



September 2015 | Vol. XXVII, No. 4

Students get a jump start on college

This year, the Academy is offering seniors the opportunity to get an early start on college by taking courses for college credit on campus.

The courses, available through a partnership with *Leeward Community College (LCC)*, are taught by college professors and administered through LCC.

Students must be recommended by one of the school counselors, have a 3.0 grade point average and pass a placement test.

Currently, 17 students are enrolled in *World History 151–World Civilization*.

During the spring semester, *Speech 151–Introduction to Speech* will be taught.

These classes are held Wednesdays after regular dismissal, and sessions follow the dates of the fall and spring semesters.

The benefits to students participating in the early college program are many and include:

- Options for taking varied college courses are increased;
- Students will be more likely to fin-



Leeward Community College Professor Naiad Wong discusses early happenings in *World History* with seniors Danielle Garza and Annie Oh.

ish their undergraduate coursework within four years – or sooner;

- According to research, many students who enter college with credits already earned towards their degree are more likely to persist and complete

their college education;

- An understanding of the demands and expectations of college courses and maturity and knowledge through participation will be further developed.

**NEW
FAMILY**
SOCIAL

September 20, 2015 | 1 p.m.
The Clarence T.C. Ching Student Center

- > Invitations were mailed to new parents and students
- > RSVP by September 15, 2015 at <http://tinyurl.com/shawelcome15>
- > Information: 808.734.5058, ext. 232 or rchang@sacredhearts.org

From the Head of School

CELEBRATING ANOTHER YEAR



Next week, the school will celebrate its 106th birthday. Note the agenda on page 3 concerning some of the festivities scheduled to create much Lancer pride and give us cause to reflect on the traditions and foundation of Sacred Hearts.

There are two specific items I wish to bring to your attention:

- Dismissal of all students on Wednesday afternoons at the same time is problematic, and often, the parking lot is literally in gridlock. To avoid this, as of this Wednesday, we will be dismissing grades seven to 12 at 1:15 p.m., rather than 1. Those students on work study will end at 1:45 p.m. rather than 1:30.

- Extreme heat for the Primary Building playground is also a concern. Of course, it has been unusually warm these past few days. Last spring, the school submitted a grant to the Castle Foundation for a tented area to be installed in the playground.

The permanent structure requires a permit which can take a couple of months. In the meantime, you will notice that the Maintenance Staff put up some temporary tents that are making the children and their teachers very happy.

Best wishes for a good Labor Day break.

Betty White

News from the Counselors...

► *Exploring college from campus*

The Academy hosts college representatives from across the country, including



(right with junior Lindsey Young) Claire Silva, an admissions officer from Gonzaga University, who come to campus to meet with seniors and juniors.

This year, College Counselor Randy Fong will welcome visitors from schools such as Brown, Carnegie Mellon, Johns Hopkins, Marquette and Vanderbilt Universities, Boston College and the University of Washington. Local colleges also visit.

Students are encouraged to sign up for these visits via their "Family Connections" home page, and benefits to attending these visits include:

- > Meeting an admissions representative who is part of their school's committee evaluating applicants from the Islands;
- > Learning about specific degrees and study abroad programs offered at the respective school and details about its facilities;
- > Discussing specific financial aid opportunities.

► *New Junior High Counselor joins ranks*

Junior High Counselor Ashley Fernandez looks forward to a trusting and strong working relationship with the seventh and eighth graders.

The concept of "community" is deeply ingrained in Fernandez, who grew up on the island of Lana'i, where "everyone knows everyone."

Since moving to Oahu in 2004, Fernandez earned a Bachelor's Degree from Hawai'i Pacific University and a Master's Degree in Counseling Psychology from Chaminade University.

Fernandez enjoys playing sports and was a softball player for Hawai'i Pacific University.



It was all in code

This past Saturday, it was all about coding for a trio of Academy teachers who participated in an intense, eight-hour workshop, hosted by Code.org.

Kelly Fase, Stephanie Brown and Alyssa Myers (below with facilitator Shane Asseistine) learned new and innovative ways to integrate the computer language of coding into the Academy's curriculum on all levels.

They returned to campus eager to share what they learned with students and colleagues.



An apple a day...

The students in *Carrie Knebel's Junior Kindergarten* class celebrated "Apple Day" by participating in an array of activities related to the favored fruit.

The students ate red, green and yellow apples to determine which one was their favorite tasting, created a graph with these findings and used their thinking skills to see how many bears heavy an apple is.



Happy Birthday Bash!

The Academy's birthday is on September 11, and celebrations will begin on Tuesday and continue all week!

