Door of Faith." Speaking on behalf of his classmates, Tristen stated, "This past October Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI declared that 'A Year of Faith' begin. As Catholics we have been challenged to deepen the knowledge of our faith. We know that God opened the door of faith to all. The Acts of the Apostles tells us, 'They called the church together and reported what God had done with them and how he had opened the door of faith.' In our studies and our parish activities we strengthen our relationship with God. We encounter Jesus in the sacraments we have received in our grade school years."

Tristen continued, "As we begin our Graduation Liturgy - the beginning of the end of our years at Nazareth Academy Grade School, we are faced with the challenge of keeping our faith strong. We place our hand in God's hand tonight and always. We can do this confidently because we have been given the greatest gift at Nazareth Academy Grade School, the model of the Holy Family. We will rely on the Holy Family, the Holy Spirit, and Pope Francis to guide us as we continue to open the door to our faith."

Graduation marks the end of one journey and the beginning of another. With the prayers of their families and the school community behind them, our graduates look toward their future with confidence in their faith and their abilities to grow spiritually and intellectually.

Graduation, continued on pages 9 - 12

A MESSAGE

From the Principal



Dear Friends,

As I prepare this message, I cannot help but think of St. Paul's letter to the Corinthians, Chapter 12:4-6, when he states:

"There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of workings, but in all of them and in everyone, it is the same God at work."

As we share the "Good News" emanating from Nazareth Academy Grade School, we see that message in action. From "Catholic Schools Week," when, among a plethora of religious, academic and social activities, students "sang their new song" that motivated them, to the final day of class when celebrations abounded, Nazareth radiates enthusiasm, growth and achievements of all types. With Jesus as the Center and Mary and Joseph guiding each teacher, parent and administrator, students not only grow exponentially, they lead the community in manifesting God's love present in everyday life while striving for academic excellence and untiring service to those in need. In addition, we see work of past principals and former co-workers as alumni accomplishments emerge and serve as guides to present and future NAGS family members!

Along with the entire staff, the parents, MMI, the Board of Trustees, and our Holy Family Province Leadership Team, I marvel at the wonder of the Lord demonstrated by teachers, staff, administrators and parents – for they share time, talent and treasure for the good of the One Body of which we all have the privilege to be a part.

You are about to enjoy a banquet of educational information prepared with loving care by Mrs. Patricia McGarvey, Development Director, whose creativity and attention to detail serve as springboards to this *News/letter*. With a grateful heart, I invite you to enjoy the information, while passing it on to others so that they can see the Gifts of the Spirit at work.

May God be praised by the efforts of all members of the school community whose daily prayers, works and sacrifices unite to produce this masterpiece of creativity produced to further the Kingdom of God, giving all that we have, one day at a time, to further our mission rooted in *Faith, Family and Future*.

God bless you.

Sister Mary Ellen Gemmell, CSFN
Principal



Photo above: Sr. Mary Ellen was happy to welcome Sr. Barbara Jean Wojnicki, Provincial Superior of the Sisters, Holy Family Province, to Nazareth Academy Grade School.

Pictured right-left are: Sr. Mary Ellen, Sr. Yvette, Student Council Officers Marne Brown, Delancey Showers, Stephen Pons and Donald Vittorelli, Sr. Barbara Jean and Sr. Anita.

<i>Inside this issue:</i>	
<i>2011 - 2012 Annual Fund Report</i>	<i>4 - 5</i>
<i>14th Annual Auction</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Graduation</i>	<i>9 - 12</i>
<i>Class Notes</i>	<i>14 - 17</i>
<i>Spotlight on our Stars</i>	<i>18 - 21</i>
<i>2012 - 2013 Annual Fund Effort</i>	<i>23</i>



Nazareth Academy Grade School

Sr. Mary Ellen Gemmell, CSFN, *Principal*

Patricia McGarvey, *Development Director Writer, Editor & Designer, Newsletter*

To submit articles, updates and photos, contact: Pat McGarvey at 215-637-7777, Ext. 206 or e-mail: nagsalumni@aol.com

Photos in this issue by Pat McGarvey, unless otherwise noted.

We're on the web! E-mail this publication to your family and classmates. Go to:

www.nazarethacademy.net

We are in need of yearbooks from the following years: 1980, 1983, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Raise the Standards

Raising the standards of education is the norm at Nazareth Academy Grade School. The theme of this year's Catholic School's Week set the tone to celebrate the values-centered and faith-driven education that our students receive.

The activities, organized by the Student Council and moderator Mrs. Mai Dang and faculty members, featured a mix of events focused on faith, academics, cultural pride, service, school choice and school spirit.

The St. Francis Inn Brown Bag lunch effort for the homeless launched a day of service on Monday. In addition, diapers and baby formula for both the Inn and Blessed Margaret Castello Home were collected. Breakfast bags were assembled for "Aid for Friends," students visited nursing homes and collected soda-tabs for Children's Hospital. Later in the day, students wrote encouraging letters and cards to promote vocations.

A "Cultural Pride Day" was observed as students wore costumes and colors of their culture and ancestry. Learning the country and nationality represented by each student and faculty member was enlightening for all. Members of the faculty and staff were recognized by the Principal for their role in helping raise the school's standard of academic excellence.

Later in the week, grades one through eight shared their chosen "Homeroom Song" to kick off NAGS Appreciation Day. *Pictured at right and below:* A school spirit Pep Rally and *Nuke 'Em* game raised the noise-level in the Multi-Purpose Room to an all-time high! The eighth grade students were triumphant in a series of games against the faculty and staff.

Student Appreciation Day featured a Denim Dress Down Day, benefitting the Sister M. Celeste Scholarship Fund. Added to the day's festivities was Buddy Bingo and treats from Principal Sr. Mary Ellen. Throughout the week, students explored their faith with a "Religion Question of the Day" and "Religion Quizzo."

Concluding the week was a First Friday Liturgy followed by an Open House and Program of Excellence. Parents, family and friends were in attendance for a student exhibition in Spanish, Forensics, Spelling, choir, choir chimes and musical instruments.

Principal Sr. Mary Ellen expressed her appreciation to the Student Council, Mrs. Dang and faculty members for their help in organizing the successful week-long event. Sister stated, "Catholic schools raise the standards. What better way to look toward excellence than looking to Jesus, our Teacher."



2012-2013 ANNUAL FUND *Report*

Today, Nazareth Academy Grade School relies more than ever on private donations for scholarships, faculty development, facilities maintenance and support for critical programs throughout the school. A successful Annual Fund is a sign of a growing and healthy school. Your gift is a key to that success! *Thank you for your support of the 2012-2013 Annual Fund benefiting our Music and Arts Programs!*

PARTICIPATION LEVELS :

Blessed Frances Siedliska Society *	\$5,000 and above
Pope John Paul II Society	\$2,500 to \$4,999
Family Circle	\$1,000 to \$2,499
Principal's Circle	\$ 500 to \$ 999
N.A.G.S. Club	\$ 100 to \$ 499
Maroon and Gray Club	\$ 1 to \$ 99

* Perpetual Membership

2012 - 2013 Annual Fund	\$ 15,423.67
Capital Campaign	\$ 1,700.00
Sister M. Celeste Memorial Award	\$ 1,200.00
Grandparents' Day	\$ 100.00

BLESSED FRANCES SIEDLISKA SOCIETY *Perpetual Membership*

Mr. and Mrs. Vince D'Andrea and Family
 Nazareth Family Foundation
 Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth
 The Leona V. Patterson Living Trust ~ Sr. M. Rita Partyka, CSFN *In memory of Leona and Elvin Patterson*

