

# George Washington High School's I.B. Broadcaster



## World School

A publication of the IB Parents Association of GWHS

March 2011 – Vol. 23, Issue 5

### From the Board



February was a busy month in the GWIB office. Applicants for 2011-2012 continued to keep **Ms. Geimer** and **Ms. Lane** busy with interviews, questions, and last minute paperwork, leading up to the mailing of admission decision letters.

With the frigid temperature and icy road conditions, I thought it best to cancel the February 8th IB Parent/Student meeting featuring a discussion on potential pitfalls and temptations students may face with the knowledgeable and highly experienced retired Denver Juvenile Judge Dana Wakefield, former Douglas County Juvenile Prosecutor Pam Wakefield. I'm hoping to reschedule this eye-opening meeting with the Wakefields for next February.

We're looking forward to meeting many of the incoming freshmen (and transfer students) at the upcoming **Welcome Fest** on Tuesday, March 8, at 5:30 PM. That day is also the deadline for them to submit reply letters, accepting or rescinding their places in the Class of 2015. Many thanks to Welcome Fest chair **Linda Williams** for organizing this year's event. Student volunteers (greeters; club, sport, and activity reps, tour guides) and parent donors (water, cookies, goodies) are still very welcome. Please contact Ms. Williams at 303-752-2477 or [lindasue222@comcast.net](mailto:lindasue222@comcast.net).

The April IBPA meeting will be a kind of **"Everything You Wanted to Know about College Apps but Were Afraid to Ask"** session, and is mandatory for juniors and their parents. Ms. Geimer and Ms. Lane will provide detailed information, including specific due dates, to



help rising seniors get on top the process and stay there. The pace of the fall of senior year is incredibly fast and furious. This meeting will help tame the beast. Juniors: **DO NOT MISS THIS MEETING** – Tuesday, April 12, 6:30 – 8:00 PM in the Auditorium.

As always, the IBPA welcomes parent involvement. We want to extend a special welcome to new families and look forward to meeting you at upcoming events. Please feel free to contact me at [kbutkovich@comcast.net](mailto:kbutkovich@comcast.net) or 303-829-4414 with any questions – especially those regarding how you can get involved!

—*Kristi Butkovich, IBPA Board President*



### Class of 2011 GWHS IB Senior Brunch

Planning is getting underway for this wonderful celebration; more details will be sent in upcoming weeks. All IB Seniors and their families and the IB Faculty are invited. The event will be held on **Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>** at the DTC Doubletree Hotel — **please save this date!**

Seniors – we will be asking you to provide us with “Then and Now” photos and we hope that you will begin to think about the Senior Skit that has become part of the brunch tradition.

Please contact Julia Fitzpatrick at [juliafitzpatrick@msn.com](mailto:juliafitzpatrick@msn.com) if you can provide help with this event.



## Students from Spain Need Host Families!

**June 29-July 29, 2011**

Every summer for four weeks, Spanish is Fun provides exchange students (ages 13-17 years old) the opportunity to live with families in the Denver Metro area. Students will participate in weekly cultural excursions with us. Feel free to join in on the fun!

### Why host an Exchange student?

- Learn about Spain and Spanish culture;
- Develop Lifelong Friendships;
- Introduce your family to an international and cultural experience;
- Gain perspective on, and share your own culture;
- Open the door to future study abroad opportunities for your own kids!

**Call 303-200-0622 or e-mail [info@spanishisfun.net](mailto:info@spanishisfun.net)**



### College Prep Program

Peak Learning Solutions is offering a new College Prep Program this Spring!

The College Prep Program includes:

- 14 hours of class instruction
- Administration of a full length practice exam
- Method Test Prep's Combo Guide to the ACT and SAT
- One-on-One study skills assessment
- Consultation with a Certified Educational Planner

Contact [drewsarmiere@peaklearningsolutions.com](mailto:drewsarmiere@peaklearningsolutions.com)



**Tuesday, March 8 at 5:30 PM (NOTE the new time!)**

The IB Parent Association is pleased to announce the **2011 IB Welcome Fest** to be held on Tuesday, March 8 from 5:30-7 PM at George. This annual event highlights the extracurricular involvements of current IB students. Our students generously showcase their many talents, activities, and interests for the benefit of students who have been accepted to the IB program for the 2011-2012 school year. All prospective IB students and their parents have been invited to attend this unique opportunity to wander among IB students, who will be displaying and talking about their involvement in sports, clubs, art, drama, and more.

