



FONTBONNE HALL ACADEMY

Inspiring young women to be leaders of tomorrow.

fontbonne.org

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

MAY 2016

Dear Parents,

Since this will be the last newsletter of the school year, on behalf of the faculty and staff of Fontbonne Hall Academy, I would like to thank you for the trust you put in us and for the support that you give to us. This was another year of growth and development for our school community. The addition of more AP classes, a dance program, a new ninth grade science curriculum and new elective courses in English, Religion, and Computer Science, along with our new membership in the National Coalition of Girls' Schools have all added together to help distinguish Fontbonne as one of the premier Catholic all-girls high schools. Our mission and focus remain strong and we look forward to 2016-2017 with great expectations and excitement.



Please know that as this school year comes to a close, we are here to support all of our students so that they can complete the year successfully, and with confidence. We wish all of our seniors the best as they move onto their college years, and we hope that they look back on their high schools years as a time that prepared them well for the challenges ahead. Lastly, we wish all of you a safe and restful summer. In the few weeks that remain before vacation begins, please do not hesitate to reach out to any of us with questions, concerns, or suggestions.

I am most respectfully yours,

Mary Ann Spicijaric
Principal



SPRING CONCERT

Our annual Spring Concert is **TONIGHT**. It will be held in the gymnasium at 7PM. Tickets are only \$5 at the door. You will be enjoying performances from the Select Chorus, Vocal Ensemble, solo dancers, and a special appearance by Fontbonne's award-winning speech team. Let's celebrate Spring together!



SPEECH TEAM FIRST ANNUAL FUNDRAISER SHOWCASE

The Speech Team has been winning competitions throughout the year and is now raising money to send our nationally qualified students to Salt Lake City, Utah. The "Showdown in Salt Lake City" is a week long, National Speech and Debate tournament in June.

Students will be demonstrating some of their nationally acclaimed performances that have received top honors from Yale, Princeton, Harvard, and Stanford Universities. The Showcase will take place on **Thursday, May 12th** at 7PM (gymnasium). Cost is \$10 per person.



SCIENCE RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

Our Science Research students will present their projects during the Science Research Symposium on **Thursday, May 26th** from 6PM to 9PM. The evening will include two poster sessions and a keynote address and award session. We hope you can all join us to congratulate our students on the exemplary work they have accomplished to date!

COLLEGE NEWS

Our College Counselor, Katherine Sollazzo, will be attending the prestigious Harvard Summer Institute on College Admissions, a program designed by Harvard University and The College Board.



Here, she will connect with over 200 admissions and counseling professionals from all over the world. Workshops and seminars will include discussions on current issues, trends and challenges as well as best practices and effective ways to assist students in making the right choices about their future. Topics include: How Admissions Decisions Are Made, Financial Aid, Women's Leadership, College Admissions and Social Media, Beyond High School, and more.

Many of our seniors are heading off to top colleges and universities, here is a snapshot: American University* Binghamton University* Clemson University* Emory University* Fordham University* George Washington University* Michigan State University* Ohio State University* Penn State University* Steven's Institute of Technology* Syracuse University* Trinity University* University of Alabama* University of Connecticut * University of Delaware* University of Miami



KIND CAMPAIGN INSPIRES "KIND WALL"

After the KIND campaign assembly in early March, students were given the opportunity to respond via our KIND wall. Students had the option to either pledge an action step to help bring an end to bullying in our school or to compliment or encourage someone else in the school. This wall was filled within just one day. It hung in the cafeteria for a week so others could read what others had written, and to carry on the momentum from the assembly. We are currently preparing to put up another KIND wall, to remind students of the powerful anti-bullying messages they heard earlier this year.



BLOOD DRIVE AWARD

The New York Blood Center invited us to their Blood Donor Award ceremony where we were honored to receive the High School "Greatest Increase in Donors" award. Thank you to Fran Essex, Breeda Connolly, Rosemarie Ganser and Una Marie O'Donnell for coordinating this meaningful yearly event.



SOPHOMORE TRIP- Historic Philadelphia and Hershey Park

The Sophomores recently enjoyed an overnight trip experience. They first explored Historic Philadelphia along with their tour guides. Sites included: The Liberty Bell and Independence Hall, Carpenter's Hall and Congress Hall, Betsy Ross House, Franklin Court, Elfreth's Alley, B. Free Post Office, Christ Church and The Rocky Stairs. On Friday they



FONTBONNE FLOURISHES AT FORDHAM BUSINESS CHALLENGE

On Wednesday, April 27th, Fontbonne students from the Introduction to Business course participated in the Fordham Interscholastic Business Challenge. It's an annual all-day event in which participants deliver original ideas and presentations in 3 separate categories: Business Ethics, Entrepreneurship, and Marketing. Each of our 3 groups made it to the Finals and were distinguished with honors and cash prizes! Our Entrepreneurship Team of Brittney Anderson & Marie Rose Apice won the honor of "Most Feasible & Likely to Succeed in the Future." Our Business Ethics Team of Jacqueline Kontopirakis, Maggie McCaughey, & Gianna Vazquez were honored with the title of "Best Designed Slideshow." Our Marketing Team of Keara Donahue, Alyssa Federico, Elena Ivanov, & Concetta Livia were enthusiastically declared "Most Creative."



LAW STUDENTS VISIT SUPREME COURT

On Thursday, April 28th, thirteen Fontbonne Law & Politics students went on a trip to the Supreme Court in Downtown Brooklyn. During the trip students toured the different court rooms, sat in on arraignments and trials, and discussed the legal profession with multiple judges, assistant D.A.s, and defense attorneys!



MIDDLE STATES UPDATE

The Planning Team met on April 12th and was charged with approving the objectives for our 7-year strategic plan. The following objectives were discussed and unanimously approved:

- *Our student performance objectives will focus on increasing the percentage of mastery (85% or better) on Regents exams. Each department identified a different percentage of increase based upon their current reality.
- *Our organizational capacity objective is the development of a full STEM program which will include a new facility, equipment and staff development.
- *Our faith-based objective will require all of our students to reflect on their service experiences and how they connect to the CSJ mission of love, unity and reconciliation.

We will keep you updated as we progress in this process.

- May 16 Last day of classes for Seniors
- May 17-18 Final Exams for Seniors
- May 20 Senior Prom, Chelsea Piers
All Seniors are invited to the pre-prom party, sponsored by SAC, which will take place in the Fontbonne Gymnasium. Parents are welcome to join us to take photos and prepare to boogie!
- May 31 Graduation Practice 10 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Fontbonne Gym
This practice is **mandatory** for all seniors.
- June 1 Graduation Practice 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at Our Lady of Perpetual Help
This practice is **mandatory** for all seniors.
- Baccalaureate Mass 7:00 p.m. St. Patrick's
Each graduate will be encouraged to bring only two guests to this event since seating is limited.
- June 2 Graduate Luncheon, 12:00 p.m. at the Riviera
Graduates and their mothers are invited to celebrate. The garden area will be open at 11:00 a.m. to take photos.
- June 3 Senior Day and Awards Ceremony
Our entire school will convene in the gymnasium for our last assembly of the year to celebrate the achievements of the class of 2016.
- June 4 Graduation 11:00 a.m. at Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Each graduate will be allotted five tickets for this event. Two tickets are for preferred seating, and three additional tickets are for general seating. Additional tickets can be requested by contacting Linda Jean-Louis in the main office.
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