



The Advocate

Official Newsletter of the St. Petersburg High School International Baccalaureate Program • Summer, 2011

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE IB CLASS OF 2011!



The IB Senior Celebration was held on May 25th at The Coliseum with over 500 attendees. The evening was a special one, giving the seniors and their families an opportunity to recognize and applaud each of the 125 graduates as they were presented with their IB sashes and given a Senior Superlative. IB History teacher **Ryan Halstead** served as Master of Ceremonies for the evening, which included dinner, speeches, awards, and entertainment from the IB seniors. A tribute to the retiring IB teachers and a few surprises (!!) completed the festivities. The winning t-shirt design was also revealed, displaying the slogan... **IB DONE!!**

The evening ended with a tribute to the retiring teachers and a song specially written for the senior class from the IB faculty. **We congratulate all our seniors and their families!**

AWARD WINNERS

Carolyn Nelson Award: Savannah Dearden

Linda McPheron Award: Youki Revell

Don Driskell Award & Faculty Speaker: Dr. Jan Adkins

Class of 2011 Student Speakers: Amy Smith and Marcus Carter

Senior T-Shirt Design Award Winners: Alexandra Lasso & Brittani Craft



ST. PETERSBURG HIGH SCHOOL IB CLASS OF 2011



Prima Alonzo University of South Florida
 Abigail Ather University of Florida
 Kelsey Ballard Florida State University
 Henrik Bang University of Florida
 Larisa Barreto University of South Florida
 Danielle Behr University of Florida
 Brian Behring Rice University
 Dylan Benedict Florida International University
 Evan Billington Florida State University
 Stacy Bley Florida State University
 Jared Borislow University of Wisconsin
 Mohamed Bounaim .. University of South Florida
 Benjamin Brackett New College of Florida
 Justin Bramel University of Florida
 Marcus Carter University of Florida
 Nina Chalama Florida State University
 Eva Chaleff Florida Atlantic University
 Nathaniel Collard American University
 Edward Corty Johns Hopkins University
 Zoey Cotton Florida State University
 Hannah Couture Florida State University
 Brittani Craft University of Florida
 Shveta Dave University of South Florida
 Savannah Dearden University of California
 Samantha Devlin Stevens Institute of Technology
 Kevin Do University of Florida
 Erica Edmondson Reed College
 Brendan Fagan University of Florida
 Lindsey Farthing Brigham Young University
 James Fowler Florida Atlantic University
 Kelsey Fredrickson Southern Methodist University
 Kacy Fry University of Florida
 Eric Gates Southern Methodist University
 Joshua Goff University of Florida
 Brianna Gorman University of Florida
 John Hadden University of South Florida
 Harvey Halprin University of Florida
 Grant Hamersma University of Florida
 Marie Hanna University of South Florida
 William Harris University of Florida
 Sarah Hartney University of Florida
 Zachary Heller Nova Southeastern University
 Claire Hobelmann University of South Florida
 Charlotte Holden University of South Florida

Shaun Hoyt Clemson University
 Kevin Huynh University of Florida
 Paul Iankov University of Central Florida
 Sonia Jacob University of Florida
 Courtney Jans Saint Petersburg College
 Kyana Jenkins Florida State University
 Franklin Ji University of Central Florida
 Johanna Johnson University of Central Florida
 Rebecca Jordan Florida State University
 William Keyes University of Florida
 Abby King US Coast Guard Academy
 Elizabeth Kleinfeld University of Florida
 Doris Kopic University of South Florida
 Andrew Kropp Florida State University
 Matthew Kuruzovich . University of Florida
 Shawn Lam Emory University
 Evan Lambrecht University of Florida
 Nathan Laneau University of South Florida
 Kyle Langan Florida State University
 Kyle Lange University of South Florida
 Alexandra Lasso University of Miami
 Fedner Lauture Duke University
 Lynn Le University of South Florida
 Michael Lingelbach University of Virginia
 Michelle Lopera University of South Florida
 Alexander Lovallo Florida State University
 Sean Lynch University of Florida
 Alec Madow University of Florida
 Shazia Majid University of South Florida
 Alexander Matacchiero. University of South Florida
 Samuel Maxwell University of Florida
 Michael McBride University of South Florida
 Daniel McCabe University of South Florida
 Samantha McCuskey . Florida Institute of Technology
 Patrick Milligan University of Florida
 Christian Molina University of Florida
 Courtney Moore University of Florida
 Valarie Mull University of Central Florida
 Keerthy Paladugu University of Miami
 Ambra Papa Florida State University
 Preet Patel University of Pennsylvania
 Ravi Patel University of Miami
 Rachel Phillips University of Central Florida
 Alexis Pilkington University of South Florida

