

# IA News

The Official News Source for Immaculata Academy Parents & Students

Winter 2008 - Issue 2

## IA Students Lend a Helping Hand to Habitat for Humanity



Several students, teachers, and an IA alumna recently volunteered their time to help build a home for Habitat for Humanity. The group, part of Franciscans in Service, spent a Saturday afternoon learning the basics of ceiling painting, helping to put the finishing touches on a house that will soon be home to an African immigrant, his wife and their two children.

The students who participated were Danielle Kaveney, Sarah Horvath, Emily Simson, Megan Smith, Marissa Miniri, Nicole Weiss, Jane Robertson, Jessica Strozyk, and Taylor Stahl, along with alumna Ashley Lorifice.

### Donations Needed - Loveable Lullabies Project

Through December 23rd, the Helping Hands Club will be collecting new or gently used childrens pajamas, story books and stuffed animals in an effort to make bedtime special for the 33 adopted children in Sierra Leone, West Africa that were highlighted at a recent assembly at IA.

The goal of the project is to help those children feel secure and special in their new home, which is currently being built.

Donations can be brought to the main lobby at the school.

## First Quarter Honor Roll

### Angola

Alyssa Phillips, First Honors  
Angel Leverenz, Third Honors  
Samantha Aikin, Third Honors  
Kelly O'Donnell, Second Honors  
Kaitlind Kaylor, Second Honors  
Julie Sullivan, Second Honors  
Alexandra Rosenlund, Second Honors

### Blasdell

Sarah Horvath, First Honors  
Rebecca Bratek, Second Honors  
Genevieve Coughlin, Second Honors

### Boston

Elizabeth Janak, Second Honors  
Mary Solak, Third Honors  
Christie Stevens, Second Honors

### Buffalo

Ashley Bereziuk, Third Honors  
Courtney Colern, Second Honors  
Marissa Fielding, Second Honors  
Bobbie Hangen, First Honors  
Danielle Herrmann, First Honors  
Renee Herrmann, Second Honors  
Meghann Knott, First Honors  
Jacqueline Krajnik, Second Honors  
Kaitlyn Lopez, First Honors  
Marissa Miniri, Second Honors  
Nora O'Malley, Third Honors  
Amanda Preston, Second Honors  
Tara Quinn, Second Honors  
Chelsey Rogowski, Third Honors  
Lynn Schmitt, Second Honors  
Taylor Stahl, Second Honors  
Jennifer Tojek, Second Honors  
Chelsea Zakowski, Second Honors  
Kayla Zielezinski, Second Honors  
Jonabeth Zoldos, Second Honors  
Lisa Rae Zoldos, Second Honors

### Cheektowaga

Alexandra Lettieri, Third Honors  
Candice Roberts, Second Honors

(Continued, page 4)

### In This Issue:

Principal's Corner.....	2
New IA Clothing .....	2
New Classes at IA.....	2
Guidance Info.....	3
New Scholarship at IA.....	4
Kaplan Test Prep.....	4

Visit us online at  
[www.ImmaculataAcademy.com](http://www.ImmaculataAcademy.com)

# Principal's Corner



It is with great pride and emotion that I write this, on the evening of our closing show of *Cinderella*, Immaculata Academy's first musical in forty years! It has been a wonderful and exhilarating ride, from the first moment when Father Mark Skura said to me, "Now that your auditorium has been renovated, why don't you put on a musical? It's a perfect time for it." Being a lover of musicals myself and remembering my great times in the St. Francis musicals, I then sent out an e-mail to see who was interested. Within a week, we formed a core committee of some very energetic and talented people. They knew all the hard work that a musical would entail and they said yes anyway! My family knows that *Cinderella* has always been my very favorite musical, and to sit with them over this weekend and see our own young women and young men perform it, and to hear my teenage theme song, "In my Own Little Corner" on our stage made us all cry with hope and possibility. Immaculata pulled together to do something that was magical and wonderful, and every piece fit together perfectly. Thanks to all our patrons and supporters of the show, who quickly helped us recoup our modest budget. This was a missing piece of what Immaculata can offer young women, and now I believe we have it ALL. "Thank you" could never be enough to all of you for all your time, hard work, creativity and effort in putting on this show, and to our talented bright students who were the stars of the weekend. A mother told me last night that this is the most exciting thing her daughter has EVER been involved in, and I think that is thanks enough for all of us. Hug your family close and enjoy the moments this holiday season offers. Thank you for your generous and continued support for our family at Immaculata Academy. "It's possible!"