POPE JOHN PAUL II SOCIETY

Nazareth Academy Grade School families and students Dance-A-Thon

FAMILY CIRCLE

The PNC Foundation ~ Matching Gift, The Swider-Blier Family

PRINCIPAL'S CIRCLE

Mr. Thomas James <i>In memory of Mary Ellen P. (Hartley) James, '59</i>	Mr. Mark McGovern, '78
Mr. and Mrs. Karl Krass	Mr. Edwin S. Moore, III
	Mr. and Mrs. Donald Young

N.A.G.S. CLUB

The Cerquetelli Family	Ms. Mary Nicolo, '71
John and Bernice (Giordano, '79) Duesler <i>In memory of Regina (Nowacki) Giordano, '49</i>	Mr. and Mrs. John Primus
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Duzinski	Mrs. Virginia (Rentko) DiPaola, '73
Mr. Geoffrey Farmer, '60	Mr. and Mrs. Mike Roman
Mr. and Mrs. John Gilbert	Mr. John Schmitt, III
Giant A+ School Rewards Shoppers	Timothy and Ramona Sharkey <i>In memory of Thomas Simbeck, '02</i>
I-Give.com Shoppers	Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth, Delaney Hall
Mr. and Mrs. William McNulty	Mr. David Smith
Mrs. Barbara Newhouse	Target Take Charge of Education Shoppers

MAROON AND GRAY CLUB

Abi Bow Recycling, LLC

The Compton-O'Neill Family

Mrs. Kathleen Culp

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph DeSantis

Linda Fagan, DO

In memory of Thomas Simbeck, '02

Mr. Mike Fenerty

Mr. Scott Ferrante, '03

Mr. Alexander Halas, '11

Mr. John Jakubowski, Esq., '49

Mr. Kevin Kirk, '98

Mrs. Patricia McGarvey

Mr. and Mrs. David Monteith

Nazareth Academy Grade School Faculty

Sr. Yvette Ortiz, CSFN

Sr. Annuntia Osmanski, CSFN

Sr. Rita Partyka, CSFN

Sr. Anita Pasternak, CSFN

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Purcell

Mr. Stephen Purcell, '09

Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth, Infant Jesus Convent

Sr. Aurea Stroik, CSFN

Kenneth and Sarah (Gaughan, '81) Unger

The Vaccarino Family

In honor of George Vaccarino, '10

Sr. Celine Warnillo, CSFN

The Wons Family

In memory of Dino Cerquetelli

MEMORIALS

In 2012-2013, the students benefited from donations made in memory of the following individuals:

Mary T. Bradley

Dino Cerquetelli

Margaret Chappelle

Camilla Checchio

Theresa Dlutowski

Joseph Gemmell

Regina (Nowacki) Giordano, '49

Virginia Guiffre

Mary A. Hanejko

Mary Ellen P. (Hartley) James, '59

James R. Loving

Mary E. Lubinski

Kathleen A. Maag

James P. Murtha

Thomas Simbeck, '02

Thomas Smyth, Sr.

Mary Nguyen Van Tu

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Mr. Howard Maresch, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Vittorelli

SR. M. CELESTE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Sr. Roselita Bradley, CSFN

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Zerkow

In memory of Florence Zerkow and Sr. M. Celeste

Nazareth Academy Grade School is a non profit 501 (c) (3) organization listed in "The Official Catholic Directory" under Elementary Schools, Private, Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

Every effort is made to ensure accuracy of the Annual Fund Report. Please call Pat McGarvey at (215)637-7777, ext. 206 with any errors or omissions.

GIFTS IN KIND

We thank the following individuals and companies for their generosity of time, talent and financial support of the 2012-2013 Annual Fund and the mission of Nazareth Academy Grade School.

Jeani Grady ~ Catalano Studios

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Cipolloni ~ CIPPCO

John Marcellis ~ Jack Flash Electric and Lighting

Debbie Miller ~ dkm DesignWorks

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Gregory ~ Professional Duplicating, Inc.

John Primus

Joe Santucci ~ Joe Santucci's Original Square Pizza Bar & Grill

FOUNDATION TUITION ASSISTANCE

From year to year, the efforts of many individuals ensure the success of the EITC program making a large impact on the affordability of a Catholic elementary school education. We gratefully recognize the following individuals, alumni and organizations who have provided students the opportunity to excel at Nazareth Academy Grade School:

Bravo Foundation

Bridge Foundation

Children's Scholarship Fund Philadelphia

Joseph Brancato Memorial Alumni Scholarship

Nazareth Family Foundation



LITTLE MERMAID, JR.

Theater Presentation



In a magical kingdom below the sea, the beautiful young mermaid Ariel longs to leave her home in the ocean to live with humans above. Despite attempts by King Triton to discourage his daughter from learning about the world above, Ariel saves the life of a shipwrecked Prince and falls in love. The Princess sacrifices her beautiful voice in a deal with an evil sea witch to convince Prince Eric that they are meant to be together. In the end, love prevails; Ariel is transformed into a human and she is free to marry the Prince.

The classic tale of "The Little Mermaid, Jr." was brought to life by our students at the annual theater presentation March 12 - 14, 2013. The production, directed by Miss Natalie Monari, featured a large cast of dedicated and animated characters from grades one through eight.

The theater presentation was a group effort of many talented individuals and committed volunteers. We salute:

- *The entire cast and stage crew*
- *Mr. Ken Unger and Mr. Joseph Wons for their assistance in constructing our set designs*
- *Ed Perkins, for his assistance with the sound equipment*
- *Mrs. Jenny Pyszlak for designing, sewing and donating Ariel and the Mersisters' costumes*
- *All the parents and grandparents for their assistance*
- *Gabe Unger, '10, and Matt Unger, '10, for their technical assistance.*

- *Theresa Mauro, '10, and Melissa Moran, '10, for their back-stage help*
- *Our faculty members for their support*
- *Mrs. Pat McGarvey and all the members of the secretarial staff for organizing the program, booklets and ticket orders*
- *Sister Yvette for handling all of the show's finances*
- *Sister Mary Ellen for her support of the Theater Program at NAGS*
- *Sister Mary Joan for hosting our production at Nazareth Academy High School*

Pictured above, far left, left - right, is Director Natalie Monari, Mrs. Carol Greco, Producer, and Choreographer Linda F. Monari.

Middle Photos: The cast on and off stage.

Above photo, far right: Bob and Diane Delia, with an overflowing Little Mermaid basket raffle.

"The Little Mermaid Jr." was presented through special arrangement by Music Theatre International, Broadway Junior.

UNDER THE BOARDWALK

Parent Association Auction

The 14th Annual Silent and Live Auction was held on Saturday, April 27, 2013 at The Maltese Room in Bensalem, Pennsylvania. Pictured at right, l-r, are co-chairs Dana Heron, Heather Huot, Adrienne Roman, Lisa Vendetta and Laurie King.

In choosing the theme, “**Under the Boardwalk,**” the co-chairs got their inspiration from “summers spent down the shore that created cherished memories and traditions. Just as there is something for everyone on the boardwalk, there is something for every child at NAGS.” And, there was something for everyone at the Auction!

The portraits of each class taken by photographers Jeani Grady and Lisa Varley of Catalano Studios (pictured at right, l-r) were a highlight of the evening. The Eighth Grade masterpiece was a super hero-themed portrait featuring the students in various costumes such as Batman, Catwoman and Superman.