Caroline Pupke University of South Florida
 Michelle Quibang University of Florida
 Sharon Quimbay Florida Atlantic University
 Hunter Radin University of Florida
 Elissa Reiskind Kenyon College
 Youki Revell University of Florida
 Jessica Riedel University of Florida
 Cassidy Routh Florida State University
 David Sanderlin Florida State University
 Brandon Saraydar University of Florida
 Taylor Schluter Florida Institute of Technology
 Kristen Schwartz University of South Florida
 Arti Shah University of Florida
 Shawn Shah University of Miami
 Amy Smith University of Florida
 Regina Spells University of Florida
 Luke Stenard University of Florida
 Kristina Stone University of Central Florida

Tanner Sturgill University of Florida
 Tyler Sweetland Western Kentucky University
 Fariya Syed-Ali Tufts University
 Tabassum Tasnim University of South Florida
 Maggie Tobin Florida State University
 Devon Trevathan University of Central Florida
 Vesela Valkanova University of Florida
 Kelly Vasbinder Florida State University
 Emmanuel Watkins .. Duke University
 Lena Weissbrot Florida State University
 Cameron Wheeler Emory University
 Jasmine Wheeler University of Florida
 Sarah White University of Florida
 KarElaina Wilcox-Greco . University of Central Florida
 Nina Wilczynski University of South Florida
 Shannon Williams University of Florida
 Tiana Wilson Florida State University
 Kristen Wilty Emory University
 Sam Wishard University of Central Florida

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY ACCEPTANCES: IB CLASS OF 2011

Akron State University	Jacksonville University	University of Florida
American University	Johns Hopkins University	University of Maryland
Assumption College	Kent State University	University of Miami
Auburn University	Kenyon College	University of Michigan-Ann Arbor
Boston University	Lawrence University	University of Missouri
Brigham Young University-Idaho	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	University of New Hampshire
Brown University	Mount Holyoke College	University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill
Bryn Mawr College	New College of Florida	University of North Florida
Case Western Reserve University	New York University	University of Pennsylvania
Clark Atlanta University	North Carolina State University	University of Richmond
Clark University	Northwestern University	University of South Carolina
Clemson University	Nova Southeastern University	University of South Florida
College of William and Mary	Purdue University	University of Southern California
Columbia University	Reed College	University of Tampa
Cornell University	Rice University	University of Texas
Dartmouth College	Skidmore College	University of Virginia
Denison University	Southern Methodist University	University of Vermont
DePaul University	St. Petersburg College	University of West Florida
Drexel University	Tufts University	University of Wisconsin-Madison
Duke University	Tulane University	Vanderbilt University
Emory University	Tusculum College	Virginia Polytechnic University
Florida Atlantic University	United States Coast Guard Academy	Wake Forest University
Florida Gulf Coast University	University of Alabama	Washington College
Florida Institute of Technology	University of California at Berkeley	Washington University in St. Louis
Florida International University	University of California at Los Angeles	Western Kentucky University
Florida State University	University of California at San Diego	Wofford College
Georgia Institute of Technology	University of California at Santa Barbara	Youngstown State University
Goucher College	University of Central Florida	
Howard University	University of Chicago	

IB STUDENT RECOGNITION

Congratulations to the following IB students for these outstanding achievements

EAGLE SCOUT: Junior Trevor Williams achieved the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout from Troop 236, based in St. Petersburg.

DISTINGUISHED YOUNG WOMEN OF FLORIDA: Senior Kelsey Fredrickson was first runner-up in the 2011 Distinguished Young Women of Florida State Competition, placing in the top three in fitness, scholastic achievement, and talent. She also received scholarship funds.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL: Senior Emmanuel Watkins has been offered a preferred walk-on position with the Duke University football team for the fall of 2011.

