

George Washington High School's I.B. Broadcaster



World School

A publication of the IB Parents Association of GWHS

August/September 2013 – Vol. 26, Issue 1

From co-Presidents Leslie Lilly and Cora Neslin



Welcome to all George Washington IB students and their families. We especially want to

welcome this year's

freshmen and other new students to George Washington High School and to the IB program, the oldest and the finest IB program in the state!

We are excited to be heading up the IB Parents' Association together again this year. We both have had children in the IB program for a number of years and have been involved with the IBPA and George Washington community in many ways during that time. We hope you will become involved with both the school and the IBPA and become as passionate about GW and IB as we are.

The role of the IB Parents' Association is to provide students and families with support via informative and educational gatherings and meetings. We also support our incredible faculty and staff. The board is composed of current IB parents and is supported in many endeavors by IB alumni parents. We can't thank our dedicated parents and alumni parents enough for everything they do.

Thanks to the hard work of alumni parent **Debi Roads**, we are excited to be introducing Nook Readers to our program this year. All incoming freshmen should have their new Nooks by now. During the education segment of the Biennial of the Americas held in Denver over the summer, Dept. of Education Secretary Arne Duncan

stressed the importance of every student having access to new technology. The GWIB program is proud to be embracing this ideal.

Our first IB event of the year will be our annual Welcome Picnic to be held on August 28 from 5:00 – 7:30 p.m. at Creekside Park. This get acquainted gathering for both new and returning families is a great way to socialize with one another and to meet IB teachers in a casual setting.

IB life at GW is exciting, all-encompassing, challenging and rewarding. We hope that both you and your students take advantage of all the good things that IB has to offer. Supporting the IBPA with your time, talents and financial resources is a direct way to stay connected and to be "in the know" as we help our children succeed not only as IB students, but also as "citizens of the world."

Again, welcome to GW and to the IB program and we look forward to working with each of you during the coming school year.



—*Cora Neslin and Leslie Lilly*

IBPA Co-Presidents

Coming Next Month...

In the October issue of the Broadcaster, look for an announcement of a Whole Foods Fundraiser.



It's almost here!

**Wednesday, August 28, 2013,
5:00 to 7:30 PM (rain or shine)**

**Get Acquainted Picnic at
Creekside Park in Glendale –
4400 E VIRGINIA AVE**

IB Families and Students: Please join us for this annual event. It's a great opportunity to meet and mingle with both returning and new IB families and faculty. Students: bring your volleyballs and Frisbees! The IB Parent Association will provide the beverages and entrée.



Please help make this a delicious event. Families with:

- Last name A-P bring a side dish, salad, or appetizer
- Last name Q-Z bring fruit or dessert

Directions: From Colorado Boulevard, go east on Virginia, then turn right (south) on Clermont, then go one block to the park. Questions: call Jody Kerr at 303-748-1963.



KUDOS!

Congratulations to Zach Moorman for winning \$2500 at the Optimist Oratorical Contest in May. He competed in four levels of competition over two months, culminating in the Colorado-Wyoming District contest. He presented an original oratory on the given topic "Why My Voice is Important." Good job, Zach!



Coming GWIB Events

- August 26 First Day of school for freshmen
August 27 First Day of school for all others
August 28 Get Acquainted Picnic 4-8 PM at Creekside Park
September 1 Labor Day—No School



**Please give to the Friends of IB
Foundation online at
www.georgeib.com**

Teacher of the Year

Kati Dugan and the rest of the class of 2013 HL Psych class nominated **Ms. Melanie Bryant** for KBCO Teacher of the Year back in April. They learned on May 20 that Ms. Bryant was one of four teachers to win the award.

Please congratulate Ms. Bryant when you see her, and [click here to read the nomination letter](#) that the students submitted to help her win.



Give to Your Child: Volunteer with the IB Parents' Association – Come One - Come All!

Whether they admit it to you or not, when you volunteer to help at school, children notice. And it means a lot to them – and to the school! You can give a gift to both by volunteering for IB Parent Association projects. Keep in mind that we all know everyone is very busy, and as a volunteer you will not be called on to do too much! Your child thanks you, and GW thanks you! If you have any questions about, or would like to help with any of the various committees listed, please feel free to contact any of the current members of the Association board. Please help us continue our tradition of volunteer service by giving a little of your time to ensure our students, teachers, staff and families receive the benefits of a strong parent group!

