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D.A. ALL DAY!

Celebrating Excellence: Recognizing D.A.'s National Honor Society Inductees

[By Mariel R. '26](#)

The National Honor Society (NHS), founded in 1921, is a scholarly organization that seeks to recognize high school students for their achievements and commitments to the four pillars of NHS: scholarship, character, leadership, and service. These students are selected by faculty members that run the National Honor Society chapter operating in their school. Our chapter here at



NHS inductees during the ceremony



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D.A., proudly run by Dr. Serpagli and Ms. Reardon, is called the Marian Chapter of National Honor Society.

This process began last April, when Dr. Serpagli sent an application form to the senior class of 2026. Members of our Marian Chapter of National Honor Society were chosen based on replies to this form, and the D.A. community finally received the chance to honor and recognize them the morning of September 15th.

That happy morning, the auditorium was lively, filled with the chatter and anticipation of proud family members and friends, all there to witness the official induction of their children into the National Honor Society. Dr. Egler, Dr. Petit, and Ms. Weil were also in attendance, ready to celebrate the inductees. This year's inductees filed into the auditorium in pairs, looking nervous but confident nonetheless. The ceremony began with a prayer, like all things at D.A., before select inductees gave brief overviews of the pillars. In the center of the auditorium stood a table, holding a candelabra with unlit candles meant to represent each pillar. After the inductee presenting each pillar finished discussing it, they walked to the table, lighting the candle corresponding to the pillar they had explained.

Once all the candles were lit, Dr. Serpagli began to call out the names of the

inductees, who would stand row by row around the table, each with their own unlit candle. When their name was called, inductees would light their candle using the center candle of knowledge, representing their commitment to the values of the National Honor Society and officiating their membership within this prestigious organization.

After the ceremony was complete, the newly minted members of the Marian Chapter of National Honor Society made their way to the roof for some light breakfast: an assortment of muffins, croissants, coffee, and juice, kindly provided by Mrs. Mazzara. It was a gorgeous, sunny day, with perfect weather. The efforts of our faculty made it as special as it could have been, exemplified by the happy faces and pleasant chatter of families and friends on the rooftop that day. A special congratulations to the NHS members of the class of 2026; we know you'll make D.A. proud!

Class of 2026's Senior Year Kickoff ~ Senior Sunrise!

By Katie B. '26

If you were a senior, what would be the best way to start the school year? Most students would say that they would want one last morning to sleep in before orientation, but the class of 2026 had a better idea! What better way to begin one's last year of high



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school than by watching the sun rise across the East River?

The 2025 Senior Sunrise was planned throughout August by seniors, for seniors, with help from the student council presidents. After some debate and compromise, a perfect date and location was set: September 3rd at Carl Schurz Park. Everyone in the grade was given an invitation to arrive at six in the morning, right as the sun was beginning to peek out of Queens into a clear sky.

I was one of the last seniors to arrive, and as I found my way through the park towards the edge of Manhattan, I was given a warm welcome by my fellow classmates. Everyone congregated together under a dark pink sky, giving each other hugs after a whole summer of separation and asking what everyone had been up to recently. Some of my creative classmates made colorful photo frames for all of us to take



(From left to right) Samantha H. '26, Angelina M. '26, and Anusuiya B. '26 pose during senior sunrise

group pictures, which encapsulates the memories that will last a lifetime. Others showed their culinary creativity through baking, bringing delicious brownies and cookies for everyone to devour. Once the sun had finally reached over the horizon and

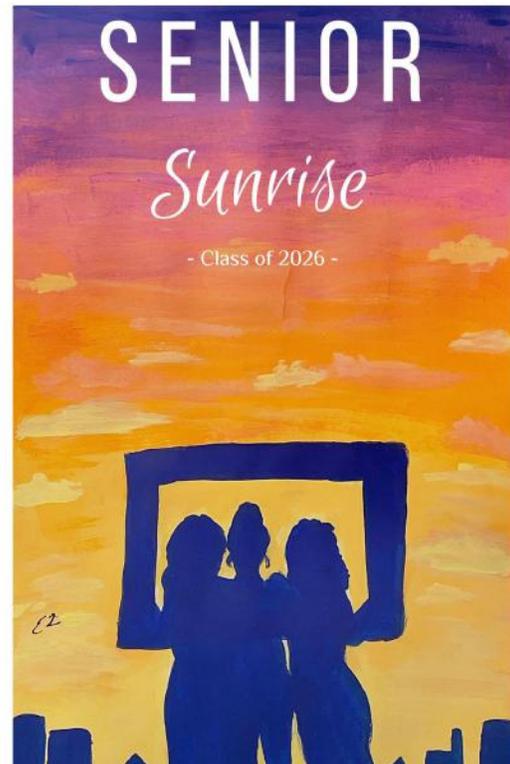


Illustration by Eileen L. '27

above the buildings across the river, many couldn't help but stop and admire the beautiful landscape.

As the sun concluded its initial ascent and the marvelous colors of pink, orange, and red began to fade to blue, the entire class took one last group picture together. With the help of the Spanish



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exchange students from Madrid who were in attendance, many excellent pictures were taken, and people began to make their way out of the park.

Senior Sunrise is far more than a yearly tradition for high school seniors. It marks the beginning of hundreds of memories and many more final traditions to come in the school year for seniors. It marks the final 10 months at D.A., and the rollercoaster of emotions that will come with having to say goodbye. It is the bittersweet beginning of the end. But with traditions like these, there's no reason to feel anything but the sweetness of being surrounded and supported by each other.

New Year, New Era: Opening Mass and DVM Transfer

By Melissa B. '26

For most people, our Opening School Mass of the Holy Spirit started at 10:00 AM, but for the Liturgical Ensemble, it started almost two hours before. All of the singers and musicians gathered early for one final practice of the songs for the Liturgy to make sure all of the fine points were perfect. Being in the front pews of the church with the Liturgical Ensemble gave a perfect vantage point to watch the final preparations for Mass. As the hours ticked by, more and more girls dressed in pristine tartan skirts and pressed blazers trickled in, setting St. Vincent Ferrer up for a momentous Mass. Slowly, but surely, the church started to look ready. Candles were lit, banners were lifted, place holders marked, and readings were set. Inching closer to the start of Mass, the

church filled up and got much louder with the sound of four grades of girls chatting away. But when the clock struck 10 am, a collective hush fell over the pews as the Liturgical Ensemble took their place. It was time to start the Mass, open the school year, and welcome a new era for Dominican Academy. This Opening Mass of the Holy Spirit was different from past Masses, as the Dominican Sisters of Peace would transfer their sponsorship of D.A. to Dominican Veritas Ministries.

The opening notes of the song, *Dominican Magnificat*, rang out, echoing into the congregation. All of the preparation of the Ensemble came to fruition as they watched from the front of the church. Three large banners- one for the Dominican Sisters of Peace, one for Dominican Academy, and one for Dominican Veritas Ministries- came down the aisle towards the altar. Right behind the banners came the over 30 Dominican sisters present for the transfer ceremony. It truly was a beautiful sight as all of them were singing with the Ensemble as they walked down the aisle. From the front of the church, the joy and excitement were palpable on the faces of all who passed into their seats. There was a genuine sense among everyone in the pews that Friday, September 26, 2025, would not just mark the start of another new school year, but also make D.A. history.