**Please encourage your current IB student to participate! Our students are GWIB's best advertisement.** Parent volunteers are also needed to help staff the event and/or to provide baked goods.

Please contact **Linda Williams** at [lindasue222@comcast.net](mailto:lindasue222@comcast.net) or 303-752-2477 if you'd like to help.



**“The Prince Is Giving a Ball!”**  
**Fourth Annual Performing Arts/Speech & Debate Silent Auction**  
**Friday, March 11 @ 5:30 PM**

The entire school community is invited to participate in a fun-filled evening of live entertainment, dinner, prizes, and, of course, fabulous shopping, to be held at GW—just prior to the March 11 performance of “Cinderella.” The proceeds of this event will help us upgrade our aging auditorium’s sound system and will also benefit the programs of GW’s Performing Arts and Speech & Debate Departments.

**PRE-REGISTER AND AVOID THE LINES!**

If you are planning to join us at the Silent Auction, you now have the opportunity to pre-register for a bidder number via this simple process:

Just e-mail us at [gwonstage@gmail.com](mailto:gwonstage@gmail.com)

E-mail Subject Line: **Pre-Register**

Include the following information in your e-mail message:

- **Name** (one bidder per family, please)
- **Address, City, Zip**                      • **Telephone**                      • **E-Mail Address**

We will confirm your registration and have your bidder number waiting for you in the “**EXPRESS LINE**”

***We have received many great donations... restaurant gift certificates, tickets to theatre and sporting events, beautiful themed baskets, and much, much more!***

If you have any questions about the auction including donation drop-off, please contact Marcia Bickel at 720-300-0560 or [gwonstage@gmail.com](mailto:gwonstage@gmail.com).

**We hope to see you at the auction!**



**Earn Cashback on Your Shopping and Support the Friends of IB Scholars Foundation**



Check out our web portal at

[www.marketamerica.com/georgeib](http://www.marketamerica.com/georgeib)

It doesn’t cost you a penny and you can earn Cashback on your purchases at over 3500 stores. Once you reach \$10 you can request a check for your Cashback! All purchases also benefit the **IB Foudation**. It’s a way you can give to the IB program for free!

Tax season is coming up fast, so if you need tax prep software try:

- **Turbo Tax**
- **Free Tax USA** – 2% Cashback
- **Complete Tax** – 2 % Cashback

- **Shoboxed.com** – 2 % Cashback – get your receipts organized for tax reporting
- Type tax software in the search box to find products available at many other stores such as **Staples, Meijer, Next Day PC** and more.

If you are making Spring Break travel plans, then use the webportal to book your flights, hotel, car, etc. “MA travel” (click the tab on the portal home page) is powered by **Travelocity** – and you get the same or better price! We also have **Priceline, Hotwire, Expedia** and many more travel-related sites. Click on the “Partner Stores” tab and filter by category “travel” to get a complete list.

Contact Amanda Halliday at 720-296-9185 or [amandahalliday@comcast.net](mailto:amandahalliday@comcast.net), if you need any assistance.

## GWIB Athletes Headed to Columbia and Stanford!

The NCAA's National Signing Day for football and 5 other sports garnered a lot of media attention recently. Rowing and swimming signing dates come in April and Ivy League schools do not participate in the National Letter of Intent process at all, so GWIB seniors **Amelia Brunner** and **Ben Holston** were not part of the hoopla. Not that they don't deserve it. They are just on a slightly different path.

Amelia has committed to Columbia University as a future member of the women's rowing team. Her 5'11" height is a definite asset in a sport where the average height of the USA national team (the world's tallest) is just over 6 feet. Amelia tried her hand at rowing for the first time in the summer of 2009 when she heard about "Learn to Row" classes offered through the new youth program at Mile High Rowing Club. She was hooked and joined the club that fall. Her coaches spotted her as a natural, and she quickly began moving up the competitive ranks. Her four took first place at regionals in Oklahoma City last spring and Amelia was invited to a development camp for the Junior National team last summer.