Some of the activities the IB Parent Association is involved in are:

- Teacher Appreciation
- Volunteer Coordination
- IB Ambassadors Outreach Programs
- Get Acquainted Picnic
- georgeib.com website
- Monthly articles for the Broadcaster
- 8th grade Welcome Fest
- IB graduate student panel
- CAS
- Distinguished Teacher Award
- Freshman Orientation

Download the complete DPS Calendar at <http://www.dpsk12.org/calendars/>

Boys Swimming

GW's boys swim team had a terrific 2013 season. The team had an outstanding second place finish at the DPL meet, which was one of the most competitive league meets in history. The team had two individual state qualifiers **Ryan Brandorff** and **Kaima Smith**, and all three relays qualified for the state meet. The team represented GW proudly at the state meet in Grand Junction in May. The team will miss two 2013 graduates, **Henry Bowditch** and **Boris Plotkin**, but we are excited to continue building on last year's success in 2014.

—Richard Leeds



I.B. Broadcaster

A Note from the Newsletter Editor:

It is my privilege to help the IBPA in this monthly effort to communicate with the entire GW IB Community. Please don't hesitate to contact me at any time if you wish to add an announcement or an article. Items large and small are welcome. Help get the word out!

It's especially gratifying to acknowledge the wonderful accomplishments of our outstanding student body, so don't hesitate to brag about your students, and send photos too. Please e-mail your contributions to me, Paul Day-Lucre, at pkdaylu@gmail.com.

I'm also grateful for your corrections and I will publish those in the next issue.

Meanwhile, don't hesitate to visit the georgeib.com website, enter your e-mail address in the green box on the right side, and then click "GO." You will receive e-mail notification each time a new electronic edition is available on the website.

Speech and Debate



L to R: Jack Glaser, Margaret Schaack, Langston Williams, Maryrose Kohan (coach), Katherine Linder (Assistant Coach) Adam Wise, Suzannah Steele

Five GW students participated in a week-long National Speech and Debate Tournament of the National Forensic League in Birmingham, Alabama, in June.

The students qualified for nationals by winning first or second in the Rocky Mountain Regional Speech and Debate Tournament last April.

The results for our team at Nationals:

- Margaret Schaack placed in the top 30 in US Extemporaneous Speaking
- Jack Glaser placed 13th in International Extemporaneous Speaking
- Langston Williams took 6th place in Congressional Debate

The GW Speech & Debate team also won awards as a school of honor in both speech and debate.

Congratulations to the entire team, and we look forward to another great year in 2013-14!



National History Day

George Washington's National History Day team competed exceptionally well at the National Competition at the University of Maryland in June. GW had three projects that qualified for the competition. A paper by Binyu Jiang finished second in the Colorado competition. A group exhibit on the transcontinental railroad by Sarah Nick, Sara Papich, Samantha Almon, and Sophie Levine won best entry from Colorado and placed fourth at nationals. The individual exhibit on the Balfour Declaration by Margaret Schaack placed ninth at the national competition.

Congratulations to all students who competed in this year's National History Day competitions, and we look forward to another great year in 2014!



A joint letter from the Friends of IB Scholars Foundation and the IB Parents Association to the GW IB Community



Dear George Washington IB Parents, Students, and Faculty,

As the new school year begins, we thought this would be a good time to explain again the interaction of the Friends of IB Scholars Foundation and the IB Parents Association.

The Friends of IB Scholars Foundation was established by a group of IB parents and faculty in 1995 to support the IB program at George Washington by funding activities related to the GW IB program. These activities include loans to needy students for the cost of IB exams and books; grants to teachers for advising on IB extended essays; requests from IB teachers for equipment, books, subscriptions, and continuing education; loans to the Model UN group, support for National History Day participation by IB students, and other such requests. The Foundation also funds the position for the part-time college counselor for IB juniors and seniors. Through its tax exempt, 501(c)(3) status, the Foundation offers the opportunity for tax-deductible contributions. The Foundation Board, comprised of IB parents, an IB faculty member, IB Program Director Suzanne Geimer, and alumni parents, meets several times a year.