After the homily, the transfer of sponsorship ceremony began. The ceremony marked the changing of Dominican Academy's sponsorship from the Dominican Sisters of Peace to Dominican Veritas



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Ministries. Dominican Veritas Ministries (DVM), a separate legal entity from its owners, will do most of the oversight that the Sisters of Peace did at D.A. for fifteen years. Three speakers, each representing one of the three Dominican ministries, spoke of the history and impact of Dominican Academy and the Sisters of Peace in providing education for more than 125 years. Sisters Patricia Twohill, O.P. and Therese Leckert, O.P. lit the candles with the crests of Dominican Academy and the Sisters of Peace, representing the past and present of our school. Dr. Kristin Melley, the executive director of DVM, spoke of the new organization's continued mission to uphold the four pillars of study, prayer, justice, and community that have defined Dominican education for centuries. The final candle, emblazoned with the logo of Dominican Veritas Ministries, was lit, representing the future chapters of Dominican Academy.

After Communion was given out, Ms. Gibilaro introduced the new members of the Dominican Academy Preachers for the school year. They were commissioned to continue their work from last year. The Liturgical Ensemble got up for the last time at Mass to sing the *D.A. Alma Mater* and *Christ Be Our Light*. It was a strong ending for a moving Mass, filled with candles, new beginnings, and happiness.

The Path We Forge Together: From the Dominican Sisters of Peace to Dominican Veritas Ministries

By Alice M. '28

"I see the future of D.A. to continue to be strongly Dominican in its understanding of who we are as students, who we are as faculty, staff, and families."

- Dr. Egler.

On Friday, September 26, the Dominican Sisters of Peace and Dominican Veritas Ministries (DVM) lit their candles in a Transfer Ceremony that paved the way for DVM to come into our DA community. Dominican Academy was founded in 1897 by the Dominican Sisters of St. Mary of the Springs who later became the Dominican Sisters of Peace. They created a school full of intelligent, creative, and selfless girls that reflect the Dominican pillars. Now in 2025, the Dominican Sisters have decided it is time to join our school to a wider Dominican community that will uphold their legacy for years to come. There are many questions that have been circulating around school the past few weeks as we prepared for the Transfer Ceremony: What is a Transfer Ceremony? What is Dominican Veritas Ministries? What does this mean for the D.A. community? I had the opportunity to meet with Sister Joan Franks, Sister Margaret Mary Kennedy, Sister Valerie Shaul, Dr. Egler and Dr. Kristin Melley to discuss the Transfer Ceremony and what it will mean for our community.

Sister Margaret Mary Kennedy, Sister Valerie Shaul, and Sister Joan had a wealth of knowledge on all questions



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regarding the Dominican Sisters of Peace and their union with DVM. They explained that to be considered a Catholic school one must be sponsored by a “public juridic person (PJP).” A PJP is an entity that is approved to pass on the Catholic faith and charism of the religious order to their schools. D.A. was founded in 1897 by the Dominican Sisters of St. Mary of the Springs who later became the Dominican Sisters of Peace and sponsored D.A. However, in recent years it has become increasingly difficult for the Sisters to sponsor schools on their own and with fewer women joining orders, sisters have come together to discuss how to keep their schools alive. The solution was Dominican Veritas Ministries - a new organization founded by several orders of Dominican Sisters to ensure a stable continuation of Dominican education. Over the past 3 years, Dominican Veritas Ministries has welcomed 13 schools into its community (including Dominican Academy) and expects more to come. DVM intends to be a guiding hand to every school it sponsors and to help schools reach their full potential. Dr. Kristin Melley, the Executive Director of DVM, explained that “the organization needs to say to each school ‘How do we help you accomplish your best selves?’” Dominican Veritas Ministries is here to keep the teachings of the Dominican Order present in every school and to connect a national Dominican community.

One of the most pressing questions about Dominican Veritas Ministries was about their role in the lives of students and

the D.A. community. As Dr. Melley said, “We try to connect students, we try to connect faculty, and we try to connect congregations in new and exciting ways.” This summer, students from several schools had an opportunity to come together for a preaching conference. It is only the start of more programs DVM and Dr. Egler hope to initiate with our new community. These opportunities may include pilgrimages and other activities that help enlighten students. DVM is a new chapter in D.A. history that will help keep our school active and prospering for future generations to learn, grow, and make changes in the world.

Dr. Egler perfectly explained why our school’s sponsorship changed. “This school would not be what it is if it had not been for the Dominican Sisters, and their continual vision for the future.” Dominican Academy was created by Dominican Sisters who wanted to help shape future generations and who have steered this school forward. The decision of the Dominican Sisters of Peace to join DVM and hand over our school’s sponsorship is just another decision that will help continue D.A.’s legacy for years to come. As Dr. Melley responded when asked how she envisions Dominican Veritas Ministries years in the future she said, “I think they’ll find a community of people who heard the Sisters, were inspired by the Sisters, and said yes ‘We’ve got you!’”



September 11, 2001: History, Remembrance, and a Personal Story

By Sophie A. '29

It is the morning of September 11, 2025, and there are several voices in your ears at once. As the clock reads 8:26 A.M., morning announcers call for a moment of silence in remembrance of events that took place twenty-four years ago. All commotion subsides, and a somber silence fills the room. On September 11, 2001, however, the world was anything but silent.

Upon the completion of their construction in 1973, the Twin Towers dominated the New York City skyline, being named the tallest buildings in the world and instantly becoming legendary. At 110 stories tall each, the iconic skyscrapers served as the workplaces for nearly fifty thousand people and housed 430 companies. This unparalleled recognition not only made the North and South Towers central business complexes and notable tourist attractions, but also prime targets of terrorism.

In the early morning hours of September 11, 2001, individuals involved in the Islamic terrorist group known as al-Qaeda departed from three airports on four flights bound for California. Flight 11 was the first of the four flights to have been hijacked by the terrorists. At 8:46 A.M., American Airlines Flight 11 deliberately crashed into the first World Trade Center (the North Tower). From then on, indescribable terror unfolded, including the downing of the second World Trade Center tower and the hijacking of two more flights - one striking the Pentagon and the other

(intended to attack the White House) foiled by brave passengers who gave their lives to save so many others.

Rescue efforts began in the hours following the attacks; search and rescue teams, first responders, and volunteers utilized unique technology and worked diligently in what became known as Ground Zero (the scene of the harrowing events). The attack on America had been brought to an end, but its lasting effects would be prominent in the years following.

A total of 2,996 people died in the monstrous events that took place in New York City, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania on September 11, 2001. Throughout the years following 9/11, Americans have sought to remember the day and honor the countless men and women that passed away through memorials, moments of silence, and educating younger generations. September 11, 2001 was a monumental day in our nation's history that demonstrates that while hatred and evil can have a tremendous impact, unity and love can conquer.

Like countless others, many here at D.A. have experienced the effects of this horrific tragedy, including our principal, Dr. Leslie Petit. Having lost several loved ones on September 11, 2001, Dr. Petit recounted the unparalleled devastation that occurred on that day.

The morning was initially mundane, she recalled; she was writing and sending emails when her computer froze and crashed. Puzzled, she searched for her husband, who was watching the news in



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disbelief of what was happening, and he described the events that were unfolding to her. “I immediately thought of my friends who had been working on Wall Street, as well as the firemen that I knew,” Dr. Petit shared. As the day went by, phone calls that



Illustration by Lauren W., '28

informed her of their deaths grew in number. “It was devastating. I was up all night, crying.”