Ben has a swimming scholarship to Stanford University as a future member of their powerhouse men's swim team, ranked #2 nationally. He spent the first two years of high school at Kent before transferring to GW as a junior, but he has competed on the GW swim team since he was a freshman. Ben was named MVP for the Patriots Swim Team his sophomore and junior years. He has set numerous Colorado state records, is a high school state champion, was named to the All Colorado Team, and was named a High School All-American Swimmer the past three years. Ben has also been competing on the DU Hilltoppers team since 2005. He has several USA Swimming National Top-Ten times and he won the 1000-yard freestyle event at the Western Regional Championships in Seattle last spring.

There are some interesting parallels between Ben and Amelia. Both attended Ricks Center for Gifted Children at the University of Denver before high school; both are excellent students in the IB program at GW; both are National Merit Commended Students. And both are following in their parents' athletic footsteps. Ben's parents were both college athletes. Amelia's parents both rowed in college and have returned to the sport as competitive Masters rowers. Amelia and her mom have even rowed together in mother-daughter races!

Amelia and Ben are also following in the footsteps of many high-achieving scholar-athletes who found a good high school fit in the IB program at GW.



## Girls Swimming

George Washington HS and the GWIB program were well represented at the CHSAA Girls State Swimming Championship in Ft. Collins, February 11 and 12. Individual event qualifiers were **Catherine Maguire** (100 breast), **Erica Czajka** (50 free and 100 fly) and **Paige Witter** (200 IM and 100 fly). The GW 200 free relay team of **Alexandra Guy**, **Chloe Briney**, **Erica Czajka** and **Laura Moore** finished 13<sup>th</sup> at state and set a new all-time team record with a time of 1:42.91! The 200 medley relay team **Carolyn Marsh**, **Erica Czajka**, **Catherine Maguire**, and **Maya Learned** also set a new all-time team record during the course of the season.



GW Girls State Swim Meet Team: Front Row, L-R: **Kara Bausch**, **Catherine Maguire**, **Erica Czajka**, **Chloe Briney**, **Carolyn Marsh**, **Paige Witter**, and **Abby Godec**. Back Row L-R: **Julia Murphy**, **Maya Learned**, **Alexandra Guy** (DSA Student), and **Amelia Brunner**. Not pictured: **Laura Moore**

### ***Outstanding Female Student Athlete: Julia Murphy***

GWIB Senior **Julia Murphy** was one of 11 young women recognized as an Outstanding Female Student Athlete of the Year by the DPS Board of Education at its February 17 meeting. Each traditional Denver High School, plus Bruce Randolph High School, selects one female student athlete for this honor, which coincides with National Girls and Women in Sports Day (NGWSD).

Athletic Director **Doug Tucker** sought nominations from GW's coaches, and forwarded the names to GW's faculty. Julia received the highest number of faculty votes.

Read more about Julia and the award on the web:

[http://georgeib.com/pdf/JULIA\\_MURPHY\\_outstanding\\_female\\_athlete\\_final.pdf](http://georgeib.com/pdf/JULIA_MURPHY_outstanding_female_athlete_final.pdf)



### ***Poetry Out Loud!***

Our 2011 George Washington High Poetry Out Loud winner is **Claudia Zarcula**, who will represent the school at the State Competition in Lakewood on Feb. 28. **Amy Ziegler** is our runner-up.

The entire 10<sup>th</sup> grade took part in the competition at the classroom level. Claudia, Amy, and the following students advanced to compete at the school level February 7: **Elicia Dennis**, **Alex Dorosinskiy**, **David Kolet-Mandrikov**, **Anna Krauss**, **Madeleine Kresin**, **Tory Rowe**, **Sam Sigman**, **Preston Thomas**, **Kevin Vargas**, **Langston Williams**, and **Paige Witter**.

Poetry Out Loud encourages high school students to learn about poetry through memorization, recitation, and competition. Students in every state in the union take part in this competition, sponsored annually by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation. Last year's Colorado winner was **Ben Riley**, now and IB junior at GW!  
—**Anna Wadsworth**, pre-IB English and IB Visual Art teacher

## GW Students Win Prestigious Shafroth Prize for Extemporaneous Speaking

**Dan Morgan-Russell**, a junior at GWHS, won the 88<sup>th</sup> Annual Shafroth Prize for extemporaneous speaking in the men's division on January 26, 2011. **Margaret Schaack**, a GWHS freshman, won the women's division. Both are members of the school's Speech and Debate Team.