2010-11 STUDENT GOVERNMENT OFFICERS *denotes IB student

Student Government Association

President: Eric Tong*
V.P.: Sai Chandrasekaran*
Secretary: Katie Keefer
Treasurer: Breanna Broughton*

Seniors

President: Patrick Bradley*
V.P.: Gabrielle "Gabby" Montes*
Secretary: Rebecca Kepto*
Treasurer: Kajal Patel*
Council: Shane Crutchfield*, Rachel Franzek, Michael Oates*, Andrew Evans*, Courtnee Connon*, Daniel Lindsay*

Juniors

President: Ike Okonkwo*
V.P. Megan Towzey*
Secretary: Vanessa Gillette*
Treasurer: Deividas Gustainis*
Council: Shalla Galanos*, Ashley Alonzo*, Matthew Harris, Mala Nath*, Kathy Ngo*, Liberty O'Neill

Sophomores

President: Noor Tasnim*
V.P. Bella Perkins
Secretary: Hanna Hartford
Treasurer: Sonia Sondhi*
Council: Emma Everhart, Heather Matthews*, Jennie Mason*, Caroline Krueger*, Weston Hucknall, Alondra Summers*

IB STUDENTS ON PROM COURT:

SENIORS: Marcus Carter, Eric Gates, John Hadden, Fedner Lauture, Alex Lovallo, Preet Patel, Abigail Ather, Kelsey Fredrickson, Maggie Tobin, and Sarah White

JUNIORS: Patrick Bradley, Andrew Shue, John Wilson, and Gabby Montes

IB STUDENT CHEERLEADERS: The following IB students have been named to the 2011 Varsity Cheerleading Squad: Morgan Babcock, Christina Barclay, Jenna Esposito, Alexandra Everhart, Melissa Franklin, Courtney Fridella, Michaella Hayes, Jaila Johnson, Amanda McCallister, Jasmine Norris, Alexis Rosenthal, and Karileigh Williams

MAINSAIL ARTS FESTIVAL: Freshman Michael Levecque was selected to display his artwork at the Mainsail Arts Festival in St. Petersburg in April.

2011 FESTIVAL OF STATES JUNIOR SUNGODDESS: Seniors Kelsey Fredrickson, Samantha McCuskey and Kelly Vasbinder were selected as members of the 2011 Sungoddess Court. They participated in Festival of States activities and rode the float in the illuminated Night Parade.

STUDENT AMBASSADOR: Junior Andrea Schmidt has been selected to represent St. Petersburg as a student ambassador to our sister city of Takamatsu, Japan.

SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Isaac Bashevis Singer Scholarship to University of Miami - Alexandra Lasso

Alpha Kappa Alpha - Courtney Moore

St. Petersburg West Rotary - Shveta Dave and Courtney Moore

National Merit - Erica Edmondson, Preet Patel, and Amy Smith

Dennis Rusinow Memorial - Doris Kopic

Florida League of IB Schools - Shveta Dave and Kelly Vasbinder

Suncoast Dixieland Jazz, Pinellas Promise Music Education,
J. Howard Hinesley Music and Art Education, and Jamerson Memorial - John Hadden

Phi Beta Kappa Alumni Association of Tampa Bay - Fariya Syed-Ali

John O. Burke Memorial - Tiana Wilson

St. Petersburg Civitan Club - Harvey Halprin and Kristen Wilty

St. Petersburg Times Andrew Barnes - Fedner Lauture

Bay News 9 Project Weather - Amy Smith

Bright House Networks Laptop - Kristen Schwartz

Alfred J. Muter Kiwanis Club - Kelly Vasbinder

Kiwanis Club Finalists - Marcus Carter, Kacy Fry and Tabassum Tasnim

COCA-COLA SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Senior Amy Smith was named a semi-finalist in the distinguished Coca-Cola Scholars Program.