With the calming colors of the ocean and sand throughout the décor, the event was supported by 200 guests who placed their silent and live bids for unique sport collectibles, event tickets and beautifully arranged gift baskets.

The Co-Chairs expressed their appreciation to Principal Sr. Mary Ellen, Pat McGarvey, Development Director; the Auction Committee members and classroom ambassadors for their assistance in organizing the event. In addition, special recognition was given to Rich Pristera for the donation of printing services, and to John Duesler, pictured at far right, for his entertaining role as Auctioneer! We also thank D.J. Steve Duzinski, '07, for the musical entertainment and Joe Romito of Romito Catering.

The event was a great success in raising **\$43,000.00** for the educational needs of our students. Thank you to our outstanding Co-Chairs for their dedication, time and creativity in planning this year's event. We gratefully acknowledge the generosity of our donors, participants, volunteers and sponsors:

CAPE MAY SPONSOR

NAZARETH ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL

STONE HARBOR SPONSOR

PHYLLIS WOLF GALLAGHER, ED. D
R.F. DESIGN AND INTEGRATION INC.
THE ROMAN FAMILY

ATLANTIC CITY SPONSOR

THE BOZARTH FAMILY

THE WILDWOODS SPONSOR

ARTISTIC LANDSCAPE DESIGNS
THE BRISTOW FAMILY
THE CERQUETELLI FAMILY
THE DELIA FAMILY
THE LACORTE FAMILY
THE SISTERS OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF NAZARETH
THE SWIDER FAMILY

OCEAN CITY SPONSOR

THE CONNOR FAMILY
THE DUESLER FAMILY



Pictured above:

In conjunction with the auction, the committee organized a contest to name the Faculty Room in honor of a faculty or staff member. Through students' votes, it was determined that the overwhelming winner was Sr. Anita Pasternak! Sr. Anita, center, poses with students and Sr. Mary Ellen Gemmell after learning that the Faculty Room will be named in her honor for the 2013-2014 school year.



LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Each Lenten season, the Nazareth community is privileged to witness the enactment of the Live Stations of the Cross presented by the eighth grade class. The Nazareth Academy High School Chapel provided the prayerful setting for the performance of Jesus' last hours.

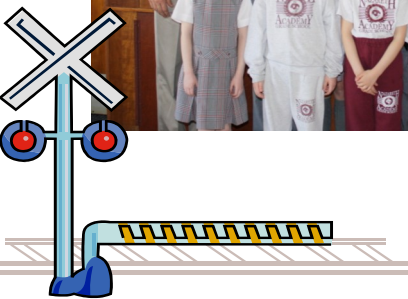
The production is a traditional way of spiritual preparation for Holy Week for our students and their families. The story of the Passion and Death of Our Lord provided the audience with the opportunity for deep prayer and reflection. Jesus' rising from the tomb was an emotional and joyful sight that was highlighted by a beautifully choreographed Liturgical dance.

With the expert guidance of Music teacher Suzanne Trotter, assisted by eighth grade teacher Maura Fox and faculty members, two performances were held to accommodate the families' and students' attendance.

We thank the seventh grade students who served as stage crew and commend the eighth students for their solemnity in sharing the Way of the Cross with our Nazareth family.



NAZARETH PARTNERS WITH SEPTA



look
listen
& live!



The day before Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (*SEPTA*) was set to introduce a new safety campaign, students at Nazareth Academy Grade School were treated to a sneak preview on April 29, 2013. The presentation was made courtesy of Fran Kelly, AP, '04 and *SEPTA* Assistant General Manager of Government and Public Affairs.

The national safety campaign, "Operation Life Saver," was launched at NAGS by Scott Sauer, *SEPTA* Director of System Safety, at two assemblies with our students. The goal of the program is to reduce the number of nationwide rail-related injuries and fatalities.

Through a slide show, video and Q & A session, the students learned the sobering statistics resulting from either trespassing on railway tracks, standing too close to passing trains, or disregarding railroad crossing gates and signs. The students also learned that it takes one mile for a conductor to fully stop a train in an emergency.

Among the many safety tips highlighted in the program is the fact the tracks are for trains, not people.

The event was covered by Tim Furlong of *Channel 10 News* and Paul Nussbaum of the *Philadelphia Inquirer*. We acknowledge the efforts of Fran Kelly in nominating our school to host the "Operation Life Saver" kick-off. We are also grateful to Scott Sauer and Heather Redfern, *SEPTA* Press Officer, for their role sharing the program with our students and faculty.

LET THE GAMES BEGIN!

Graduation Dance

An enormous "Words With Friends" board set the theme for the Graduation Dance festivities as the Class of 2013 arrived at the event hosted by our seventh grade families. The theme, "Let the Games Begin" was masterfully played out throughout the lobby and Multi-Purpose Room with custom-made massive renditions of classic board games.



Outside, the seventh grade students, pictured below, stood as the official welcoming committee as the guests of honor arrived.

Once inside the lobby, guests were greeted by a monster-sized *Wii* gaming console and a banner triumphantly exclaiming, "Wii made it!" The Multi-Purpose room was filled with larger-than-life and inviting interactive games. The eighth graders, pictured at right, tested their luck as the surgeon in *Operation*, tested their dexterity in removing personalized *Jenga* game pieces, tested their patience in *Monopoly's* jail cell, and tested their agility in *Twister!*

The evening featured popular dance music by DJ Steve Duzinski, '07, as well as a fabulous video recapping the graduates' years at NAGS.

Adding to the fun was a photo booth with endless props and many opportunities for the students to savor their last days as eighth graders.

We commend the seventh grade parents and students for their originality, inventiveness and attention to detail in planning the dance and graduation festivities. As many of our alumni will recollect, hosting the dance is certainly one of the most memorable opportunities for our students and parents to build long-lasting relationships.

Well played, seventh grade, well played!



A CELEBRATION OF FAITH AND HOPE

Graduation Liturgy

The school community gathered on June 3, 2013 to celebrate the achievements of our graduates at the annual Liturgy and Commencement Ceremony. Held in the grandeur and beauty of Nazareth Academy High School Chapel, the ceremony marked the completion of elementary school while joyfully celebrating the future of our newest alumni.

Reverend Joseph Monaghan led us in prayer during the liturgy which was planned by the eighth grade along with their teacher, Mrs. Maura Fox. Board of Trustee members were in attendance. Pictured at right, right to left, are Sr. David Sibisky, Sr. Brendan O'Brien, Board Chair; Charles Kueny and Sr. Loretta Theresa, President of CSFN Mission and Ministry, Inc.