Despite the immense pain that came with the deaths of her beloved friends, she vowed to honor and never forget their memories. She participates in and donates to various foundations, namely the Tunnels to

Towers Foundation and the Michael J. Armstrong Foundation, supporting the families of fallen first-responders and playing a role in preserving the remembrance of September 11.

Though the heartache and loss of that day was profound, Dr. Petit remains hopeful. “I feel grateful for every day and it inspires me to cherish every moment.” A powerful lesson for all of us.

Rooftop Reunion: D.A. Alumnae Light Up the Night Sky

By Elnaz M. '28

Under the glow of the New York City night sky, about 80 alumnae gathered on the D.A. rooftop to reconnect and reminisce. The Annual Alumnae Rooftop Reception is a yearly event hosted to give alumnae the opportunity to visit the school and socialize with current students. Upon entering the school, guests were greeted by none other than Dominic the Tiger, our school’s mascot.

After checking in, alumni had the option of using the stairs or the elevator to go up to the rooftop. Many decided to go the traditional way, making the trip up the iconic red stairs. As the former students went up the floors, they reminisced about Glee Club or their past teachers. Many alumnae were able to see their graduation day class photos with their beautiful white dresses, which adorn our halls.

The rooftop was decorated with torches in the corners, illuminating the night sky with a bright flame and twinkling lights. Alumnae from the years 1958 to 2021 could



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also snack on a variety of cheeses, rolls, chips, and fruit, including cantaloupe and honeydew. After reconnecting with old friends, our alumnae graciously raised more than \$1,000 from raffle tickets. Every dollar will be used to create scholarship opportunities for deserving students who dream of attending D.A.

As a volunteer during the event, I had the opportunity to speak to some of the alumnae. Coincidentally, one of the alumnae had previously attended my middle school. We bonded over our old teachers, classmates, and current lives. It was an unusual and genuine pleasure to have the opportunity to connect with a student who attended not only the same grammar school but also high school as I did. She reminisced about her time at D.A. and reflected on how her experience had prepared her for college.

I had the opportunity to ask Ms. Wang, the Alumnae Relations and Special Events Manager, some questions about setting up an event like this. Ms. Wang herself is a D.A. alumna, and while she was in high school, she did not think she would return to work at D.A. When I asked her what role she believes alumnae play in the D.A. community, she said, “Alumnae love to come back and meet current students and see the building, see the classes they're taking, and the colleges seniors are applying to.” She also commented on the impact this reunion will hopefully have on the school and its community, saying, “This is a great way for alumnae to hear about changes and for them to be a part of what is happening now for the future of our school.”

Ms Wang also discussed what message she would like to share with the current students who are looking forward to being alumnae one day. She said, “Connections that you are making now are connections that stay with you for a long time.” This showed me that the best part of D.A. is not just the classes, but the friendships you keep forever.

Ms. Wieler, who is also an alumna of D.A., was present at the reunion. She mentioned that some of her classmates were at the reunion, and one of her friends is the new chair of the board. D.A. alumnae stay connected and keep contributing to the school even after they graduate.

The rooftop reunion was much more than a night of food and memories. It was a time to reconnect with old classmates and alumnae, recollect high school memories, and raise funds for future scholarship students. This event reminds us that the connections you make at D.A. do not end on graduation day, but live on in unexpected ways.

The Freshman-Senior Picnic: From a Smart Girl and an Intelligent Woman

By Kayleen D. '29 and Sophie N. '26

It was a bright and sunny afternoon in mid-September, and it turned out to be one of the best moments of the start of my high school journey. After English class, my classmates and I were ecstatic for the picnic. We were thinking about the potential snacks and Central Park all day. As soon as we headed out, we all started talking,



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making jokes, and admiring how beautiful the weather was. It was probably the most I have laughed in a while. Going into the park, the breeze almost immediately hit me and I remember it being the best feeling ever. We passed the gate to go find our senior sisters, but I could not find my sister anywhere. I looked around for several minutes and began to fear she was not there. Luckily, one of her friends knew exactly where she was and led me to her. The moment I saw her, I ran up to her and gave her a hug. My senior sister is so cool! All of the seniors are! Everyone spoke about their hobbies, kidded around and laughed together, and ate very well. Later on, all the seniors and freshmen gathered and played Fruit Basket Upside Down. The game was very nostalgic to me, considering I used to play it all the time at my after-school program when I was younger. We ran a lot, we learned more about each other, and we had fun making new memories while bathing in the sun. Turns out my sister is a bit of a prankster. After the game, everyone started cleaning up and we said our goodbyes. The riveting atmosphere just couldn't end there for me, because as soon as I started walking to the exit gate, I got hit by the huge sprinkler that was in our area! I ended up leaving the picnic with my dress half-soaked. It was definitely a wake up call because I was so tired after the picnic. Overall, it was a memorable and unique experience and I would love to do it for the first time all over again. Being a part of such a cherished D.A. tradition meant the world

to me and will always have a place in my heart.

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It is a picturesque Friday afternoon in Central Park. The sun envelops the lush greenery as the season transitions. Cooing pigeons and adorable dogs are on every corner, and awe-struck tourists fall in love with the city. For the average New Yorker, this is another September midday, but to D.A. seniors, this is one of many final memories in the making.

The seniors arrive with a determined plan to make their freshman sisters feel welcomed to the D.A. community. They lay their picnic blankets to form a united body, eager for the fun that is sure to come. The seniors surprise their freshman sisters with their favorite sweet treats, many baked lovingly by hand!

When the quilt of blankets and the brownies and cookies are in their proper order, it is time for the freshmen to join their sisters in one of D.A.'s most treasured traditions. From scrumptious tomato and pesto sandwiches to laughs heard across the lawn from the seniors' hilarious freshman recountments to a chaotic yet jovial 120-person game of Fruit Basket Upside Down, this get-together showed our newest sisters what it means to be a D.A. girl!

While the picnic is certainly a warm way to welcome the class of 2029, it is only the beginning of a series of bittersweet feelings for the class of 2026. It is almost surreal meeting our freshman sisters, when it feels like only a week ago we were moshing to *Mr. Brightside* with the class of 2023 on



the mezzanine during our very own indoor picnic. To be here in Central Park, enjoying sweet treats, sandwiches, and the sun, took hard work, dedication, laughter, and maybe even some tears. Most of all, it took love.

A truly intelligent woman loves her school, her neighbor, her studies, and most importantly, herself. Without an endless network of sisterly love, you would not be enjoying your fleeting final year with your freshman, whom you connected with based on what you both love. You realize that there is another generation of smart girls who are on their way to becoming intelligent women like you. It is almost funny how you have



Illustration by Kayleen D. '29

learned so much that you can no longer get inside a freshman's head. If only you could experience today through her eyes again...

ARTS AND CULTURE

Lost in Translation (and Loving It): The French Exchange Trip

By Vivienne S. '26

JFK ----- ✈ ----- CDG

This summer five lucky D.A. girls and 11 Regians embarked on an eight-hour flight from New York City to their new homes in Paris for the next two weeks. It had been months since everyone signed up for the trip. Months of waiting, texting our exchange students and getting to know each other – and of making packing lists just to



Vivienne S. and her French Exchange Student taking in the Parisian sites.



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pack more than what was on them. We were all thrilled to finally arrive and get to explore the famous Paris with both old and new friends.

I was a bit nervous at the prospect of living with someone else and their family for two whole weeks. No sleepover had ever been that extreme. But much of my anxiety dissolved after we all met. I had never met a more genuine and kind-hearted group of people (working hard to beat the ‘French people are mean’ stereotype). There was nothing really foreign about them at all. I felt like I had known them for ages. It was only a matter of time before everyone got comfortable.