*Mary Lou Stahl*

Mary Lou Stahl, Principal

# Humor & Wisdom

"Education is being able to listen to almost anything without losing your temper or your self-confidence."

-Robert Frost

When the character of a man is not clear to you, look at his friends.

-Japanese Proverb

"Character cannot be developed in ease and quiet. Only through experience of trial and suffering can the soul be strengthened, ambition inspired, and success achieved."

-Hellen Keller

"If you want children to keep their feet on the ground, put some responsibility on their shoulders."

- Abigail van Buren

"Thank you, your Holiness. Awesome speech."

-George W. Bush to Pope Benedict XVI

## NEW IA APPEARAL



Just in time for Christmas, Immaculata has launched a new line of IA clothing, available

exclusively through the web site. The new line features sporty t-shirts, sweatpants, hoodies, shorts, and even some gifts for an IA Dad. Our most popular items are the pink IA shirts, with a portion of the proceeds going to benefit the local chapter of Komen For A Cure and breast cancer research.

Visit [www.ImmaculataAcademy.com](http://www.ImmaculataAcademy.com) and click on the Bear's Lair Store link on the left side.

## NEW CLASSES AT IA



Freshmen Alicia Porack & Maggie Schunk assemble a computer.

With continuing advances in technology, IA has added computer assembly to the Intro to Computer curriculum, where freshmen learn how to assemble a computer from start to finish.

IA has also added a Sports Marketing class, where students learn the business of marketing sports. The class focuses on the event Coaches vs. Cancer, where they will plan the event, including sponsorships, prize donations, concessions, halftime entertainment, ticket sales, advertising, management structure and accounting. The class culminates with the students putting on the fundraiser, to benefit the American Cancer Society, during an IA basketball game.

# Guidance Department

## FRESHMEN

As expected, the class of 2012 has made a great addition to our IA family! Your daughters appear to be adjusting to the demands of high school nicely and many are taking advantage of the many things that our school has to offer. If students are not involved in extracurricular activities at this time, it is not too late! Encourage your student(s) to find an activity that interests them and become involved! For a complete list of extracurricular activities offered at our school please refer to the IA website.

Please take the time to review how your daughter(s) are doing in all subject areas. Applaud their strengths and identify areas where they may need extra help before or after school. Once again, all teachers can be reached via email using their first initial and last name @ immaculataacademy.com. This information is also provided on the school website. We would be happy to discuss with you a strategy to help your daughter.

## JUNIORS

Will be receiving the results of the PSAT they took in October after the Christmas break. Students will be given their score report, as well as information on interpreting the information, and an access code to My College QuickStart.

My College QuickStart is an easy-to-use, online, personalized college and career planning kit available free of charge to all students who take the PSAT/NMSQT. The information and answers your child provided when they took the test are incorporated into this useful tool, and it presents their data back to them in four main parts:

- My Online Score Report- an enhanced score report that allows students to review each test question, the student's answer, and the correct answer with answer explanations.
- My SAT Study Plan- a customized SAT study plan based on student PSAT/NMSQT test performance, highlighting skills for review and practice.
- My College Matches- A starter list of colleges based on the student's state and indicated choice of major.
- My Major and Career Matches- Major and career matches that are compatible with the student's general interests and personality type.

Access is available using the access code printed on the student's paper score report, and the tool can be utilized throughout high school. Using My College QuickStart together with your child is a great way to introduce and guide your child through important aspects of the college-going process. Visit [www.collegeboard.com/quickstart](http://www.collegeboard.com/quickstart).

Information for parents will also be available on Edline.

**Juniors** will also be attending the **National College Fair** at the Buffalo Convention Center on **March 17, 2009**. Students will receive more information as we get closer to that day.

## SOPHOMORES

The PLAN test was administered to all sophomores in October and the results are in! As a "pre-ACT" test, the PLAN is a powerful predictor of success on the ACT. This test also helps students to recognize academic strengths and weakness, explore career options, and make plans for the remaining years of high school to ensure future success.

After the holiday break, students will be given their results and an opportunity to discuss what these scores mean. These results should be coming home to you! Please review the scores with your daughters. For more information log onto [www.planstudent.org](http://www.planstudent.org).