The following awards were presented:

The Nazareth Academy Grade School Parent Association awards a grant to two graduates who have achieved the highest and second highest grade point average through sixth, seventh and the first two trimesters of eighth grade. The 2013 recipients were **Melissa Aykit** and **Tristen Mordan**

President's Award for Academic Excellence: **Melissa Aykit, Breanna Brophy, Marne Brown, Tristen Mordan, Stephen Pons, Katherine Schramm, Jenna Severa, Delancey Showers, Donald Vittorelli, Joseph Wons and Emily Yost**

The Nazareth Academy Grade School Academic Excellence Award: **Melissa Aykit, Tristen Mordan, Donald Vittorelli and Emily Yost**

The Sister M. Slowik Memorial Scholarship: **Melissa Aykit**

The Principal's Award: **Delancey Showers**

The Blessed Mary of Jesus the Good Shepherd Award: **Mary Kate Gould, Taylor Neals, Katherine Schramm and Emily Yost**

The Knights of Columbus Regina Coeli Award: **Melissa Aykit**

The House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Award for Scholastic Excellence and Community Service: **Taylor Jennings and Joseph Wons**

The Citizenship Award: **Taylor Jennings, Michael Kennedy Jr. and Stephen Pons**

Washington Savings Bank Award: **Emily Beck and Lauryn Stride**

The Ali Award, in honor of Ali Duzinski, '95: **Marne Brown**

The Phillip P. Gaughan Memorial Award: **Joseph Wons**

The Grace Stinson Memorial Award: **Melissa Aykit**

The Jennifer Culp Roman Memorial Award: **Mary Kate Gould**

The Make a Difference Award, in memory of Susan Toto: **Michael Kennedy, Jr.**

The Sara LaSalle-Tarantin Memorial Award: **Jenna Severa**

The Father Bob Votta Memorial Award for Excellence in Spanish: **Emily Yost**

The Kathleen Smith Memorial Award for Excellence in Forensics, sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Henri Marcel: **Eric Lorenzo**

Perfect Attendance Awards for 2012-2013 were presented to: **Breanna Brophy and Briana Wiley**

Continued on next page



Pictured at right, **Madeline Pontarelli, '12**, announced the formation of the *Believe in Yourself Performing Arts Award* which was presented to **Joseph Moran**.

Pictured far right: **Daniel Marcel, '07**, presented *The Kathleen Smith Memorial Award for Excellence in Forensics*, sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Henri Marcel, to **Eric Lorenzo**.



\$ 160,000 SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED TO MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 2013:

Melissa Aykit was awarded an Academic Merit Scholarship in the amount of \$8,000 for four years to *Nazareth Academy High School*.

Emily Beck received a Music Scholarship to *Nazareth Academy High School* in the amount of \$500 for four years.

Breanna Brophy received an Academic Merit scholarship in the amount of \$8,000 for four years to *Nazareth Academy High School* and a scholarship in the amount of \$6,000 for four years to *Villa Joseph Marie High School*. *Archbishop Ryan High School* awarded Breanna with a scholarship for \$250 for four years.

Tristen Mordan has been awarded a Xavier Scholarship to St. Joseph's Preparatory School in the amount of \$7,500 for four years and a *Presidential Scholarship* to *Holy Ghost Preparatory School* in the amount of \$6,000 for four years.

Stephen Pons received The Trustees' Scholarship to *Roman Catholic High School* in the amount of \$2,000 for four years and an Academic Scholarship to *Father Judge High School* in the amount of \$1,500 for four years.



ATHLETIC AWARDS

On May 28, 2013 the Annual Athletic Awards were presented by Mrs. Sally Unger to all student athletes for their efforts. At right, **Michael Kennedy** was presented the Louis Cacchio Award; **Mary Kate Gould** received the Sandra Michael Award; and **Joseph Wons** was awarded the Frank Wolf Award. Congratulations to the recipients and best of luck with your high school athletic endeavors!



WHAT'S NEXT FOR THE CLASS OF 2013 ?

Melissa Aykit - Nazareth Academy High School

Emily Beck - Nazareth Academy High School

Brianna Brophy - Villa Joseph Marie High School

Marne Brown - Nazareth Academy High School

Shannen Conner - Nazareth Academy High School

Paige Cudeyro - St. Hubert's Catholic High School for Girls

Molly Fluehr - Nazareth Academy High School

Katelin Gindhart - Villa Joseph Marie High School

Mary Kate Gould - Villa Joseph Marie High School

Denver Harr - Father Judge High School

Taylor Jennings - Nazareth Academy High School

Michael Kennedy - Holy Ghost Preparatory School

Eric Lorenzo - Holy Ghost Preparatory School

Jacob Malcolm - Father Judge High School

Stephanie McGady - Bishop Eustace Preparatory School

Joseph Moran - Father Judge High School

Tristen Mordan - St. Joseph's Preparatory School

Taylor Neals - Villa Joseph Marie High School

Stephen Pons - Father Judge High School

Brianna Pudlo - St. Hubert's Catholic High School for Girls

Katherine Schramm - Villa Joseph Marie High School

Jenna Severa - Archbishop Wood High School

Delancey Showers - Nazareth Academy High School

Lauryn Stride - Nazareth Academy High School

Mia Thomas - Villa Joseph Marie High School

Donald Vittorelli - Holy Ghost Preparatory School

James Wagner - Father Judge High School

Briana Wiley - Nazareth Academy High School

Joseph Wons - Father Judge High School

Emily Yost - Nazareth Academy High School

STEFANIE LAHART, '84:

Distinguished Graduate



We are honored to present Stefanie LaHart with the **2013 National Catholic Educational Association Distinguished Graduate Award**. Stefanie is a member of Nazareth Academy Grade School Class of 1984 and Nazareth Academy High School's Class of 1988. Proud parents Joseph and Virginia LaHart were present, as well as Stefanie's sister. NAGS alumna Christina (LaHart) Fanning, '83, and her daughters.

After graduating from Nazareth Academy High School, Stefanie furthered her education at Temple University where she earned a BA in Journalism with a Major in Advertising. Stefanie moved to Los Angeles in 1992 where she co-founded **cyberHag Productions**, a web design studio in 2001. Stefanie has worked on hundreds of websites for entertainment enterprises, professional services, e-commerce, artists and performers and non-profit groups. Currently, she is the co-founder and Web Development Director of **Megaton Media** based in Los Angeles, where she works to develop high end content management solutions for the internet.

In responding to the financial needs of a friend suffering with breast cancer in 2007, Stefanie co-founded the Busted Foundation with Gabriel Rountree and currently serves as CEO. The foundation now helps provide monetary assistance to women who are experiencing financial challenges as the result of fighting and living with breast cancer. Through her tireless work with the foundation, countless women have received financial help with medical bills, lost work time, travel for out-of-town treatments, childcare and integrative treatments.

The foundation's annual bowling event has raised almost \$500,000 in simultaneous events in Los Angeles, Houston and Philadelphia. The event has been featured on *E! Television* news show, "Ten Spot with Ryan Seacrest" and "Talk Soup." In addition, the Busted Foundation was recently selected to receive a Public Awareness Award from the Breast Reconstruction Awareness Fund from the Plastic Surgery Foundation!

Nazareth Academy Grade School's Mission to Families lives deep within Stefanie in her personal and professional life. Guided by her faith, propelled by endless energy, Stefanie's continued effort to help those in need is inspiring and imparts an example for our graduates to follow.

In her address to the graduates, Stefanie thanked God for all the amazing blessings in her life and thanked her family for their support and encouragement. Congratulations Stefanie!

Photo above left, Stefanie and her high school Math teacher Sr. Marcella Louise Wallowicz, CSFN,

At left, left-right, Christina (LaHart) Fanning, '83, Stefanie LaHart, '84, Madeline Fanning, Emily Fanning, Joseph LaHart and Virginia LaHart.



A Choral Tour of Rome

In February 2013, Nazareth Academy Grade School alumnae travelled to Rome with 44 members of Nazareth Academy High School's choir and chamber orchestra for a memorable trip to perform at the Altar of the Chair in St. Peter's Basilica. The group was led by Marge Lafferty, NAHS Music Department Chair; David Hall, NAHS Choir Director; and Kate Chmelko, NAHS Assistant Choir Director and other staff.