I would have spoken mostly positively about my French-speaking ability prior to landing at Charles de Gaulle Airport. I was able to read, write, and speak well in the classroom setting (at least I think Sr. Joan understood me). However, we all quickly realized that no level of high school French was a match for Parisians. Turns out saying “bonjour” seventy times a day was mandatory, and forgetting once is basically a crime. Any simple phrase we uttered would prompt either giggles or looks of confusion from the French crowd. Parisians speak like it is a live-action rap battle. They speak so fast I became convinced half the syllables were implied. However, as the days went by, I understood a little more and was embarrassed a little less. All the French kids tried to help us as well as they could. In fact, some nights, we had to submit a speaking activity where the French partner would write a couple sentences and we would say

them out loud and record. My partner would not let me get my beauty rest until I pronounced every word right. Safe to say I did not sleep those nights, but I know what an accented “é” sounds like. All you really need to know about the French language is



that the real word for breakfast is croissant, and everything else is just a snack.

I consumed so many baguettes stuffed with butter, cheese, and ham that the sight of those ingredients still gives me PTSD. Croissants, eclairs, macarons, baguettes, and madeleines. Pastries, on top of pastries, on top of pastries. The term freshman fifteen needs to be renamed French fifteen because I was worried about more than just my luggage being overweight when I returned. I was one-third butter by day five. Everything was delicious, and our partners had the best recommendations. I even made myself try escargot and truly learned the meaning of not judging a book by its cover. A good tip about French cheese is that the stinkier it is, the fancier it is. The



main phrase I used started becoming, “Où est la boulangerie?” (“Where is the bakery?”), which conveniently covered ninety percent of my needs. Vogue has Parisian fashion all wrong because the real trend is to walk around with a baguette like it is an accessory.

There was more to see than just the inside of a pain au chocolat, though. Every day, there was something new to visit. We saw it all from the Versailles Palace and the Notre Dame to Monet’s house and Debussy’s grave. We visited more museums than I can count in any language and, yes, the Louvre is certainly worth the hype. (Although the Mona Lisa looked suspiciously smaller than I expected.) The Eiffel Tower was also breathtaking, but that could be because of all the stairs.

I can crack as many jokes as I would like, but the truth is that I definitely cried for an hour before leaving Paris. The trip is one I will never forget. I am reminded of all the memories, laughter, and new experiences we shared every time I look at one of our photographs. There is nothing like an exchange trip and it is something we will never forget. The moral of the story is you do not need perfect French (or perfect anything) to make friends, seize opportunities, and make amazing new memories. The real exchange was not just new vocabulary words but an exchange of culture and stories to tell for years to come.

You Are Being Celebrated During Hispanic Heritage Month at D.A.

By Katerina S. '27

Dominican Academy is celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month in numerous ways. In the hallway walking up the red stairs, the decorations are eye-catching. Lionel Messi beams in the photo in his poster, and Frida Kahlo’s iconic image is after him, followed by recently deceased Pope Francis (who was Argentinian) cradling a group of young children. Additionally, there is a decoration of a Hispanic woman in a salsa skirt, which is cleverly made out of many different Hispanic flags, such as Argentinian, Puerto Rican, and Mexican.

In the arts department, Ms. Finlayson hosted a salsa dance workshop after school. FoSalsa is a partner dance known for its lively footwork and strong rhythm. The class began with Hispanic-influenced Just Dance warmups. Ms. Finlayson stood in front of the auditorium, providing slow, clear instructions on the steps of salsa. Then, she allowed the participants to join up with partners and begin dancing. The workshop was “Oh so fun!” according to Senior Isabella P. She recalls that the partner work was not problematic, noting, there was “minimal stepping on toes.” Junior Neena O., however, admitted, “learning it was really hard, but eventually it came together.” Senior Isabella P. described the snacks, chips with salsa and guacamole, as “perfectly setting the mood.” Although Junior Sophia M. did not attend, she stated that she saw it and it looked very cool, mentioning the



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organization and snacks. “I was very tempted to skip DAPS (Dominican Academy Preachers) to go,” she recalls, showing how well-executed both the workshop and its promotion were.

Mr. Ponce, the moderator of Students of Color Alliance (S.O.C.A.), has also printed posters with simple instructions on the steps of the salsa dance including footmarkings, titled “Como Bailar.” He encouraged students to dance with their friends by following the steps.

Every week this month, a representative from S.O.C.A. will make announcements discussing a Hispanic figure in history. Frida Kahlo was discussed during Homeroom, in which students heard highlights about her life from her birth in 1907 in Mexico to her many successes, culminating in a museum established in her honor in Mexico City. The announcement also mentioned her influence in destigmatizing disabilities by representing her Polio in her self-portraits.

Another figure mentioned was Lionel Messi. During announcements, Junior Neena O. educated the D.A. community about the sportsman. He was born in 1987. He started his soccer career at FC Barcelona, which led to him becoming the club’s top scorer. It also provided an overview of many of his successes, including winning La Liga and the Champions League titles, as well as the 2021 Copa America and the 2022 FIFA World Cup, both of these being extremely prestigious achievements. Lastly, it mentioned his donations to the Leo Messi

Foundation, which provides children in need with healthcare and education.

Senior Mariel R., an active member of S.O.C.A., reflects, “It’s been great learning about different important Hispanic figures through announcements at homeroom and weekly emails. It’s inspiring to hear and read about the stories, varying from being a famous singer to a soccer prodigy.”

Culture Club also highlighted notable Hispanic figures. One of which, shared by Seniors Zosia K. and Nailah E., was about Gloria Estefan. In the concise email, Zosia gave a brilliant, interesting overview of Estefan. She was born in 1957 in Cuba and fled to Florida during the Cuban Revolution. Estefan graduated from the University of Miami with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology. For many years, she worked as a translator of Spanish, English, and French. She encountered Emilio Estefan, a member of the band the Miami Sound Machine, which was a significant band popularizing Latin music. Gloria Estefan joined the band and began performing. Three of the songs on their album, “Primitive Love”, were featured on the Billboard top-ten chart. Six million copies of the album were sold in the United States alone. By 1989, the band was renamed after Gloria Estefan herself. Estefan also played an important role in cinema, acting in two films. Following many distinct paths in life, she also wrote two children’s books: *The Magically Mysterious Adventures of Noelle the Bulldog* and *Noelle’s Treasure Tale: A New Magically*



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Mysterious Adventure. In addition to her contributions to the arts, Estefan was an advocate for research seeking to cure AIDS and to support those suffering from hurricanes in Florida. She founded the Gloria Estefan Foundation, which helps provide children with education. Estefan won eight Grammys, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, and a Kennedy Center Honors.

Toward the end of the month, D.A.P.A. will collaborate with Mrs. Reardon and S.O.C.A. to have restaurants cater lunch for D.A. students and faculty. They aim to offer a variety of Dominican, Spanish, Venezuelan, Colombian, and Mexican cuisines, ensuring that our Hispanic students will see your culture's food represented.

Una Postal desde España (A Postcard from Spain)

By Ysabela S. '27

¡Saludos desde Madrid! For the second year, D.A. participated in the Madrid Exchange Program with the Colegio Nuestra Señora del Recuerdo School. At the end of last June, a group of Spanish II students had the opportunity to spend two weeks exploring the bustling streets of Spain, learning about their vibrant history and culture, and trying their famous delicacies, such as the jamón ibérico.