## SENIORS

College applications have all been processed. Thank you all for following the procedures. It really makes the whole process easier! Should you receive letters indicating information is missing, please call the college admissions office to double check with them. Let us know and we will send additional copies. Next, fill out the scholarship applications. Scholarship information is given to Mrs. Wiatrowski and is listed on Edline.

### Useful Websites

[www.edline.net](http://www.edline.net)  
[www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)  
[www.fafsa.org](http://www.fafsa.org)  
[www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)

**Senior parents: Financial Aid: When and how to file** (*taken from [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)*)

*Students can't file the FAFSA before January 1, but should file it very soon after that date. Assure families that it is acceptable and in fact is the norm to use estimated income and other figures on the FAFSA. Tell parents not to wait until they prepare their final tax forms but to use pay stubs and other records to complete the document, preferably by early February. They will be able to change information later.*

**The FAFSA can be filed on paper or electronically** at the **FAFSA page**([www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)) on the FSA website. Urge students to file electronically. This method is fastest and has the advantage of online prompts that help families avoid mistakes.

Students who plan to file online will need a PIN—a personal identification number—before they can fill out the form. They should get that in November or December at the **Department of Education's PIN website**. ([www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov))

**Useful websites:**

**Colden**

Rebecca Tobin, Second Honors

**Collins**

Jane Robertson, First Honors  
Brittany Rebmann, Third Honors  
Meghan Giles, First Honors

**Depew**

Shelby Scibetta, Third Honors  
Amanda Weber, Third Honors  
Christina Ann Steck, Third Honors

**Derby**

Cailey Bardwell, Second Honors  
Danielle Kaveney, Second Honors  
Rachel Ricotta, Second Honors  
Leeann Tatar, First Honors

**Dunkirk**

Katherine Szejbka, First Honors

**East Aurora**

Erin Sendor, First Honors

**East Concord**

Ashley Darling, Third Honors

**Eden**

Danielle Distefano, First Honors  
Sarah Harris, First Honors  
Charlene Kabel, First Honors  
Amelia Summar, Second Honors  
Amber Penna, First Honors  
Nicole Ciesielski, Second Honors

**Elma**

Mary Pivarunas, First Honors  
Juliane Stachowski, Third Honors  
Alexis Snyder, Second Honors

**Farnham**

Jackie Freidenberg, Third Honors

**Glenwood**

Erin Rollins, Third Honors

**Hamburg**

Caitlyn Fennell, First Honors  
Shannon Weiss, First Honors  
Jessica Weiss, First Honors  
Korleen Brady, First Honors  
Meghan Hayes, First Honors  
Margaret Schunk, First Honors  
Brittany Wolf, First Honors  
Courtney Wolf, First Honors  
Meghan Hennessy, First Honors  
Marissa Heilig, First Honors  
Katlyn Grasso, First Honors  
Alyssa Iglewski, Second Honors  
Kathryn Ziolo, Second Honors  
Kara O'Brien, Second Honors  
Julie Salisbury, Second Honors  
Maria Sodaro, Second Honors  
Francesca Hietanen, Second Honors  
Caitlin Hull, Second Honors  
Alexis Perez, Second Honors  
Elaina Perez, Second Honors  
Bridget Philbin, Second Honors  
Maureen Starkey, Second Honors  
Rheanna Gallego, Second Honors  
Victoria Drago, Second Honors  
Megan Smith, Second Honors  
Ciara Williams, Second Honors  
Jacquelyn Orchard, Second Honors  
Alicia Porack, Second Honors  
Alicia Dolan, Second Honors  
Brittany Troy, Third Honors  
Alexis Hajiaskari, Third Honors  
Jillian Fitzner, Third Honors  
Leigha Hewitt, Third Honors  
Jillian Hughes, Third Honors  
Meghan Moylan, Third Honors  
Jillian Piccirilli, Third Honors  
Mary Morgan, Third Honors  
Sophia McKeone, Third Honors  
Nicole Haas, Third Honors  
Erin McGrath, Third Honors  
Chelsea O'Connor-Rosiek, Third Honors  
Sarah Oguich, Third Honors  
Alexandra Wysocki, Third Honors  
Mary Daly, Third Honors  
Yiru (Albee) Dong, Third Honors