The choir was honored and elated to sing at the 5:30 mass at the Vatican celebrated by Cardinal Comastri, the Arch Priest of the Vatican Parish, on February 20, 2013.

In addition to visiting Vatican City, the group traveled to Pisa, Florence and Assisi. **Susan (Poserina) Marcel, '74**, stated, "While in Florence, we performed at a concert at the Chapel of St. Mary Magdalene. We also sang at the Generalate of the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth. The church was packed with 200 people. Seeing the Nazareth Sisters in the Chapel as we sang was the most touching moment. Though we did not speak the same language, we understood each other through music."

The alumnae visited the Sistine Chapel, Vatican museums, historical sites and also attended mass at St. Peter's Square on Sunday.

Ava Roberts, '12, explained, "My trip to Italy was a once in a lifetime opportunity to share my Nazareth talents with another part of the world. From that came a new-found appreciation for our Catholic faith and history. Some of my favorite moments from Italy were watching Pope Benedict deliver 'The Angelus' on one of his final days as Pope, performing in St. Peter's Basilica and climbing the Leaning Tower of Pisa."

Congratulations to the entire NAHS troupe for sharing the spirit of Nazareth and Philadelphia with our friends and family in Rome!



Photo: **1st row**, l-r, – Mr. David Hall (director), Ms. Katherine Chmelko (assistant director), Elizabeth Winski, Kaicey Baylor, Madeleine Parkes, **Elizabeth Hellings, '09**; Emily Gaggiano, **Ava Roberts, '12**; Emma Sinclair, Alexandra Matlack, Mrs. Christine Winski, Devin Barnaby. **2nd row** – Danielle Dustman, Mrs. Shirley Dustman, **Regina Duesler, '11**. **3rd row** – Kaylee Neff, Casey Mulholland, Stephanie Spinosa, Nicole Gambardello, Ms. Natalie Monari, Frances Monari, Victoria Sanchez, Gina Pallanta, **Mrs. Bernice (Giordano) Duesler, '79**. **4th row** – Ms. Margaret Lafferty, **Andreana Manto, '11**; **Ms. Tiffany Gung, '01**; Jennifer Nessel, Molly Crooks, **Julia Marcel, '10**; **Mrs. Susan (Poserina) Marcel, '74**.

Nazareth Academy High School Concert Selections

- *Da Pacem Domine Melchior Frank (1573-1639) arr. Mary Goetze
- *Domine Fili Unigente Giovanni Pierluigi Palestrina (1525 – 1594)
- *Cantate Domino Giuseppe Pitono (1657 – 1743)
- *Lift Thine Eyes Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy
- Music Down in My Soul arr. Moses Hogan
- Ride The Chariot arr. Beatrice and Max Krone
- River In Judea arr. Marcus and Feldman arr. John Leavitt

Class Notes



1980's



Shannon (McNulty) Brown, '85, is pictured at left with husband Michael and daughter Marne, graduate of the Class of 2013. Shannon's daughter **Chelsea Brown** graduated in 2005 and son **Michael Brown** graduated in 2011.

Congratulations to **Lisa Mikula, '87**, who was recently accepted into Temple University's Masters Program in Occupational Therapy.

1990's

"*Phillies Nation*," the online blog of **Brian Michael, '95**, has branched out to a televised program that is now broadcast on Comcast! Brian is the founder and CEO of "*Phillies Nation*" that airs on Tuesdays at 6 PM on Comcast. Brian is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Congratulations to **Maggy (Culp) McCay, '92**, and her husband Douglas on the birth of their daughter Shannon Allison on May 1, 2013.

Emily (Culp) Brzycki, '98, and her husband Brian welcomed their son, Francis Michael, into the world on May 12, 2013.

2000's

Wedding bells will ring for **Marisha Szczypiorski, '00** and Jeremy Voras! Best of luck to the couple who will wed on May 3, 2014.

Congratulations to **Ashley Grady, '01**, who was engaged on January 1, 2013 to Nicholas J. Perrone, III.

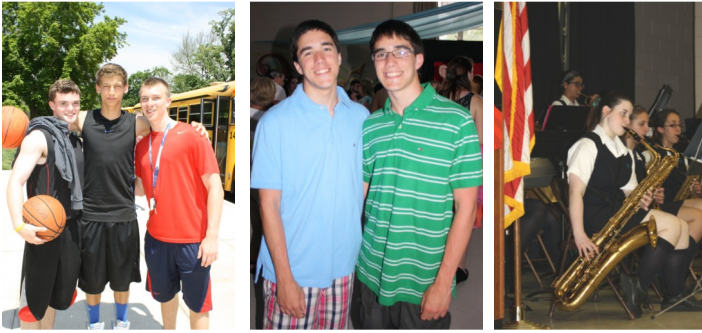
A LOOK BACK AT THE CLASS OF 1987



Thanks to **Morgan McKenty** and **Lisa Mikula**, we are pleased to share photos of the Class of 1987. Top photo was taken in 1986 of the students in 7th grade with homeroom teacher Sr. M. Eileen Therese. The Graduating Class is pictured above in 1987 with Sr. M. Eileen Therese and Principal Sr. Mary Jane Hahner.



To help prepare our students for high school English, **Peter Cassidy, '10**, prepared a video presentation and handouts for seventh and eighth grade Honors English students. Mrs. Maureen Ayes, Honors English teacher, expressed her appreciation for Peter's enthusiasm and willingness to share tips for academic success in high school with our students. Throughout his high school career, Peter has been a leader in organizing the high school volunteer tutoring program at NAGS. Following his graduation from Holy Ghost Preparatory School, Peter plans to further his education at Holy Family University.



Above left, l-r: Holy Ghost Prep students **George Vaccarino**, '10; **Greg DiNardo**, '10 and **Kevin Kerr**, '10, on their visit during Annual Field Day on May 31, 2013.

Above, center photo, l-r: On hand to see their cousin **Mary Kate Gould**, '13, arrive at the Graduation Dance are **Matthew Unger**, '10 and **Gabriel Unger**, '10. The brothers are entering their senior year at St. Joseph's Preparatory School.

Pictured above, far right: As a member of Nazareth Academy High School's Orchestra, **Theresa Mauro**, '10, highlighted her musical talents at a special presentation to our students directed by Frank A. Walter, Jr., NAHS Band Director.



Pictured above left: **Desiree Cudeyro**, '11, a student at St. Basil's Academy, and mother Tina Cudeyro pose for a photo before NAGS' Graduation Liturgy.

Pictured above right, l-r: Nazareth Academy High School freshman **Ava Roberts**, '12, and Villa Joseph Marie freshman **Lauren Preski**, '12, are happy to meet at NAGS' Graduation festivities.



Above right, l-r: A chance meeting at their lockers at Nazareth Academy High School led to this photo of **Gabrielle Pristera**, '10 and **Melissa Moran**, '10.

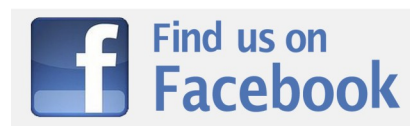
Celebrating graduation with his sister **Lauryn Stride**, '13, and mother, Lori, is **Thomas Stride**, '10, at right. Thomas will be a senior at St. Joseph's Preparatory School.



The traditional Graduation Dance each year is a great opportunity to catch up with fellow alumni. Above, from l-r, NAGS 2011 graduates reconnect: **Maureen Rankin**, **Catherine Driscoll**, **Alex Halas** and **Regina Duesler**.