The Spanish host families and chaperones took the D.A. students around the city of Madrid, bringing them to famous landmarks such as El Madrid de los Austrias, which is one of the oldest parts of Madrid, constructed during the reign of the Austrias, a royal European family that ruled

the Spanish Empire for almost two centuries. This neighborhood is renowned for its specialties, including *churros con chocolate* (fried sugar-covered dough served with chocolate dipping sauce) and *bocadillo de calamares* (a Spanish sandwich filled with deep-fried squid rings). They had also



Spanish Exchange Students in Madrid

visited Toledo, which was a favorite destination among D.A. students. There, they enjoyed shopping and taking in the beautiful scenery. Laisha G. '26 describes Toledo as “a living museum,” saying, “It has the most breathtaking views, and the bus ride there and back was so memorable. We also went to a bull fight, which was made especially enjoyable with the company of our Spanish friends.” Other popular places



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they had explored included *Palacio Real*, *Museo del Prado*, and *Museo Reina Sofía*.

Aside from visiting famous tourist attractions, the students also spent their free time bonding with their Spanish friends. Maria V. '26 states, "To pass the time, we would go out shopping, visit friends' houses, and go swimming, or go to night parties." Most nights, D.A. and Recuerdo students would come together to eat at popular restaurants. Appetizers such as *croquetas de jamón ibérico*, small fried béchamel fritters filled with creamy sauce and Iberian ham, were a staple of the Madrid experience. With its crispy exterior and flavorful filling, this delicacy quickly became a popular favorite among the students.

In addition to being exposed to the rich Spanish culture, students also had the opportunity to build strong relationships with their Spanish friends. "I felt at ease talking to my exchange buddy and her family. They were all great people, and we would watch movies together. In Spain, I had two extra sisters, which was new to me, especially since I had never experienced that before," Laisha says. She also describes their common interests, such as *The Summer I Turned Pretty*, swimming, and other shared passions. Despite being from different foreign countries, the Spanish language created a bridge for new bonds and planted the seeds for lifelong friendships. Dr. Petit states, "I studied abroad for an entire year in college, and it was the most invaluable and impactful educational experience for me and transformed me on so many levels. I wanted

to provide our students with a similar experience."

When it was time to bid farewell to Spain's beautiful landmarks, everyone was filled with bittersweet feelings. In just a few weeks, it would be our turn to show off the beauty of "The City That Never Sleeps."

As summer vacation approached its end, the Recuerdo students were welcomed to New York City by its vibrant streets and iconic skylines. They were first brought to the Brooklyn Bridge to visit DUMBO, then to Brooklyn Bridge Park, for an afternoon filled with fun games, fascinating views, and a filling lunch at *Grimaldi's* for a taste of classic New York-style pizza. Throughout the next few days, the Recuerdo students were taken around SoHo, Little Italy, Chinatown, Upper East Side, Times Square, Staten Island (Ferry), and the MET Museum—all "must-visit" attractions that every tourist has to visit at least once! The D.A. students brought their Spanish friends to various food spots to show off the diversity of New York City. Throughout the last few days in New York, the Recuerdo students enjoyed family time with their host families. Laisha says, "The Spanish exchange students were all in awe about New York. They wanted to go everywhere and especially liked watching the skyline. Everyone really liked Citi Field, and some of our Spanish friends enjoyed watching a Broadway show. They were all so fascinated by Times Square."

Although it wasn't the easiest to say goodbye to these special people, D.A. students were filled with gratitude for the



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unforgettable experiences and memories they had made with the Recuerdo students. Te amamos, Recuerdo. ¡Nos vemos pronto!

The Chinese Exchange Program: Experiences Beyond the Classroom

By Elnaz M. '28

This past summer, select D.A. juniors and seniors studying Mandarin had the unique opportunity to connect with thirteen Chinese Ricci Scholars who came to New York. Each student from China was paired up with a student from Dominican Academy to spend their days exploring New York City.

The purpose of the Ricci Program is to provide a meaningful, cultural, and educational exchange between the USA and China, to form strong bonds, and to show appreciation for the cultures. Students are placed into different groups to ensure a gender and cultural balance. The leaders work with the students individually to guide them with the research. At D.A., the Ricci Scholars receive course credit on their transcript for participation in the course. Ms. Yang, the Madarian teacher, said, "This trip deepens students' understanding of Chinese culture beyond textbooks. They return with broader perspectives, greater empathy, and a stronger sense of global citizenship. Academically, their language skills grow exponentially; culturally, they gain an invaluable connection to the people and traditions of China." As Ms. Yang suggests, students gain knowledge that they could not learn in a classroom.

I had the opportunity to ask two of the students who participated in this event about their experiences participating in this program.

Q: What was your favorite part of the trip?

A: "My favorite part of the trip was getting to know everybody who came from China! We went to see Moulin Rouge, which was 100% my favorite thing we all did." -Ella C. '26

A: "I believe my favorite part of the trip was the free days. During these periods, we were able to do whatever we wanted with the Chinese students. My favorite day might have been when we took them to Chelsea Piers and taught them how to bowl and play laser tag." -Fiona F. '26

Q: What did your average day look like?

A: "My friends and I would pick up the four girls at the hotel, and then we'd go for breakfast or brunch. Then, we would head over to DA and then go out as a group to go to different locations such as the Department of Transportation or China Institute, visit colleges for tours and discussions at Yale, NYU, and Princeton, or go sightseeing! Later, we'd all go out for free time, go out for dinner, and then drop off the girls at their hotel." -Ella

A: "An average day meant picking up some of the Chinese students and taking them to areas they wanted to go like Central Park, the Brooklyn Bridge, or MoMA.

Afterwards, we would take them to any mandatory activities planned for the day."

-Fiona

Q: How did you use the Chinese language skills you learned in school during your trip?



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A: “It was really great to practice Chinese with the Chinese students. They gave some really great feedback and even taught us new vocabulary and Chinese slang. The Chinese students are fluent in English, but every now and again, they will ask a question about English slang or vocabulary.”

-Ella

A: “The NFLS (Nanjing Foreign Language School) kids were mostly fluent in English, but there were a few phrases they didn't know. We used the Mandarin taught to us to communicate small things like describing where we were going or what the food would taste like. We also taught them slang used in New York.” -Fiona

Q: Would you recommend this program to other students?

A: “I would 100% recommend this program to other students. It was a really unique and fun experience! Again, it was really great to meet everybody from China, and I still keep in touch with them every day! I made some really great friends, and I hope to see them again in China next summer!” -Ella

A: “I would recommend this program. It's a great way to exchange cultures and make new friends.” -Fiona

I also had the opportunity to speak with Dr. Petit about this trip. She mentioned that students were always supervised by chaperones from all three schools, and when traveling to the city, they were always required to be together with the host students. Dr. Petit said, “This is an amazing intercultural program where students have the opportunity to get to know their counterparts in person and form lifelong

friendships and bonds.” Lastly, she mentioned that her favorite part of the trip was the Potluck Dinner and Ricci Music, Poetry, and Dance Night.