The Shafroth Competition for Extemporaneous Speaking is held every year in honor of the late **Governor John Shafroth. Morrison Shafroth**, Governor Shafroth's great-grandson, presided over the



competition, held this year at the historic Grant-Humphries Mansion. Guests were delighted to hear from guest speaker, former **Governor Richard Lamm**, pictured here with each of our winners. In extemporaneous speaking competition, students are given a topic of national or international importance and thirty minutes to prepare a speech. GWHS Speech and Debate Team



members have won seven of the last ten competitions. Congratulations, Dan and Margaret!

For more information, please contact coach **Maryrose Kohan** at (720) 891-2818 or [maryrose\\_kohan@dpsk12.org](mailto:maryrose_kohan@dpsk12.org).

Photos by Thomas Russell, used with permission.

### GWIB Senior Appointed to US Military Academy



**Cristian Mendoza-Espinosa** has been appointed to the US Military Academy at West Point, NY, with a nomination from US Congresswoman (and IB parent) **Diana DeGette**. Cristian reports to "Beast Barracks," the historic induction process, on June 27th of this year. Four years later he will be commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the US Army with an initial service obligation of 5 years.

Cristian says, "I am deeply honored by the appointment to the US Military Academy as it is one of my dreams to attend West Point. As a first generation American, this country has given my family and me a tremendous amount. It took us in, gave my family a chance to rise economically, and gave me an opportunity to obtain a great education. With so much given, I believe I have a duty to repay this country, and I cannot think of a better way to repay than to enter the US Military Academy and become a leader in the US Army. Besides repaying my country, I want to add to the diversity of the US Army officer corps." Read more about Cristian on the web at

[http://georgeib.com/pdf/Cristian\\_Mendoza\\_Espinosa\\_2011\\_01.pdf](http://georgeib.com/pdf/Cristian_Mendoza_Espinosa_2011_01.pdf)

### Distinguished Finalist for Prudential Spirit of Community Award

**Ann Moorman** is one of 4 Colorado students recently honored as a Distinguished Finalist the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards.

Ann is an IB sophomore. She raised more than \$900 to support a young Ethiopian girl's high school education through the Children of Ethiopia Education Fund. She has also conducted numerous service projects, including sewing neck coolers for Iraqi soldiers, making hats and scarves for the homeless, and distributing food to low income families.



### Coming GWIB Events

Feb 28-March 4	CSAP (See detailed schedule at <a href="http://georgeib.com/pdf/GWHS_CSAP_2011_Schedule.pdf">http://georgeib.com/pdf/GWHS_CSAP_2011_Schedule.pdf</a> )
March 8	Welcome Fest, 5:30-7 PM
March 28-April 1	Spring Break – no classes
April 4	Professional Day – no classes
April 9	Breaking Away program for Seniors and their parents, noon-2 PM
April 12	Mandatory Junior and Junior Parent Meeting, 6:30-8 PM
April 29	Last Day of School for Juniors and Seniors (Exams start May 3)
May 1	Senior Brunch – DTC Doubletree Hotel



## Distinguished Teacher Award

The Distinguished Teacher Award Committee has compiled the nomination of **Suzanne Geimer** for the 2011 Distinguished Teacher Award. The formal nomination consisted of a 50 page “book” which contained over 30 letters of support. One of those was from GW’s former principal, **Lawrence Corsa**, who was not only instrumental in completing the application for the International Baccalaureate program at GW (the first of its kind in the State of Colorado) but who also hand-picked Ms. Geimer to take its reins. Please take a moment to congratulate Suzi Geimer as one of this year’s nominees for the Distinguished Teacher Award!!

Ms. Geimer first came to George Washington High School in 1969 as a teacher in its language arts program. She soon sponsored the GW speech team, which performed exceptionally well. After 15 exceptional years as a teacher at GW in the spring of 1984, Principal Corsa recognized that Ms. Geimer was destined for greater accomplishments. He tasked Ms. Geimer with a new challenge: organizing, coordinating and leading the first International Baccalaureate program in Colorado – the George Washington International Baccalaureate program. For the past 26 years, Ms. Geimer has exceeded Mr. Corsa’s expectations.