Pictured above, r-l: **Ava Roberts**, '12, and **Chloe Roberts**, Gr. 7, as they performed on the violin at a Family Mass celebrated by Archbishop Chaput at the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul on March 10, 2013. Mrs. Cheryl Manfredonia, former NAGS Music teacher, recommended the girls to play at the liturgy. Cathedral Cantor Charlene Angelini, NAHS, '99, worked with the girls to arrange their music.



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2009 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Congratulations to the Class of 2009 on their High School graduation. Best of luck with your future plans!

News available as of this printing is as follows:

Michael Benedykciuk	Boston University
Sari Buckley	Holy Family University
Peter Cassidy	Holy Family University
Anna Duzinski	Georgian Court University
Elizabeth Hellings	University of Delaware
Andrew King	LaSalle University
Howard Knapp, IV	Temple University
Justin LaCorte	St. Joseph's University
Michael Lydon	Penn State University, University Park
Nicholas Mancino	Neumann University
Eric Marcelis	West Chester State University
Kristin Mays	Penn State University, University Park
Chris McFadden	Temple University
Emily Nestel	St. Joseph's University
Maria Palantino	Philadelphia University
Marisa Poncia	Wake Forest University
Stephen Purcell	Villanova University
Kirsten Schneider	Santa Monica College
Brian Singmaster	Undecided
Deanna Stephens	Temple University
Bianca Tillery	Cheney University
Alexandra Varley	Penn State University, Altoona
Justin Weiss	Johnson & Wales University
Stephanie Whitley	LaSalle University
Alexandra Wierzbicki	Drexel University

ALUMNI ACADEMIC SUCCESS

We recognize our alumni for their efforts and excellence in academics In High School during the 2012 - 2013 school year:

HOLY GHOST PREPARATORY SCHOOL

First Honors, First Semester

Distinguished Honors, Final Semester

David Kasperowicz, '10

First Honors, 2012-2013

Eric Kasperowicz, '12

NAZARETH ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL

National Honor Society Induction

Sarah Marie Aitken, '10

Colleen Corbett, '10

Julia Marcel, '10

Teresa Mauro, '10

National Art Honor Society

Bianca Tillery, '09

Stephanie Whitley, '09

Tri-M Music Honor Society

Julia Marcel, '10

Ava Roberts, '12

World Language Honor Societies

Spanish: **Alexandrea Wierzbicki, '09**

Spanish: **Madalyn Fluehr, '10**

Mu Alpha Theta

Alexandrea Wierzbicki, '09

Cumulative Honors for Class of 2013

Distinguished Honors:

Elizabeth Hellings, '09

Academic Scholarship Recipients of 2013-2014

Academic Merit: **Melissa Aykit, '13**

Music Scholarship: **Emily Beck, '13**

ST. JOSEPH'S PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Academic Scholars:

Alexander Halas, '11

Gabriel Unger, '10

Matthew Unger, '10

Faculty News



Congratulations to Spanish teacher Marie Maddox on her engagement to Jason Furman, pictured at right. To celebrate Senorita's marriage planned for August 16, 2013, Mrs. Vaccarino and staff transformed the Music Classroom into a venue worthy of an elegant wedding shower in her honor. Pictured at far right and below, Senorita was taken by surprise when she was called to the classroom for a meeting! Best wishes to Ms. Maddox and her fiancé!



Pictured above, former second grade teacher **Mrs. Rachel Merryman**, shows off her newborns! Mrs. Merryman and her husband Matthew welcomed twins on April 2, 2013! Maverick Hunter was born at 5:36 AM at 5.4 lbs. and Charlotte Rose was born at 5:54 AM at 5.6 lbs. God bless Mr. and Mrs. Merryman and their new family!



Nazareth Academy Grade School bid adieu to **Nancy Lydon**, Librarian and **Rosemary Borkowicz**, cleaning staff member, pictured above on left, left to right.

Mrs. Lydon, mother of Michael Lydon, '09, began working in the library as a volunteer in 2001 with Sr. Celeste Slowik and then assumed the Librarian role following Sister's passing in 2006. We recognize and salute Mrs. Lydon for her contributions to the library's growth and progress over the past seven years. Best of luck! We will miss you!

We will also miss Ms. Borkowicz, who has been working at NAGS for the past three years. Ms. Borkowicz's dedication and attention to detail added to the impeccable appearance of the school. We wish Ms. Borkowicz much luck in the future!

Good luck to teacher Mrs. Kristy Nober, who will continue her teaching career at Northwood Charter School. Pictured above right, seated, Mrs. Nober has taught third grade since 2007 and most recently provided leadership in writing the school's Strategic Plan. We warmly welcome NAGS alumni **Maggie (Culp) McCay, '92**. Mrs. McCay returns to her Alma Mater as third grade teacher.

Please join the school community in remembering our beloved departed.

Mary T. Bradley - Grandmother of Ashley Grady, '01 and Shane Grady, '08

Margaret Chappelle - Aunt of Lauren O'Neill, Gr. 6

Camilla Checchio - Mother of Lennie (Checchio) Metka, '61; Grandmother of Joe Metka, '94 and Harry Metka, '97. Great Aunt of Katie Schramm, '13.

Jennifer Gampico, '87

Mary E. Lubinski - Grandmother of John Lubinski, Gr. 8

Kathleen A. Maag - Mother of Mrs. Kathleen Serfass

James R. Murtha - Grandfather of Brendan Murtha, '06; Ryan Murtha, '08 and Colin Murtha, '11

Thomas Simbeck, '02

Thomas F. Smyth, Sr. - Grandfather of Mrs. Rachel Merryman

Debra Supperer - Mother of Jessica Supperer, '10

Maria Nguyen Van Tu - Grandmother of Mrs. Mai Dang



SPOTLIGHT ON OUR STARS



Spotlight on four of our NAGS students, who as members of the *Pennsylvania Youth Chorale*, were invited to participate in a performance with Francisco Nunez at *Carnegie Hall* on January 20, 2013. These outstanding musicians joined other choristers from Georgia, Connecticut, Texas, Maryland and Pennsylvania to form the *Distinguished Concerts Singers International*, a choir of distinction. Composer and conductor Francisco Nunez led the "The Sounds of War and Peace" performance. Congratulations to **Emily Beck, '13**; **Marne Brown, '13**; **James Duesler, Gr. 6** and **Dominic Mancino, Gr. 6**.



On April 6, 2013, Nazareth Academy Grade School 7th Grade students participated in *Archbishop Ryan High School's Ninth Annual Invitational Spelling Bee*. **Michele Anzabi, Julia Halas, Tracy Marcelis** and **Chloe Roberts** were chosen to represent NAGS through several in-school competitions. After 29 rounds, we are proud to say that **Michele Anzabi** received First Place with the winning word: "collateral". Thank you to Mrs. Dang and all of our English teachers for preparing our students so well!

Michele Anzabi, Gr. 7, was recognized for her efforts in achieving High Honors at a *Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth (CTY)* event at Rowan University on May 12, 2013. Congratulations Michele!

The investigative Science report of both **Katherine Schramm, '13** and **Jessica Scipione, Gr. 6**, were recently published online at *Examiner.com*.