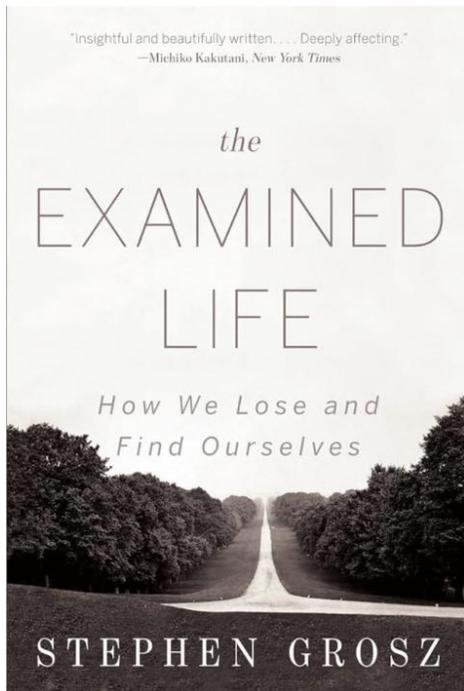
The Ricci Program demonstrated to students that the most effective lessons in language and culture occur outside the classroom, resulting in unforgettable experiences, such as attending a Broadway show and learning to bowl. By overcoming initial shyness, students successfully built genuine friendships and now look forward to continuing their bonds on the other side of the world.



COLUMNS

Book Review: *A Long Commute Home With The Examined Life*

By Ana D. '26



Book of the Issue: *The Examined Life: How We Lose and Find Ourselves*
by Stephen Grosz

Rating :

The Examined Life is a moving piece of literature, with every presentation of Stephen Grosz's patients more entrancing than the next. Experiencing this book was like peering into the lives of people you see on the street and realizing their troubles are not as different as your own.

I picked up a copy of Mr. Grosz's book after realizing I had no other form of entertainment when my phone died right before my long commute home (admittedly not a great way to choose a new read.) A quick Google search easily intimidated me as I read review after review warning it could be a dense read. Despite these discouragements, I was glued to the book, reading at least half of it on the ride home.

This collection of essays follows Grosz, a psychoanalyst, as he reflects on conversations with his patients from over two decades of practice. Mr. Grosz gives professional insight to the human challenges his patients face, framing these conversations into a series of detailed short stories. Escaping the common hardship of textbook jargon and boredom some readers may find in a typical collection of psychoanalytic essays, Grosz lightens a typically weighty topic with a reminder that many unseen internal challenges are acceptably part of the human condition. Do you have any favorite fun romance novels? Let me know your comments or recommendations by emailing me at adelgado2026@dominicanacademy.org.





Make Money While You Sleep

By Paloma G. '28

Have you ever gotten cash from your grandma on your birthday and kept it hidden somewhere in your room? Most of you probably said yes. I can relate because I used to do the same thing. If you did say yes, I am assuming you have a lot of cash which has accumulated throughout the years. Well, I am here to tell you that no matter how much cash you have stored away, you are actually losing money on it every year, even if you're not actually spending it. This happens due to inflation, which in basic terms, just means the rising of prices. Inflation causes the value of your cash and its purchasing power to reduce. Wait! Before you freak out, I am here to be your financial superhero and tell you that there is a way to cancel the effects of inflation on your cash; Invest your money in a high yield savings account!

High yield savings account - these words seem complicated so let's break it down. We can start with high yield, which means a bank will give you a larger amount of interest (or return) on your money every year. A savings account is a place where you can deposit or put down your savings and securely hold this money. The money in your savings account should not be spent every day, and most banks provide you a small amount of interest on the money in your savings account yearly. Now, let's put these words together since you know what they mean. A high yield savings account is a bank account where you can put in your savings and you will get a greater return rate

on your money compared to regular savings accounts. Basically, you are earning free money every year.

When looking for a high interest savings account, look out for the number next to the acronym APY, which stands for "annual percentage yields". This number includes the interest you will get back on your money, as well as compound interest. Compound interest means you earn interest on your money and on the interest you have already earned, so your money grows faster over time. The higher the APY, the more money you make on your savings. In addition to checking the interest rate, look at the bank name and do some research on it to make sure it is legitimate. To check if a bank is reliable, confirm that it is insured by the Financial Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), which you can do through their website.

In terms of reliable high yield accounts, I recommend the Capital One 360 Performance savings account or the American Express savings account. Although their APY is lower than other banks, these banks have a good reputation and are household names, so they are a good start. On the websites of both Capital One and American Express, there is a calculator where you can add in how much money you would initially deposit and it will show you the money you would gain every year. For example, on the American Express calculator, if you deposit \$1,000 in your account, you will earn \$35 by the end of the year. At first, this may not seem like much



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money, but over time, the amount of return on your money will add up.

So, talk to your parents and get their help to open up a high yield savings account. The earlier you open up an account the better, and I promise that if you start now, the benefits will soon follow. Stop stuffing your cash under your mattress, and start making money while you sleep!

A Dash of Happiness and A Sprinkle of Gratitude- Freshman Feature!

By Melissa B. '26

After a summer filled with resting, travel, test prep, readings, and hot days, it is now time to turn the page and get back to school. September is a month of new beginnings, new classes and teachers, and going back to old routines. September is also the month when we welcome the newest class at D.A., the Freshman Class of 2029. In addition to all the new things happening this month, A Dash of Happiness is going through a revamp this year. Each grade level will receive a new and improved Google form with my interview questions, in order to get a more personalized column per issue. This month, to honor the newest class, the freshmen are up first. Welcome to the first issue of *A Dash of Happiness and a Sprinkle of Gratitude*, September 2025 edition!

The first freshman I interviewed was Elis F. She said that she was most excited to meet everyone at D.A. and learn more about living in New York City. She said that she was originally from San Antonio, Texas, and had only moved to New York a few weeks ago. She was nervous about all of the tests

and quizzes that always seem to creep up every year. She was grateful to be a student at D.A. as well as to be able to live in the Big Apple.

The second freshman I interviewed was Kayleen D. Kayleen said that she was most excited to make new friends, explore new interests, and learn new skills in her first year at D.A. She was most nervous about two things: the new workload and tests she would get, and making new friends in an unfamiliar environment. She said, "I'm most grateful for the opportunities Dominican Academy has offered us so far and for the friends I've made along the way of my first year at D.A. I'm also grateful for those who have helped and supported me in getting to where I am today."

The final freshman I interviewed was Priscilla G, who said that she was most excited to get to know more people and find out what her future college major would be. Like the other two freshmen I interviewed, she was most nervous about the number of tests and quizzes this year. Something she was grateful for this month was all the support she got at D.A. Specifically, she said, "I'm grateful for all the support I've gotten from this school, especially my volleyball team. They have been truly supportive as I tackled being a setter."

I will be back next month to report on your good news. Sophomores, be on the lookout for my email with a link to submit your good news. I cannot wait to see your responses. Until then, make sure to add a Dash of Happiness and a Sprinkle of Gratitude to your life!



Ask Away, Tigers!

By Mariel R. '26

This year, Student Prints is rolling out a brand new advice column where you can ask any D.A.-related questions you have to a senior. This issue's column was designated for freshmen, but in the future, it will be open to the entire student body. Without further ado, let's unpack the first question!

Lillian Di L. asked:

Should I take every opportunity I see, or should I calm down and be more careful about what I join and focus on?

This is a great question! I think that I'm very much the kind of person that jumps on every opportunity, and a lot of people around D.A. know me as someone who's involved in a little bit of everything. Knowing what I know now as a senior, I would say that you should think about how much you can personally handle. This is a hard question to gauge the answer to, and I know firsthand how tempting it is when so many different opportunities are available. Get involved with anything that excites and interests you. If it doesn't work out, you can always quit the activity and refocus your energy on something new. Remember, there are always going to be more opportunities to get involved with, so don't put things on your plate just for the sake of having them, *especially* if these things aren't ones you're passionate about. While it's important to try

new things, you should *always* be careful not to overload yourself.