COAST GUARD ACADEMY APPOINTMENT

Senior Abby King has received an appointment to the United States Coast Guard Academy as a member of the Class of 2015. Abby is one of only 209 applicants chosen for this honor, and she will formally be sworn in as a cadet at the end of June.

ALUMNI NEWS

Bethany Wagner, Class of 2010, has been selected as a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Fellow for the summer of 2011. Bethany is a student at Davidson College.

Matt Petit, Class of 2004 and currently a Foreign Service Officer with the U.S. Department of State, has been selected to represent the Department in its "Hometown Diplomats" program. As part of this program, Matt hopes to visit SPHS in August to discuss foreign service. Stay tuned!

IB BOOSTER NEWS

Congratulations to the newly-elected IB Booster Board members for 2011-12

President: Becky Hoyt • **V.P.** Alisa Allen • **Secretary:** Kim Taylor • **Treasurer:** Miguel Abdo

VOLUNTEERS: The IB Boosters are always looking for new volunteers for the following committees:

- **Office/Admin Help:** Helps in the office or guidance with various administrative duties
- **Hospitality/Events:** Provides refreshments for various events throughout the year/Teacher appreciation luncheons
- **Newsletter(IB Advocate)/Website:** Updates the IB Website with related info/Helps write, assemble, and mail newsletter
- **Proctoring:** Proctors IB Exams at the end of the year
- **IB Pinning:** Helps with the planning of the IB Pinning Ceremony for IB Juniors
- **Graduation Celebration:** Plans and presents end of the year celebration for IB graduates

If you can help with any of these committees, please **contact Ron Ladd** at ronladd@tampabay.rr.com to have your name added to our volunteer list. Thank you!

MEMBERSHIP: Thanks to everyone who has submitted their IB Boosters Family Membership Dues for 2011-12. These dues help us fund various events (especially the Senior Celebration) and support the IB faculty and students. An updated Booster Membership list will be published in the fall edition of the Advocate.

FACULTY NEWS AND NOTES

IB biology teacher Warren Hunnicutt was recently named the Pinellas County winner of the “My Favorite Teacher” contest sponsored by Barnes & Noble. IB Junior Ryan Sutherland nominated Dr. Hunnicutt for this honor by submitting an essay to the contest. Ryan’s winning essay is available on the IB Program website, <http://it.pinellas.k12.fl.us/schools/stpete-hs/IB/IBHome.html>, under the “IB Advocate” link.

IB Physics Teacher Kyle Smith has been selected to participate in the University of Florida Bench to Bedside program in July, 2011. Bench to Bedside connects researchers in interdisciplinary biomedical sciences with high school teachers to promote students’ interest in and preparation for bioscience careers.

IB History Teacher Judy Hoffman has been named Pinellas County Social Studies Teacher of the Year.

YOU WILL BE MISSED!

Several people important to the IB Program will be retiring or departing SPHS at the end of this school year. First, five IB faculty with a combined service to SPHS of over 125 years are retiring: **Jan Adkins** - English, **Ana O’Brien** - Foreign Language, **Judy Hoffman** - Social Studies, **Evelyn Murphy** - Science, and **Robb Townsend** - Math. Also retiring is English teacher **Elizabeth Alston**, who taught members of the IB Class of 2011. These faculty were honored by their IB colleagues at a dinner graciously hosted by Di Schluter.

Guidance counselor **Cathy O’Kelley Rome** is departing SPHS to enjoy life as a newlywed, and longtime guidance clerk **Gini Rollins** is also retiring.

We thank these faculty and staff for their tremendous dedication and service to the IB program, and we wish them well in their future endeavors. Please come back and visit!

NEW GUIDANCE COUNSELOR

The IB Program welcomes **La’Tina Johnson** as our new guidance counselor for grades 9-12. Mrs. Johnson has her master’s degree in school guidance and counseling from Nova Southeastern University, and she has already served the traditional program at SPHS for the past five years as a guidance counselor, AVID counselor, and assessment coordinator. She enjoys spending time with her family and is excited that her daughter will start kindergarten in the fall. Her email address is Johnsonlat@pcsb.org. We are thrilled she is joining the IB team!

PARKING TAGS

Parking hang tags will be available for purchase during the summer in the IB Office, Monday through Thursday. The cost is \$10.00, **cash only**. Students **must** provide a copy of their driver license and car registration (we cannot make copies).