The purpose of **Katherine Schramm's** project was to see if toddlers and students are able to distinguish between a product that is edible candy and/or a toxic household substance. Through live-testing, Katherine's data showed that a high percentage of children believed laundry pods, antacids and sore throat drops were edible candy. Her project acknowledged that more and more manufacturers are responding to the growing number of poisoning cases by making child-proof containers. Katherine is pictured above, on the left.



Jessica Scipione, pictured above on the right, investigated the cleaning potential of natural versus traditional cleaning products. Her experiment involved various types of surfaces such as glass, wood, clothing and a bathtub. Our school community was surprised with her results that showed all of the natural cleaners had done a better job in cleaning the items than the more-commonly used manufactured cleaning products. Jessica's project won first place in the category of Environmental Science at our Science Fair. In addition to being awarded Honorable Mention at *George Washington Carver Science Fair*, Jessica received the only award from the *EPA for Excellence by Women in Science and Engineering*.



Spotlight on the hand-writing of 7th grade student **Samantha Lorenzo**, pictured above with teachers Mrs. Ayes and Mrs. Dang.

Samantha was a winner in the State Grade Level of the *2013 Zaner-Bloser National Handwriting Contest!* Samantha's entry was chosen for excellence in the "Keys to Legibility" of size, shape, spacing and slant! Samantha received a medal and a crystal award to commemorate the honor.



Congratulations to our fifth grade students who placed First in the *2013 Boyle Academic Challenge* held at Archbishop Ryan High School on May 11, 2013. State Representatives Kevin and Brendan Boyle sponsored the event in which eight Philadelphia and Montgomery County elementary schools participated. The Nazareth Academy Grade School team came in first, followed by Philadelphia Academy and Our Lady of Calvary.

Pictured above with trophy are: Rep. Kevin Boyle, **Aiden Gretzula**, **Sean Armstrong**, **Catherine Monteith**, **Cayla Keares**, **Katherine Tereshko** and Rep. Brendan Boyle. (Photos by David A. Armstrong)

Is it a solid? Is it a liquid? Through a program offered by *Merck and Company*, NAGS parent Julia Roberts presented a “GAK” experiment to third and seventh grade students, pictured above. In the lesson, students explored polymers, large molecules made up of repeating units. To further explain the three dimensional network, Mrs. Roberts helped the students form a human chain of “monomers,” which were joined by “chemical bonds.” We are grateful to Mrs. Roberts for her time and effort to share the exciting world of Science through these special lessons.



Spotlight on our athletes and musicians! The *Girls Softball Team*, pictured above with coaches Bob Delia, Debbie Jennings and Kristy Nober (not pictured is Mike Kennedy). Pictured below: Ms. Chrysyn Harp, Strings, Percussion, and Woodwind instructor with first grade students Adam Zulewski, Madeline Donlon and Kasey Kennedy.



Math class in the kitchen? The fifth grade *Math class* enthusiastically created their own hand-made pizzas as they explored fractions with Mrs. Maribeth Kane. They explored the many varied fractional parts of a complete circle, manipulated slices to show equivalent fractions and noted the importance of fractions in every day living.





Spotlight on our Forensics Team! The team is proud of this year's tournament efforts. Pictured above, several members pause during *St. Joseph's Preparatory School Tournament*. We sincerely thank the Forensics coaches for their time and dedication: Ms. Maureen Ayes, **Stephen Purcell, '09**, Mrs. Julia Halas and Mrs. Julia Roberts. We appreciate the contributions of the coaches who also assisted as Judges throughout the season. In addition, we thank Mrs. Donna Rueter, who also served as a Tournament Judge.



Sr. Mary Ellen stated, "Warm congratulations to all! Your hard work and constant practice do not go unnoticed."

At left, is a trophy the team received at the *Holy Ghost Preparatory School* tournament.

Congratulations to Nazareth Academy Grade School Board of Trustee Chairperson Sr. Brendan O'Brien, CSFN, on her Fiftieth Jubilee! Sr. Brendan was surprised by a *Prayer Service* given by the students on May 1, 2013. Sr. David Sibiski was also honored as a Jubilarian as well!

Pictured above, left to right: Present for the Prayer Service were Sr. David Sibiski, Sr. Aurea Stroik, Mrs. Margaret Kelly, representing Sr. Francesca Onley and Holy Family University; Sr. Brendan, Sr. Mary Ellen, Sr. Teresita Morales, Sr. Mary Joan Jacobs, Principal of Nazareth Academy High School, and Sr. Yvette Ortiz.

Congratulations to the *Reading Olympics* members for their dedication and efforts in competing! Grades 5 and 6 competed in the Bucks County Reading Olympics on March 18, 2013. Grades 7 and 8 competed at Bucks County Technical High School on April 3, 2013.

The teams also competed in the *Philadelphia Reading Olympics* at Holy Family University and Temple University. At Temple, the team scored 57 points out of 60, winning First Place! Principal Sr. Mary Ellen stated, "Thank you Mrs. Ayes, Mrs. Dang, and all the teachers who always have a part in preparing and encouraging our scholars."

Stromuhr, cymotrichous, guetapens. These three words were the last three years' winning words spelled correctly at the *Scripps Spelling Bees*. Thank you to students Melissa Aykit and Kathryn Tereshko for representing NAGS in recent Scripps events. **Melissa Aykit, '13**, participated in the *Scripps National Philadelphia Preliminary Bee*. **Kathryn Tereshko, Gr. 5**, was a participant in the *Fifth Grade Scripps Spell Down*. We salute Mrs. Mai Dang, Gr. 5 teacher, for her dedicated efforts in helping prepare the student representatives.

Below, following the *May Crowning* on May 3, 2013, the first grade poses for photos by family and friends. The students, under the direction of first grade teacher Mrs. Angelique Hatzinikolaou, prepared a prayer service fitting for the Queen of May. Ms. Suzanne Trotter, Music teacher, assisted by helping the students with the song choices.





Shannon (McNulty) Brown, '85, and Tina Cudeyro were the recipients of the *2013 Sr. Martin Duffy Award for Service* at the 8th grade Awards Ceremony. Both Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Cudeyro have been dedicated volunteers while their children were enrolled in NAGS. The pair, pictured above, left to right, has donated much time and resources to the Capital Campaign, Sapphire Ball, Fashion Shows, Bingo and various Parent Association events. We are grateful for the recipients' contributions to the school's past successes. Best of luck to the Brown and Cudeyro families!



Above: The Multi-Purpose Room was transformed into a movie theater, courtesy of William and Lisa Eisler, parents of Riley Eisler, Gr. 7. The Eislers provided an inflatable movie screen and projector for a special age-appropriate movie screening for the lower and upper grades. We appreciate the Eislers' effort in making Valentine's Day special for all of our students!

Pictured below: *The Stations of the Light* were introduced at NAGS by the 6th Grade class. The fourteen joyful and highly symbolic events make up the Via Lucis, the Christian Way of Light.

The Stations, with their good news of healing and salvation, mark the sacred events in the post-Easter story. Parents and students were on hand to watch as the students brought the events through the Resurrection and Pentecost to life.

Below: *Holy Family University's Education Department* shared a multitude of Science activities with our 3rd and 4th grades on March 25, 2013. The "teachers-to-be" enjoyed interacting with the students with their prepared projects.



HONORS ENGLISH STUDENTS

Bring Characters to Life

Imagine being up close and personal with Eleanor Roosevelt, John F. Kennedy and Amelia Earhart? In one of two new events hosted by the Honors English students, the school community was given the opportunity to do just that by visiting a "Wax Museum" presented by the eighth grade students and their teacher, Mrs. Maureen Ayes.