In reading and appreciating the voluminous testimonials submitted in support of Ms. Geimer for the Distinguished Teacher Award (including those of past recipients), it is apparent that, Ms. Geimer wears six hats with dignity and aplomb: Teacher on Special Assignment over the program; Coordinator of Recruitment; Advocate of every Student Recommendation for College; Maintainer of historically high standards; Enforcer of what it takes to make it through; and, most importantly, Friend of Teachers, Parents and Students, alike, to ensure that every voice should be heard, every concern addressed, and that every member of the GWIB community is a fully contributing member to its well-deserved reputation. How Ms. Geimer has pulled this off, smoothly and daily, for 26 years as the Head of the GWIB (and for 15 years before that as a GW teacher) is legend! That she continues with the same joie de vivre and unabashed enthusiasm today underscores the inescapable conclusion: Ms. Geimer deserves and has earned, many times over, the 2011 Distinguished Teacher Award.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO SUZANNE GEIMER ON HER NOMINATION!!!!**

—Leslie B. Lilly



### Grounds & Gateway Committee News

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU to the many wonderful GW students, parents, grandparents, alums and community members who have stepped up to purchase bricks and pavers in support of the GW Community Gateway Project. The response has been outstanding.

If you weren’t able to get your order in before the deadline, don’t despair, and turn it in as soon as you can. Whenever we receive enough new orders, we will turn in a second batch to the engravers – perhaps by May, if there are a sufficient number of orders by then. Look for news of an unveiling ceremony for the first batch of donor bricks in early April!

Also in April, mark your calendars for the annual **Spring Tree Planting on Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>**, 9 to noon. We’ll be replacing some trees and generally getting our hands dirty sprucing up George’s landscape. Plan to participate in this entertaining, school-wide event and see some Patriot Pride in action.





## THE IB COLLEGE COUNSELING CORNER

### COLLEGE PREP TO-DO LISTS FOR MARCH

#### SENIORS:

1. Look for the rest of your application results to arrive between now and April 1. Good luck!!!
2. Complete any last financial aid application requirements.
3. Consider making “admitted student” visits, preferably without missing school.
4. Compare financial aid packages; [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) (among others) has helpful tools.
5. Keep looking for private scholarships.
6. Thank Mrs. Geimer, Ms. Lane, and the teachers and counselors who helped you apply.
7. If you reach a college decision, inform Mrs. Geimer and Ms. Lane – e-mail is good.
8. Update your Naviance account with acceptances, scholarships, and your decision.
9. Follow procedures for college housing, particularly if you’ve decided on a public college. Don’t delay.
10. Go to every class, every day, and keep up with assignments, IAs, and exam prep.
11. Complete and turn in your CAS portfolio by March 4 and schedule your peer interview.

#### JUNIORS:

1. Create or update your résumé to bring to your upcoming interview with Mrs. Geimer. She will use the résumé and other information you provide to help her complete the “Secondary School Report Form” and accompanying recommendation letter for your college applications. Interviews will take place March 23 – April 22, and you will receive a website address to schedule your interview. You can also use the “Junior Interview RSVP” link at [georgeib.com](http://georgeib.com).
2. Attend a college application training session during CSAP week; details to come via GW’s Counseling Office.
3. Continue to research colleges and develop your realistic list of schools.
4. Continue to use Mr. Haynes for your individual college counseling needs, including #3. Schedule an appointment with him at [collegemasters@comcast.net](mailto:collegemasters@comcast.net) or by phone at 719-232-5305 or 719-576-9487.
5. Visit colleges over Spring Break, if that fits for you, to see professors and students in action.
6. Attend the MANDATORY Junior/Parent College Application meeting on Tuesday, April 12, 6:30-8:00 PM. Mrs. Geimer will walk you through IB’s timeline for applications, including what will be due by September 1 of senior year and how to complete it well and on time!
7. Get your parents to complete the Parent Survey (aka Parent Response Form, distributed at the 4/12 meeting and posted on the georgeib website under College Prep) and return it to Mrs. Geimer before the end of the school year, for her to use in writing your counselor recommendation letter.
8. Put April 27 on your calendar for the in-school, free, state-mandated ACT (without writing) testing. ANOTHER DO-NOT-MISS EVENT!
9. Register for standardized tests that are required at schools on your list – ACT (if you need it with writing), SAT, and/or Subject Tests. June test dates are the last ones until the fall.
10. Prepare for SAT/ACT, either on your own (books, practice tests) or through a program. You may be able to take a free practice SAT, ACT, or PSAT on March 19, April 2, or May 1; see [www.princetonreview.com](http://www.princetonreview.com), under “find course”, then “free events.” Go to [http://www.georgeib.com/ib\\_college\\_prep.html](http://www.georgeib.com/ib_college_prep.html) to review Mr. Haynes’ test prep PowerPoints, handouts, and podcasts; they have lots of great advice.
11. Put the spring College Fair on your calendar: May 1, 1-3:30 PM, Lakewood HS. See [www.rmacac.org](http://www.rmacac.org) for list of participating colleges.
12. Decide which teachers you will ask to write your letters of recommendation.
13. Plan your summer. There are some great enrichment programs out there, but application deadlines are approaching fast. Explore. Think CAS (and get signatures). Include some college visits, perhaps.