COUNSELING NEWS

Cathy O'Kelley, IB Counselor Grades 10-12 & Ann McCoy, IB Counselor Grade 9

IMPORTANT—BRIGHT FUTURES CHANGES THAT AFFECT STUDENTS NOW!

We have recently been informed of new Bright Futures legislation with **immediate** impact on students, as listed below:

- Class of 2011: Seniors must complete a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) in order to receive Bright Futures aid. The FAFSA application may be found online at fafsa.ed.gov.
- Class of 2012 & subsequent classes: The requirement for community service hours has been increased, effective immediately. Hours are due by April 30th.
 - Florida Academic Scholarship: 100 hours of community service
 - Florida Medallion Scholarship: 75 hours of community service
- SPHS students who have completed 75 hours for the Academic award **MUST COMPLETE AN ADDITIONAL 25 HOURS**. Students may add new hours to their previous project without additional approval from Guidance or begin a new 25-hour project in the fall with additional Guidance approval.
- Log forms for recording additional hours for pre-approved, ongoing projects may be obtained in Room 106 this summer when the Guidance Office is closed.
- Students who are currently working on their community service hours will need to meet the new requirement of 100 hours.

For more detailed information on Bright Futures, go to floridastudentfinancialaid.org.

IB SENIOR MEETING: IB seniors & their parents are invited to a mandatory Senior Meeting (AKA "How to Survive the College Application Process") on Tuesday, August 30th at 6:30 in the Cafeteria (this is a revised date). Agenda topics include tips on managing the college application/selection season and navigating the SPHS IB college recommendation/transcript process. All seniors and parents should plan to attend.

CLASS OF 2011: We've just completed another successful year of college admissions for SPHS IB! The strength of our in-state public university system combined with its affordability has once again drawn the majority of our graduates, but we also have students attending 21 private colleges in 17 different states. Many of our students received merit- or need-based financial aid, including several with full tuition for all four years, and *every* IB grad has qualified for some form of Bright Futures money. Congratulations and best wishes to the Class of 2011!

THANK YOU AND FAREWELL: It is with mixed feelings that I leave SPHS - I look forward to spending more time with family and traveling, but I will very much miss the amazing and wonderful staff, parents, and most of all the students of the IB community. It has been an enormous privilege to work with all of you - thank you! *Cathy O'Kelley Rome*

REMINDERS FOR STUDENTS

FOR INCOMING FRESHMEN:

World History: The summer reading assignment is *A Long Way Gone*, by Ishmael Beah.

Algebra 2 Honors: Visit the "Meetings" section of the SPHS IB website at <http://it.pinellas.k12.fl.us/schools/stpete-hs/IB/ParentMeetings.html>. There, you will see links to Algebra I Honors Objectives, Algebra I End of Course Practice, and Algebra I End of Course Practice Key. Please complete the practice problems and review the objectives over the summer to be sure you are comfortable with the material when you return to school in the fall. Doing this practice and review will ensure a good start to Algebra 2 Honors.

FOR RISING SOPHOMORES:

Spanish 3: Log into the Descubre 1 Supersite using your code from last year. Select the class labeled "Spanish 3 - Summer 2011" under Torres' name. Complete the Practice Tests for chapters 5-9 and submit. We recommend you complete the assigned work *no earlier than 2 weeks* before school starts. Also, we strongly suggest you practice your Spanish skills by accessing the media (radio, tv, internet).

REMINDERS FOR STUDENTS (cont'd)

FOR RISING JUNIORS:

HL AP Calculus AB: Don't forget to email Mrs. Ladd at laddr@pcsb.org to get the "Summer Fun" Review Packet. This will ensure you start the school year off on a great note!

Spanish 4: Log into the Descubre 2 Supersite using your code from last year. Select the class labeled "Spanish 4 - Summer 2011" under Torres' name. Complete the Practice Tests for chapters 1-5, and read the story "Un Dia de Estos" in chapter 6. It is recommended that you complete the assigned work *no earlier than* 2 weeks before school starts. Also, we strongly suggest you practice your Spanish skills by accessing the media (radio, tv, internet).