**Lackawanna**

Jacquelyn Skobjak, First Honors  
Alyssa Marie Larivey, First Honors  
Brittany Boechel, Second Honors  
Allison Cullens, Second Honors  
Lauren McHugh, Second Honors  
Chloe McKee, Second Honors  
Francesca Selvaggio, Second Honors  
Emily Simson, Second Honors  
Erin Smith, Second Honors  
Emily Vizzi, Second Honors  
Gabrielle Leo, Second Honors  
Candace Pieczynski, Second Honors  
Margaret Sobaszek, Second Honors  
Kelsey Anderson, Third Honors  
Amanda Rivera, Third Honors  
Samantha Ziomek, Third Honors  
Shelby Gawley, Third Honors  
Amy Marciniak, Third Honors  
Alexandra Pawlowski, Third Honors

**Lake View**

Kristen Kaszubowski, First Honors  
Kelsey Morgan, First Honors  
Andrea DeGrave, First Honors  
Bridget Kruszka, Second Honors  
Jessica Strozyk, Second Honors  
Yu Seon (Emma) Lee, Second Honors  
Krista Wagner, Second Honors  
Caitlin Manley, Third Honors  
Lindsey Blair, Third Honors

**Lancaster**

Allison Wozniak, Third Honors  
Ryeo Gyeong Park, Second Honors

**North Collins**

Samantha Maggio, First Honors  
Julia Tremblay, Second Honors

**Orchard Park**

Theresa Rinaldo, First Honors  
Nicole Weiss, First Honors  
Grace Wach, First Honors  
Rachel Wach, First Honors  
Renee Bellis, First Honors  
Sydney Godwin, Second Honors  
Megan Aldrich, Second Honors

Rachel Wannemacher, Second Honors  
Barrett Armstrong, Second Honors  
Ariel Jerard, Second Honors  
Alana Winnert, Second Honors  
Emily Slominski, Second Honors  
Brigid Gallagher, Third Honors  
Elizabeth Szpara, Third Honors  
Lisa Pasnik, Third Honors  
Jillian Zak, Third Honors  
Cecilia Chmurzynski, Third Honors

**Springville**

Alison Wilkie, Second Honors  
Natalie Schichtel, Second Honors

**West Falls**

Kelsey Badding, Second Honors

**West Seneca**

Lindsay Nowak, First Honors  
Ashley Bates, First Honors  
Sarah Boehringer, First Honors  
Natalie Rieman, First Honors  
Mia Simoncelli, First Honors  
Margaret Leslie, First Honors  
Natalie Vetter, First Honors  
Madisen Hughes, Second Honors  
Rachel Steczkowski, Second Honors  
Laura Haas, Second Honors  
Colleen Grabar, Second Honors  
Caitlyn Ebert, Second Honors  
Emily Kavanaugh, Second Honors  
Tea Kritic, Second Honors  
Nina Simoncelli, Second Honors  
Amanda Vetter, Second Honors  
Katherine Vetter, Second Honors  
Jeong Cho, Second Honors  
Kayla Weir, Third Honors  
Alexandra Dobrick, Third Honors  
Jennifer Goracke, Third Honors  
Megan Fink, Third Honors  
Erika Hill, Third Honors  
Samantha Hill, Third Honors  
Madeline Kavanaugh, Third Honors

**Williamsville**

Jessica Hall, First Honors

## Golden Rule Scholarship Fund

A new scholarship fund has been established at Immaculata Academy by alumna and current IA nurse, Bonnie Lindstrom, who is also an independent consultant for Mary Kay Cosmetics.

The **Golden Rule Scholarship** will be awarded annually to upperclassmen with a minimum 80% GPA, who exhibit good christian qualities, and best define the Golden Rule; Do unto others, as you would want done unto yourself. The award will also be based on the principles of Mary Kay Ash, founder of Mary Kay Cosmetics; God first, family second, and career third.

To raise money for the scholarship fund, Ms. Lindstrom is designating 20% of the proceeds from sales on her web site, until December 19. To purchase items and help fund this worthwhile scholarship, visit [www.marykay.com/bonnielindstrom](http://www.marykay.com/bonnielindstrom). You may also contact Bonnie at 649-9361. Thanks in advance for your support of Immaculata Academy.

## Kaplan Test Prep Courses

Kaplan Test Prep will once again be offering an SAT prep course this winter at Immaculata Academy in preparation for the May 2009 SAT. The class is scheduled to begin February 24. Detailed course information can be found at [www.kaplantest.com/sat](http://www.kaplantest.com/sat) or by calling 636-1882.

For more than 70 years, Kaplan has helped millions of students achieve higher test scores.