#### SOPHOMORES:

1. Review your ACT PLAN results with your parents (distributed in English classes in February).
2. Plan your summer! It’s a great time to accomplish CAS goals that don’t fit into your school year routine. Do something fun, something that you care about, something that will help you learn more about yourself. You might even visit a college or two.
3. See Juniors’ #9 and #10. Actually, check out the whole to-do list, just to see what’s in your future. Let yourself dream!

## FRESHMEN:

1. Review your ACT EXPLORE results with your parents (distributed in your freshman seminar in February).
2. Check out what the older students are doing, and start putting yourself in their shoes. It's coming sooner than you think.
3. Make plans for your summer that involve something a little more substantial than working on your tan, your gaming skills, and/or your social life – not that those aren't important!

## COLLEGE ADMISSION NEWS

In the month since our last report, **Grace Michaels** has committed to attend Tufts University and **Cristian Mendoza-Espinosa** has committed to attend the US Military Academy at West Point. GWIB students have received additional acceptances from the following colleges and universities: Univ. of Alabama at Birmingham, American Univ., George Fox Univ., Texas A & M Univ., Univ. of Minnesota (Twin Cities), Univ. of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and Univ. of Portland. Conditional acceptances (pending the student's achievement of the predicted marks toward the IB diploma) were also received from Univ. of Aberdeen, Univ. of Greenwich, Univ. of St Andrews - Scotland, and Thames Valley Univ. Congratulations!

## IMPORTANT COLLEGE DATES AND DEADLINES

**March 31:** Virtually all college decisions are mailed or posted online by this date. Financial aid packages typically arrive simultaneously, or within a week of the acceptance.

**April 9**, Saturday, Noon-2 PM, Community Room (in order not to disturb ACT test takers): **Breaking Away/Surviving the First Year of College**, a program targeted at seniors and their parents. All are welcome.

**April 12**, Tuesday, 6:30-8 PM, Mandatory Junior/Parent Meeting

**April 23**, Saturday, Noon-2 PM, Library: **College Admission 202**, a more detailed look at how students can best present themselves in rep visits, interviews, correspondence, applications, supplements, etc. Vital for juniors, but all are welcome.

**April 27:** 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.

**May 1:** Deadline for seniors to respond to colleges that have offered admission, with a confirmation deposit (typically \$200-500) to the chosen school.

**May 1**, Sunday, 1-3:30 PM, Lakewood HS: Spring College Fair aimed at juniors and interested sophomores.

## 2010-2011 STANDARDIZED TESTING SCHEDULE

Standardized Test	Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late (added fee) Registration Deadline
SAT only (no Subject Tests)	March 12	February 11	February 25
ACT with writing option	April 9	March 4	March 18
ACT <i>without</i> writing (CO ACT)	April 27	Automatic and free for all juniors	
SAT or Subject Tests	May 7	April 8	April 22
SAT or Subject Tests	June 4	May 6	May 20
ACT with writing option	June 11	May 6	May 20

**2011-2012 Anticipated SAT Test Dates:** October 1, November 5, December 3, January 28, March 10, May 5, and June 2.

The **2011 PSAT/NMSQT Test Date** at GW is October 15. You must sign up for the PSAT/NMSQT at GW or at another high school in your community. This test is administered by high schools, not through test centers. Online registration for the PSAT/NMSQT is **not** available.

**2011-2012 Anticipated ACT Test Dates:** September 10, October 22, December 10, February 11, April 14, and June 9.

—Linda During, College Counseling Co-Chair

## Is it Spring Yet?

Like me, I bet you're ready for permanently warm weather! Spring is around the corner, so we at the Friends of IB Scholars Foundation are getting into the defrost mood!