FOR RISING SENIORS:

Extended Essay: The final copy of your extended essay is due the second Monday of your senior year. You must deliver your essay to Mrs. Farias in the IB Office. Refreshments will be provided to celebrate this event! Remember the extended essay is a requirement for a high school diploma as well as the IB Diploma. Students can also earn bonus points added to their IB scores for a well-written essay.

Science students have a rough draft due July 13 which will be reviewed by science teachers. The revised rough draft for science students is due August 10.

CAS: Please remember to keep up your CAS responsibilities over the summer so that when you return for your senior year, you are on track.

FOR SECOND-YEAR ITGS STUDENTS:

Please be prepared to present an Internal Assessment project idea when you return to school in August.

HERE'S TO SOME FINE PERFORMANCES!

ODYSSEY OF THE MIND: SPHS's Odyssey of the Mind team placed an impressive third out of 12 teams in its category, "As Good as Gold . . . berg", at the statewide competition on April 9, 2011 at the University of Central Florida. The Odyssey of the Mind program encourages students to think outside of the box to solve open-ended problems in a variety of areas. To prepare for the competition, the team worked several months on fundraising, designing props and costumes, writing scripts, and creating a "Goldberg Machine". Additionally, the team competed in a spontaneous category where members had to solve a problem on the spot. Team members include IB sophomores Jesse Wood, Morgan Rhodes, and Allison Malkiewicz, and Ryan Rudderman, a senior at St. Petersburg Collegiate High School. Karen Malkiewicz coached the team, and IB Chemistry teacher Craig Thompson sponsored the team.



DEBATE: SPHS debaters took the top two spots at the Great Debate sponsored by the Clearwater Bar Association Young Lawyers Division. The team of IB junior Eric Tong and Jeffrey Newsome won the event, and the team of IB senior Nate Collard and IB junior Liz Valentine was first runner up. Congratulations!

ADADEMIC TEAM: The Pinellas County All-Star Academic Team won both its preliminary and semi-final rounds at the Academic Team State Championship, placing fourth in the final round. Team members included IB Senior Preet Patel and IB junior Solomon Howard.

TIPS FOR WRITING YOUR COLLEGE ESSAY

How do you start?

- Plan ahead - a last minute essay will look and read like a last-minute essay.
- Make a list of the essay questions from each college and determine if there are any crossovers. Be careful; although there maybe some similarities; rarely can you totally substitute one essay for another.
- Make notes about who you are, experiences you have had, what you have accomplished, and what you think about.
- Read the question carefully and choose a topic that will best answer the question while giving the reader a better picture of you.
- Brainstorm topic ideas with parents, counselor, friends, teachers, and others.
- Write a rough draft, then put it away for a day. Go on to the next essay.
- Revisit the essays and read them over for content, length, extraneous words, and adherence to the question.
- Write another draft and another and another—proofread, proofread, proofread.

How do you decide what to write?

- Focus on an aspect of yourself that would prove interesting to someone else.
- If writing about a hardship, show how you overcame it.
- Don't make up a hardship; instead talk about a difficult situation, how you handled it and what you learned from it. Or describe a difficult project that you handled from start to finish.
- Write about a single incident that helped you to learn something about yourself.
- If you write about foreign travel, tell what you learned and how the experience helped you to see the world and yourself in a different way. Don't give the itinerary.
- Stay focused on the topic and don't ramble – you'll put the reader to sleep.
- Show, don't tell—be specific, not vague and general.

What do admissions officers want?

- In a nutshell, they want to know more about you than the cold hard facts of the application. They want to know what you think, how you think and most important that you DO think.
- Readers will be looking for the way you organize your essay, the words you choose to convey your thoughts, and how you present your achievements and your plans for the future.
- The admission committee wants to see how self-aware you are and your potential for growth.
- The reader wants to put a face and personality on the application. Essays are called Personal Statements for a reason.
- Don't try for perfection - it needs to look like you wrote it!

*By Judith Christie, College Planning Consultants, <http://www.selectingcolleges.com>
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The IB Mission

The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. To this end the organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment. These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and life-long learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

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