If you're reading this and some questions you'd like answered are popping into your head, rest assured you'll get the chance, just keep your eyes peeled for an email from me where you can submit your questions to be featured in this column.

Summer Opportunities Board

By Ana D. '26

The Summer Opportunities Board is a new addition to *Student Prints*. In each issue, we'll feature a student's response to a few questions about their summer experiences. Junior Sophia M. reflected on a meaningful memory she had at the U.S. Naval Academy (USNA), a D.A. recommended in-person STEM program: "On the last day of the program everyone came out of their dorms and into the hallway. There was a midshipman playing the guitar and we had a mini concert."

The U.S. Naval Academy STEM program is a Baltimore based one-week program offering the opportunity to build and design at one of the top colleges in the nation in engineering workshops and labs while interacting with Naval cadets. Sophia M. '27 stayed on the base in Bancroft Hall along with midshipmen who live year round on campus. Each day participants had five modules of STEM experiments before dining with midshipmen who were inspiringly were quite open about their experiences.



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Although the focus of the program was mainly STEM activities, Sophia M. also participated in some of the Academy's traditions and routines such as "colors", a daily ceremony to salute the flag.

Overall Sophia M. reported USNA as a highly enjoyable summer experience. For those interested in applying, the application opens in January 2026: [Summer STEM - USNA Admissions](#)

Art in D.A.'s Backyard: The Frick Collection

By Iris M.'27

If you are ever feeling uninspired after a long school day, walk five minutes from D.A. and into the Frick Collection. After an hour, you will feel as though you have taken a trip across Europe. The museum's proximity to school, accessibility for students (admission and coat check are free for those under 18), and small size makes an after school visit a perfect way to

pass time with friends or contemplate beautiful works of art alone.

Formerly the mansion of Gilded Age industrialist Henry Clay Frick (1849-1919), the Frick Collection opened as a museum in 1935 and is located on East 70th Street. The mansion has an indoor courtyard, Garden Court, which boasts a fountain, greenery, and sculptures, and two outdoor gardens adjacent to the building, one filled with magnolia trees and another with a small reflection pool.

On display are nearly 2,000 European paintings and pieces of decorative art ranging from 14th century Renaissance to early 20th century works. Frick commissioned the construction of the building in 1913 and stated in his will that he hoped for the building to be dedicated to "encouraging and developing the study of the fine arts, and of advancing the general knowledge of kindred subjects." The museum certainly lived up to this goal, as every bit of the mansion's interior is itself a work of art, and its vast collection can teach visitors about a variety of nations and historical periods. In fact, since its first opening, the Frick has doubled its collection, with many works acquired from private collections.

The Frick Collection reopened to the public this past April, after being closed since March 2020 for its first extensive renovation since its opening in 1935. The recent renovations have opened the mansion's second floor to visitors, including a special gallery displaying whimsical,



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Rococo-style wall panels painted by French painter François Boucher in the mid-eighteenth century. The project also included restoration of the mansion's 70th Street garden, cleaning and enhancement of the building's exterior, construction of a physical attachment between the mansion and the Frick's Art Research Library, and construction of special exhibition galleries and educational spaces. These results mean that now is a better time than ever to visit the collection.



The Boucher Room on the Second Floor

The Frick's interior and architectural style strikingly resemble our own beloved school building. Both buildings were constructed in the Gilded Age: D.A., formerly the residence of millionaire philanthropist and art collector Michael Friedsam in 1919 and Henry Clay Frick's residence in 1913. The Frick's marble floors and stairs, the walls covered in green and orange velvet, wood, and intricate molding, and mezzanine surrounded by beautifully crafted wrought iron fences, feel highly

familiar. Yet another reason to visit the Frick: an opportunity to see the originals of works featured in posters in D.A.'s classrooms such as James M. Whistler's *Harmony in Pink and Grey* (Room 2), Sir Thomas Lawrence's *Portrait of Julia, Lady Peel* (Room 5), and Jean-Auguste-Dominique Ingres's *Portrait of Louise, Princesse de Broglie, Later the Comtesse d'Haussonville* (Room 4).

The Frick's collection of paintings includes everything from regal portraits of St. Thomas More and George Washington to Biblical Renaissance paintings to tranquil Dutch Master paintings by Vermeer and Rembrandt to majestic landscapes of Venice, Belgium, and the English countryside. The museum's masterful curation displays just enough paintings to encompass nearly every European artistic era and style in a digestible manner that allows visitors to truly observe each artwork.

The collection, however, is far more extensive than the paintings alone and includes large and small bronze sculptures dotted throughout the galleries and Garden Court, shelves of leather bound books on European art and history, a room filled entirely with European portrait and decorative medals, a wall mounted with antique clocks and watches, and a wing dedicated to porcelain and china. These more functional works of art, combined with the residential aspect of the museum, create an atmosphere of art and creativity that feels more tangible than most museums.



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Freshman Sofia S., who recently visited the museum with her family, said, “The Frick Museum is like time traveling back to the early 1900s to discover a true gem in New York.”

Upper Eats Side - Food Review: Water and Wheat

By Vivienne S.

Rating: 

School is back in session which means it is time to sharpen our pencils—and our tastebuds. There is something about school days that makes my stomach grumble louder than our school bell by 3 pm. New semester, new classes, same hungry students, and thankfully that keeps this column in business. Luckily, I have done the honors of finding a rewarding destination to celebrate surviving the first progress report of the year.

“Water and Wheat” is an Italian cuisine restaurant located on Third Avenue between 78th and 79th streets. If all else fails, at least they give away the two secret ingredients to making pasta right in the name. Fortunately, I did not have to resort to my subpar home cooking because Water and Wheat delivered! They offer both dine-in and takeout, with options for indoor and outdoor seating.

The inside of the restaurant is fairly small, but they use the space wisely, fitting an adequate number of tables while keeping the area comfortable. The walls are painted a warm yellow-beige, and the front desk is draped in vines. Seating features square,

wooden tables paired with white metal chairs. The lighting is bright and even, illuminating the entire space. Outdoors, a few additional tables offer an opportunity to take in the fresh air in the few breaths between bites. The prices range around twenty to thirty dollars per dish and the portion sizes were just right.

The service was respectful, attentive, and balanced. The staff addressed all of my guests and my questions, checking in often enough that we felt taken care of but never so much to seem like an overbearing mother. Every course arrived promptly and was timed well, allowing us to finish the appetizer before bringing the entrees without leaving us waiting in between. All the staff was kind and amiable. When we arrived at four o’clock, nearly every single other table had a reservation for dinner.