Here's something to warm your heart: the Foundation notes that for the third year in a row, more families paid their \$40 annual IB dues than ever before. We perceive multiple shoots of flowers springing up in our treasury! And what an investment it is: many of you have not only kindly stepped up with your dues but you have also increased donations to the IB Foundation account. We thank you for your generosity. And you've made a wise choice since you're enriching the soil and supporting your kids and a great program!!

Ah, but let's keep fertilizing! You've got many options, as many as colors of tulips!



- Go online, pay your DUES, and donate even more if you can:  
[https://secure.qgiv.com/cps\\_donors/index.php?key=friendsofib](https://secure.qgiv.com/cps_donors/index.php?key=friendsofib).
- Mail in a check to Treasurer Janice Thomas: Friends of IB Scholars Foundation, c/o Janice Thomas, Treasurer, 1634 S. Leyden Street, Denver, Colorado 80224.
- Buy all sorts of products and services and have part of the proceeds go to IB:  
<http://www.marketamerica.com/>
- Support IB and the entire school by buying a paver for the Gateway beautification project:  
<http://gwhsgateway.com/GWorderform.html>.
- VOLUNTEER!!! We need parents and friends to join both the IB Foundation and the Parents Association, as well as the numerous other activities that engage our students - Speech and Debate, publications, Parents Association committees, etc. If not money, give your TIME!



And you know what? You'll be glad you did because you are so instrumental to maintaining the best high school academic program in the city, state, and nation! And when you've cultivated this IB garden, you'll sit back in pride as your investment blooms into a bouquet of success!

And I promise one thing: I'll end now before the English teachers fire me!

—Tom Zeiler, President, Friends of IB Scholars Foundation



## People You Should Know: MARYROSE KOHAN

The terminology is heard everywhere in the halls of the school: CX, LD, Extemp, and so many more. To the untrained ear, these sound like some sort of code. But, to any speech and debater, they are just a part of everyday life. Of course, the greatest driving force behind the GW Speech and Debate team is their enthusiastic coach, **Maryrose Kohan** (pictured at left with sophomore **Eli Gordon**). Though small in stature, Kohan – affectionately known as “Koko” by her students – has made an amazing impact on the Speech and Debate program at GW. The Speech and Debate team is undoubtedly one of-if not the most- successful teams GW has to offer thanks to Kohan. Under her wing, the team has grown from ten students to over 100 students in the past five years.

“I think you can definitely do it and do it well, and try to make it an amazing program,” Kohan commented on the team’s triumphs. And the achievements will not stop at the local level.

“We hope to have some state champions. We also want to send as many people as possible to nationals,” said Kohan.

During this Speech and Debate season alone, the team has racked up many a top spot in their tournaments. In spite of their great success, the team is not on an all-work-and-no-play schedule. Not only has Kohan made the team an award-winning machine, but she has also managed to bring them together as a sort of pseudo-family as well.

“I think by having an open-door policy with my classroom during lunch and after school the kids get to know each other. Also by encouraging them to spend time together and them spending 12-14 hours together at speech tournaments on Saturdays brings them together,” said Kohan.

As a rare GW teacher who is with many of her students for the entirety of their high school careers, Kohan is more than a teacher to her students.

“You get to know students on a different level. They hang out in my room all the time and I get to build strong relationships with them. I like to think of myself as more of a mentor or facilitator than a teacher,” explained Kohan. Her students feel this difference every time they are with Kohan. Students are in her room during lunch just to eat and even go in after school just to hang out while waiting for a ride.

What makes Kohan even more unique as a speech coach is that she gives her students fashion advice. “I love clothes and I love to go shopping. When I’m not at a tournament I really like to spend my time shopping. I remember looking at my teachers and seeing clothes that looked twenty years old. I never wanted my students to look at me **like that. For me it’s important to dress professionally,”** said Kohan.

In addition to her initiative and great taste in clothing, Kohan lives the way every International Baccalaureate student should. In terms of handling everything that she has on her plate, Kohan is no novice.

“I try to delegate when I can. I really try to prioritize to make sure everything gets done,” stated Kohan.

Kohan is also the type of teacher who comes to school every day on a mission and is passionate about her students. GW is very lucky to have a teacher with the effectiveness and conviction of Kohan.

“I like working with the kids. I think there are a lot of talented students willing to work hard. I think that at GW we have the perfect student profile. And Speech and Debate give them confidence, and persuasion that will last them a lifetime.”

—Cass Duchan, IB Student Reporter

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