The IB Parents Association was formed more than 15 years ago by IB parents to support the IB program at George Washington by organizing informational and educational meetings for IB parents and students about the IB program, the college application process and other topics of interest to IB families; organizing social and student recruiting activities for the IB program; providing support for the IB program through the Creativity, Action, Service (CAS) component of the IB program; providing teacher appreciation events and gifts for the IB faculty; organizing the IB Senior Brunch; and publishing the IB Directory and the IB Broadcaster newsletter to enhance communication among IB families. The Association also helps to fund projects that support programs at George Washington outside of the IB program in which IB students participate, such as drama, music and sports. The Foundation provides some financing for the Parents Association, and collects the dues for the Association.

We encourage IB families to support both of these organizations, whose success is critical to the continued excellence of the GW IB program. Your annual dues are necessary, at a minimum, to maintain the funding support of the program, but we also welcome additional donations.

Donations can be made online: <https://secure.qgiv.com/for/?key=friendsofib>. Or, fill out the form at: http://www.georgeib.com/pdf/GWIB_Donation_Form_2009_09.pdf and mail it to: John Murray, Treasurer, 1243 South Williams Street, Denver, CO 80210.

Here's knowing you and your student(s) will have a great school year in IB!

—Tom Zeiler, President, Friends of IB Scholars Foundation

—Cora Neslin and Leslie Lilly, Co-Presidents, IB Parents Association



THE IB COLLEGE COUNSELING CORNER



This feature of the Broadcaster helps keep you informed about important dates, activities, and meetings that are related to the college application process. It is extremely important for students to plan ahead so as not to miss deadlines and not to overwhelm faculty and administrators with last-minute requests which they may not be able to accommodate.

Leigh Cassidy-Harkleroad is the GWHS counselor for all IB and 10th grade pre-IB students. She can be contacted by phone at 720-423-8604 or by email at Leigh_Cassidy-Harkleroad@dpsk12.org.

Jay McCann is the GWHS counselor for 9th grade pre-IB students and he can be reached by phone at 720-423-8670 or by email at Jeremiah_McCann@dpsk12.org.

Michael Jennings remains at the Future Center and can be reached at 720-423-8727 or Michael_Jennings@dpsk12.org.

The GWHS Counseling Department has developed a website with numerous resources for our students and parents. The website includes information on all aspects of college admissions, testing and dates, financial aid, as well as other resources. Please visit us at gwhscounseling.weebly.com to take advantage of this resource.

PSAT – The Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) is a program co-sponsored by the College Board and the [National Merit Scholarship Corporation \(NMSC\)](http://www.nmsc.org). It's a standardized test that provides firsthand practice for the SAT®. It also enters you into the NMSC scholarship programs to gain access to college and career planning tools. The PSAT/NMSQT is taken by **juniors** and GW is offering the exam on Saturday, October 19, 2013 at 8:00 AM. **You must sign up with Ms. Cassidy in room 125 by September 13, 2013.** The fee for the 2013 PSAT/NMSQT is \$20.

ACT & SAT – Students planning to attend a four-year post-secondary institution directly after graduation will most likely need to take either the ACT or the SAT as part of the admission process. Please refer to your prospective colleges' websites for testing requirements. Details and online registration are available at www.act.org (ACT) and www.collegeboard.com (SAT).

STANDARDIZED TEST	TEST DATE	REGISTRATION DEADLINE	DEADLINE FOR LATE REGISTRATION (additional fee)
ACT with writing option	21-Sept	passed	6-Sept
SAT or Subject Tests	5-Oct	6-Sept	20-Sept
PSAT/NMSQT (G11, some G10)	19-Oct	Registration through GW Counseling Office	
ACT with writing option	26-Oct	27-Sept	11-Oct
SAT or Subject Tests	2-Nov	3-Oct	18-Oct
SAT or Subject Tests	7-Dec	8-Nov	22-Nov
ACT with writing option	14-Dec	8-Nov	22-Nov
SAT or Subject Tests	25-Jan	27-Dec	10-Jan
ACT with writing option	8-Feb	10-Jan	24-Jan
SAT only – no Subject Tests	8-Mar	7-Feb	21-Feb
ACT with writing option	12-Apr	7-Mar	21-Mar
ACT without writing option	22-Apr	Juniors only - registration through GWHS	
SAT or Subject Tests	3-May	4-Apr	18-Apr
SAT or Subject Tests	7-Jun	9-May	23-May
ACT with writing option	14-Jun	9-May	23-May