The Honors English students were challenged to do an in-depth research project on a famous individual. The assignment took on a life of its own when the enthusiastic students suggested that their projects be displayed along with real-life "wax museum" characters. The library was transformed on April 22, 2013 to feature a display of people of historical interest as well as current public figures.

At right: pictured, left to right, are: Honors English teacher Mrs. Maureen Ayes, Donald Vittorelli as Michael Jordan, Melissa Aykit as Eleanor Roosevelt, Jenna Severa as Amelia Earhart, Tristen Mordan as John F. Kennedy, Delancey Showers as Grace Kelly, Marne Brown as Princess Diana, Mia Thomas as Oprah Winfrey, Breanna Brophy as surfer Bethany Hamilton, Stephen Pons as Roberto Clemente and Emily Yost as Nadia Comaneci.

We salute the eighth grade students for their eagerness in creating this unique and educational exposition!

The second Honors English event was hosted by seventh grade students and was held on April 23, 2013. The assignment, also given by teacher Mrs. Maureen Ayes, was to develop a new socially responsible *Sesame Street*-type character in a writing journal. Soon the students' creativity and imagination could not be contained on paper and a student presentation entitled "Poppy Seed Lane" was planned.

The imaginative characters were brought to life in the educational musical production, complete with costumes and an entertaining script. Student Michele Anzabi, who studied many *Sesame Street* episodes, helped to format the presentation which included important educational and life-skill lessons for children.

The word of the day was "KINDNESS"; the letter of the day was "K" and the number of the day was "8". Among the many characters in the program, "Brooke the Bookworm" encouraged the audience to read books and "Carmen the Camel," a mailman, persuaded the children to write letters that could be delivered.

"Poppy Seed Lane" was also presented to Alpha House Kindergarten students, who sat mesmerized and engaged in the show. We salute the seventh grade students for sharing their creativity and enthusiasm with the school community! *Kindness* is contagious - pass it on!

Thanks to seventh grade students Ruby Malak for her skills in the make-up department and Madison Schwegler for assisting Mrs. Ayes!

Pictured at right - Standing: Mrs. Maureen Ayes, Sam Hellings as *Astro Note*; Matthew Rueter as *Felipe the Flying Squirrel*; Riley Eisler as *Princess Pea*; Nancy Montanez as *Farmer Green*; Danielle Shead as *Stuart the Unicorn*; Lauren Cantwell as *Olivia Octavia Octopus*; Madison Pristera as *Beatrice Bee*; Tracy Marcelis as *Brooke the Bookworm*; Michele Anzabi as *Dr. Jerry Raffe*; Nicolette Fila as *Charlie the Unicorn*. *Seated are:* Samantha Lorenzo as *Clumsy the Elephant*; Chloe Roberts as *Larry the Lawyer* and Julia Halas as *Carmen the Camel*.



Science: A Passion For Discovery

2013 - 2014 ANNUAL FUND

Let's Support the Next Generations of Dreamers!

The high academic standards of Nazareth Academy Grade School have continued to grow with the needs of our students. Our goal is to offer a science program that will improve the lives of our students and prepare them for the world they will inherit. **Science should make sense, be relevant, and be interesting and fun!**

A solid understanding of science is a vital part of human knowledge. Science involves communication with other people, develops patience, perseverance and serves as a pathway to solve problems encountered in everyday life. Nearly everything we use, touch, eat, drink and see or do every day is the result of scientific thinking. With that thought in mind, we want to give our students the tools to *think better, create better, understand better, and make intelligent decisions better.*

Help Us Increase the Impact of our Science Curriculum

The Annual Fund is a lasting way to bring our community together, joining with our parents, alumni and friends to put much needed resources into the hands of our students. Nazareth Academy Grade School's science program consistently emphasizes that enjoying and applying scientific thinking is something that every child can achieve. Your support can ensure that science is fun and accessible with hands-on and engaging projects for all of our students in grades one through eight.

Your support will:

- Help purchase Science Kits for the Science Lab
- Help increase the quantity and quality of lab experiments
- Help provide Professional Development for our teachers who bring science to life for our students

Science Creates Jobs for the Future

As science and technology play an increasing central role in the economy, current elementary science must meet the challenge of preparing students for high school and beyond. Interest in middle school science is an early predictor of whether students study science in college. A good formal science education allows students to acquire relevant scientific knowledge and helps them build upon their evidence-based thinking and problem-solving skills.

Scientific solutions are also needed in addressing the many challenges our world faces today; such as, climate change, healthcare, sustainable sources of energy, clean water and food supplies. *Over the past 50 years, half of our Gross Domestic Product has come from scientific discoveries!** *Students need an educational background in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) to compete globally, and will need even more in the future.* For the United States to remain the global innovation leader, we must make the most of all of the potential STEM talent this country has to offer. **You can help give our students the evolving tools to fit the ever-changing course of technology and science.**

*Alivisatos, Paul; Isaacs, Eric D.; Mason, Thom. "The Sequester Is Going Devastate U.S. Science Research for Decades." The Atlantic Monthly (March 2013).



GIVING BACK HAS NEVER BEEN SO EASY!

Each gift, combined with the gifts of others, will make an immediate impact on the life of today's students.

Donations can be made securely online at: www.nazarethacademy.net. Click "Development" and "Donate Now."

We invite our entire community to participate in the Annual Fund and become members of the following giving levels:

- Blessed Frances Siedliska Society*.....\$5,000 and above**
- Pope John Paul II Society.....\$2,500 to \$4,999**
- Family Circle.....\$1,000 to \$2,499**
- Principal's Circle.....\$500 to \$999**
- NAGS Club.....\$100 to \$499**
- Maroon and Gray Club.....\$1 to \$99**

* Perpetual membership

Name: _____

If alumna, Maiden Name: _____

Class of: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

DONATION: \$ _____ Check Enclosed: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to "NAGS" or bill my  or  :

Name on card: _____

Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Optional - This gift is given in memory of, or in honor of: _____

BEQUESTS:

Please contact me regarding a bequest.
Phone _____

MATCHING GIFTS:

My/Spouse's company will match this gift. The matching gift form is enclosed.

Employer: _____

Please make checks payable to "NAGS" and mail to:

Nazareth Academy Grade School, ATTN: Development Office, 4701 Grant Avenue, Phila., PA 19114

While contributions may be outright gifts, there are other options in donating to Nazareth Academy Grade School. For more information, contact: Patricia McGarvey, Development Director, at 215-637-7777, Ext. 206, or email: nagsalumni@aol.com.

Nazareth Academy Grade School is a non profit (c) (3) organization listed in "The Official Catholic Directory" under Elementary Schools, Private, Archdiocese of Philadelphia.



Nazareth Academy
Grade School

4701 Grant Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19114

215-637-7777

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Email: nagsalumni@aol.com

Summer 2013

NONPROFIT ORG.

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 9/4/13 First Day of School
- 9/6/13 First Friday Liturgy
- 9/8/13 New Families' Liturgy
- 9/12/13 Faith Fair, NAGSPA Meeting
- 9/14/13 NAGSPA Car Wash
- 9/30/13 Grandparents' Day
- 9/30/13 NAGSPA Family Night at Santucci's
- 10/4/13 First Friday Liturgy, Faculty Meeting
- 10/7/13 Third Grade Celebration of Belonging



MAY GOD BLESS THE THIRD GRADE CLASS ON THEIR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION
MAY 4, 2013