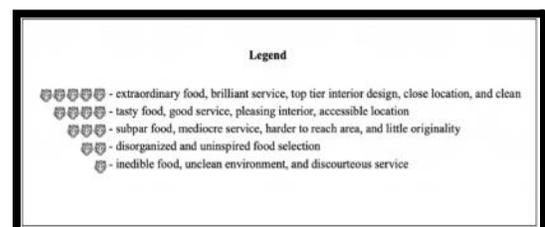
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For starters, my guest and I ordered their Panzanella salad (a medley of tomatoes, cucumber, red onions, olives, fresh mozzarella, sourdough croutons, fresh mint, and sherry shallot vinaigrette). The sherry shallot vinaigrette was light yet flavorful, letting each ingredient shine. With every bite, the textures popped: the crunch of the croutons against the soft mozzarella, the cool, crisp cucumber, and the sweet acidity of the tomatoes, making it the perfect, refreshing opening. For entrees, we shared the quattro formaggi flatbread and creamy meat sauce with rigatoni (meat sauce, San Marzano tomatoes, cream, parsley). You can choose from a variety of sauces and pair them with any of nine house-made pasta shapes. The flatbread arrived thin and blistered in spots, with a tantalizing char on the bottom. As I bit into it, the cheeses melted together luxuriously: The mellow mozzarella, nutty fontina, pungent gorgonzola, and sharp parmesan were all balanced by a sticky drizzle of hot honey that hit the tongue with just the right hint of sweetness and spice. The rigatoni was another revelation. Each pasta tube was perfectly al dente, holding up under the creamy, rich sauce that clung lovingly to every curve. The meat sauce was hearty and flavorful, with San Marzano tomatoes providing a sweet, sun-ripened base, while an unexpected roasted red pepper flavor

added a smoky, slightly sweet punch that elevated the dish. A sprinkle of fresh parsley on top added a hint of freshness that cut through the richness beautifully.

I know what you are all thinking. Here comes the section where I explain the disappearance of one tiger token in the rating. They would have almost gotten out of my grasp the coveted five token rating until the two bottles of San Pellegrino sparkling water hit me. I looked around and failed to spot where the bathroom was. When I asked they directed me all the way in the back. I had to walk past the open kitchen, squeeze between a few waitresses, down a long and ominous hallway, to be greeted by a bathroom that can only be categorized as bare minimum. It smelt pretty bad, did not seem to be very clean, and was so small I struggled to do a 180 degree turn from the flush button to the miniscule sink in the corner. The rest of the place, including the kitchen I was forced to look into when walking to the bathroom, looked very clean.

I would definitely recommend going and trying out this place. The food left us very satisfied and silenced my persistent stomach. It is the perfect spot for a cozy meal and to explore new variations on your favorite Italian dishes. I would recommend, however, that you use the clean, lovely D.A. bathrooms before you head Water and Wheat's way.





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D.A. IN PHOTOS
Seniors at Sunrise





French Exchange Program in Photos





Spanish Exchange Program in Photos





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Chinese Exchange Program in Photos





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Art at The Frick

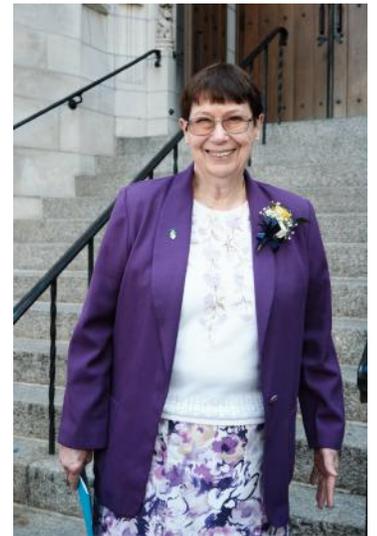


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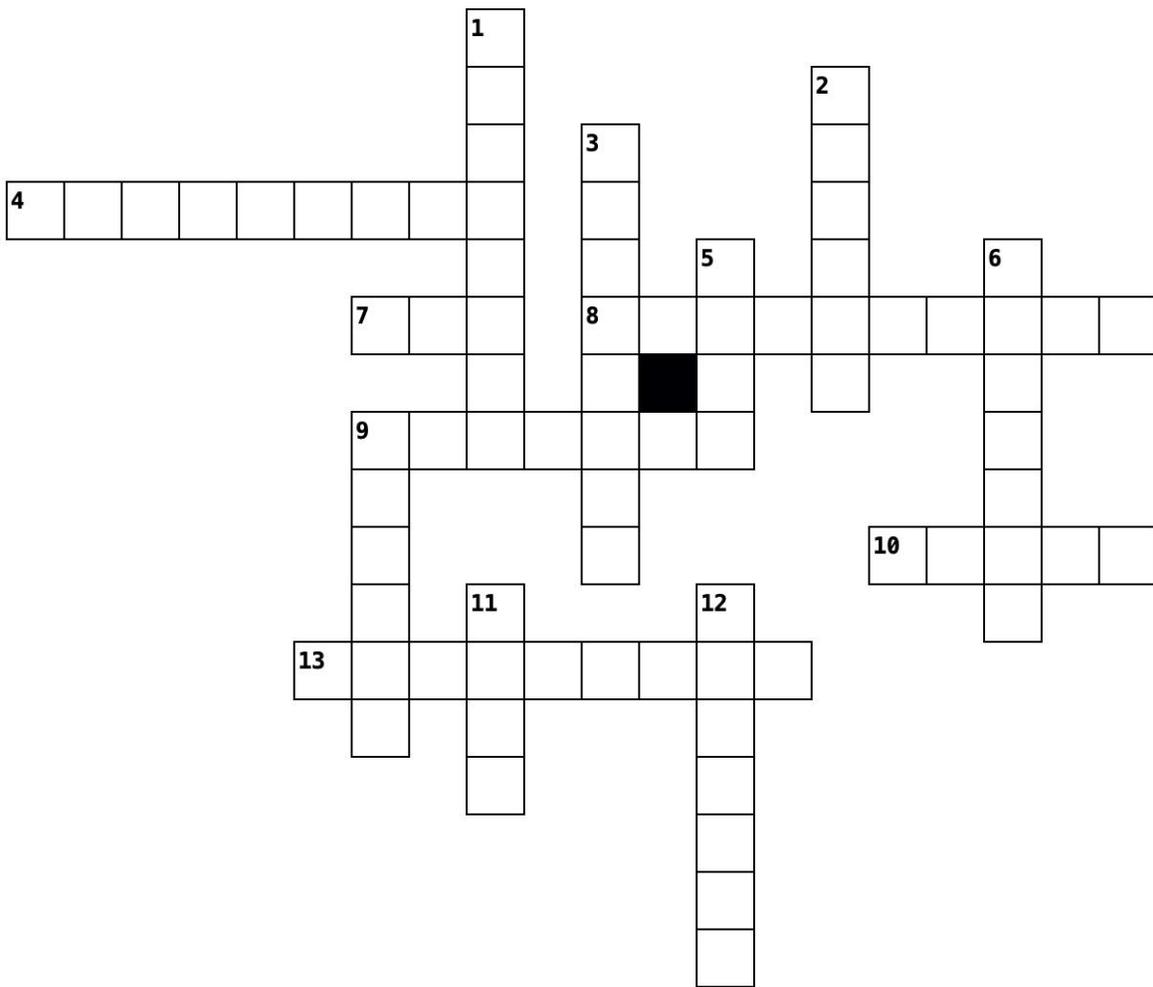
Dominican Veritas Transfer Ceremony



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Crossword - Back to School





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Across

4. How much higher our skirts should be from the knee
7. Our new sponsors
8. Why Mrs. McMahon is doing more announcements
9. New addition to our uniforms
10. Something we check everyday
13. Avenue our school is on

Down

1. Newcomers to D.A. life
2. What has been renewed in the building over the summer
3. Place to hear from all of the clubs
5. One of the school colors
6. Name of our magazine
9. Where books, shoes., and maybe snacks are hidden
11. How many fall sports we have
12. Our mascot



Crossword - Answers

Across	Down
4. Two inches 7. DVM 8. Broken bell 9. Lanyard 10. Gmail 13. Lexington	1. Freshmen 2. Carpet 3. Clubfair 5. Gold 6. Veritas 9. Lockers 11. Five 12. Dominic