Important Upcoming Dates – Please check the GWHS Website Calendar for changes

***August 28, Wednesday: Mrs. Geimer** will meet with **all seniors** to collect the following materials: a draft of the Common Application main essay, the School Report Form from the Common Application with student section *completed and signed*, the names of two teachers who have agreed to write letters of recommendation, an updated résumé/list of activities, and a list of up to seven colleges to which the student plans to apply.

September 18: College Admissions Night for 12th grade parents. 6:30-7:30 PM in the Community Room

***September 24: College Readiness Day** for students only of all grade levels at various locations throughout the school day.

October 1: Deadline for IB Test fees to be paid to IB Office. IB test registrations will take place in the IB Office between October 1 and October 18. Tests will take place in May 2014 ([Click Here for a PDF schedule](#) of the exams.)

October 1: CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE, required for aid/scholarship consideration at many private colleges, becomes available for online filing.

October 1: Deadline for Seniors to submit **Early Decision** and **Early Action** college application details to IB Counseling Office.

October 9: CSS Profile Night, for select 12th grade parents from 6:30-7:30 PM in the Future Center.

October 12: Saturday College Fair (In- and Out-of-State), 10:00 AM-12:30 PM, Mountain Vista HS, 10585 Mountain Vista Ridge, Highlands Ranch, offered by College Fairs of Greater Denver (www.collegefairsdenver.org). This is the largest of the college fairs, with many schools represented and a wide variety of workshops and information sessions for students and parents. Additional fairs are held Wednesday evening October 9 at Monarch High School and Thursday evening October 10 at JFK High School.

October 16: Preparing Your 9th Grader for College – presentation for 9th grade parents from 6:30-7:30 PM in the Community Room.

October 22, Tuesday, 9:30 – 10:30 AM: GWHS will host a **College Fair** run by Colorado Day/Night College Fair Programs. Evening sessions of this fair are offered at several metro area schools; see www.coloradocouncil.org.

October 22: Athletic and NCAA Presentation for all parents from 6:30-7:30 PM in the Community Room.

November 1: Deadline for seniors to submit their portions of **Early Decision and Early Action applications** to many colleges. Check your selected schools' timelines and requirements carefully.

November 13: Financial Aid Night for 11th and 12th grade parents from 6:30-7:30 in the Community Room.

December 2: Deadline for seniors to submit **Regular and Rolling Decision application** details to IB Office. Complete your "Colleges to which I'm applying" list in Naviance now as well.

January 1, 2014: Deadline for submitting **Regular Decision applications** to many colleges. Again, check your selected schools' requirements carefully. Some schools have earlier deadlines if you want to be considered for scholarships. The **FAFSA application** becomes available online and should be completed by aid applicants and their parents ASAP.

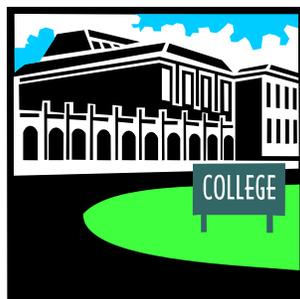
February 20, 2014: College Meeting for juniors, from 1:20-2:56 PM in the Auditorium.

February 26, 2014: FAFSA Night for 12th grade parents from 5:30-7:30 PM, Room 320-322.

***April 22, 2014:** State-mandated **ACT** testing for all **juniors**. GW arranges registration and fees, and the test is administered during the school day. Please note that this version of the ACT does **not** include the optional Writing Test.

**Student-only events*

Leigh Cassidy, IB Counselor



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Student Directory Chair

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IB Ambassadors Chair

Broadcaster Editor

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