Tuesday, September 8

Cheer on the *Lancer* volleyball teams! All games in the Gymnasium

- > Junior Varsity versus Damien at 5 p.m.
- > Varsity versus Iolani at 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 9

> Teachers to receive gifts from the Student Councils on "Teaching is My Superpower Day"

Thursday, September 10

> Students are invited to participate in the *Bungee Lunch Challenge* in the Administration Quad during recess

Friday, September 11

- > Students may dress down in school-colored attire – white, gold or yellow
- > A *Morning Birthday Assembly* begins at 8 a.m. in the Gymnasium with special treats to follow at recess

THE WIZARD

IS COMING! November 5 to 8 and 13 to 15

OZ

summer scenes to **CELEBRATE**

Looking over the horizon to college

From June 22 to 26, senior Kahea Ah Sam participated in a five-day "crash course" on "all things college" during *College Horizons 2015* at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine.



This program allows sophomores and juniors of Native American and Hawaiian ancestry to participate in workshops facilitated by college counselors and admissions officers. Participants complete a myriad of college-admissions steps, including researching schools, formulating college essays, finalizing the Common Application and learning standardized-test-taking strategies.

Ah Sam (*above with Cornell Admissions Representative Kathy Halbig*) said, "College Horizons helped me better understand my Hawaiian heritage and expanded my Horizons not only about college but also my life. I found so much hope in this experience!"

Junior is a talented youth

At Seattle University, freshman Jenna Tanna attended a session on "Volcanoes" as part of her participation in the *Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth (CTY)* program from July 19 to August 7.

Tanna participated in experiments and activities related to volcanoes, including an overnight stay at Mount St. Helen's, which is still active.

This is the third summer Tanna has attended a CTY session, and one of the highlights again this year was living in the dormitory, meeting other students from around the world and working in a collaborative environment to strengthen her skills in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

She was chosen for the program based on her standardized test scores, academic standing and outstanding resume.



Taking the first steps on a career path

As a sophomore, *Taylor Rayray* already has career plans drafted, and her participation in the *Congress of Future Medical Leaders and Physicians (CFMLP)* this past summer further solidified her goals.

From July 24 to 26, Rayray and other participants were mentored by renowned scientist *Jack Andrecca* and *Dr. Connie Mariano*, former physician to *Pres. George W. Bush*, during sessions at the Tsongas Center at the University of Massachusetts-Lowell.

In addition to getting useful advice from their mentors, one of the highlights of the experience was watching via video feed a thoracic surgery performed live!

Rayray was chosen for the CFMLP based on her PSAT scores, academic standing and interest in the healthcare industry.

She hopes to follow in the footsteps of her mother and pursue a career in Radiology.



'Ohana welcomes new members...

The Academy 'ohana welcomes new faculty and staff members to campus this school year in both the Lower and High Schools.

▶ *AMANDA Bobbette*

Amanda Bobbette has completed teaching stints at a nationally-acclaimed Chicago Public School and Saint Francis Xavier, a National Blue Ribbon School.



Bobbett also boasts a myriad of various work experience, including as artistic director of a children's theatre company in Chicago.

She earned two undergraduate degrees from Loyola University in Chicago in Theatre and Elementary Education.

While she has taught various grades, Bobbett reports that "second grade is magic," and she and her students sing throughout the day!

▶ *MARIO Di Lello*

Mario Di Lello joins the High School Social Studies Department and is teaching *World History* and *United States History*.



A graduate of Saint John's University, Di Lello holds an undergraduate degree in Business Administration and has completed additional studies in Education.

Di Lello relocated to Hawai'i from the East Coast in 1996.

Di Lello enjoys exploring the outdoors, lifting weights and participating in martial arts. He also collects watches and studies all areas of history during his free time.

▶ *NAMI Grafia*

Nami Grafia holds a Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Psychology and is enjoying teaching the High School's upper level *Japanese* classes.



Grafia's experience includes teaching Japanese at the Children's Creative and Performing Arts Academy of San Diego.

Before entering the teaching field, she was a clinical research assistant at the University of California–San Diego Medical Center and an office manager at the United States-Japan Psychological Services.

Grafia, her husband and son relocated to Hawai'i four years ago.

She enjoys surfing and body boarding, a skill she learned in Japan.

▶ *SHELLY Spence*

This year, the Academy's sixth graders will hone their Language Arts skills under the guidance of *Shelly Spence*. She holds degrees from the University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill (UNC), the University of Maryland and Chaminade University.

Spence has taught at schools in Virginia and Hawai'i and was one of the first female rescue swimmers for the United States Navy.

In addition to her work in the classroom, Spence will assist with the Academy's Lancer softball team. She played basketball and softball at a Junior College in New York and participated in rowing on the Division I level while studying at UNC.

Spence goes scuba diving whenever she has free time. She also is a certified yoga instructor and ran in the Honolulu Marathon in 2013.

