



# IB INTELLECT



## FUTURE IB STUDENT CONFERENCES ENCOURAGED

In following up on the recent IB Student Conference that was held at Holy Cross College last fall, a survey was sent to all IB schools that participated at the event, with encouraging results. A total of 40 respondents from six cities/schools in attendance responded, led by South Bend (26), Floyds Knob (8), Kokomo (3), and one response each from Goshen, New Albany, and Valparaiso. A total of 30 students (15 from Gr.12; 13 from Gr.11; 2 from Gr.10), 4 IB Coordinators, 3 parents, 2 IB teachers, and one school administrator responded.



Thirty (75%) respondents agreed that the keynote speaker, Brianna Smrke from Toronto was excellent (15) or good (15). A total of 35 (87.5%) respondents felt that the lecture presentations given by students helped in understanding the IB Program better. A total of 15 (37.5%) of the respondents were satisfied with the college representatives and their presentations. Fifteen respondents (37.5%) were not satisfied, and the remaining 10 (25%) had no opinion. When asked about the high-light of the conference, thirty responses were received, with the majority clearly indicating that they enjoyed meeting other IB students, who were going through the same difficulties and issues in their studies (16); followed by respondents who specifically enjoyed hearing lecture presentations or giving lectures (5); keynote presentation (5); free stuff and prizes (2); and the Minerva at KGI presentation (1); and lunch (1).

(25%) people noted that it was an excellent experience, followed by 18 (45%) as very good; 8 (20%) as good; and 3 (7.5%) as a fair experience. When asked if student would attend another IB Student conference if it was available in 2017, a total of 12 respondents could not attend since they will graduate in June 2017, but of the remaining 28 respondents, the overwhelming response was yes – a total of 22 (78.5%) would attend again.

Finally, how can the Hoosier Association of IB World Schools (HIBS) improve a Student Conference such as this? Twenty-one responses were received, and the majority of seven (33.3%) commenting on student presentations. HIBS could help in selecting better topics; make sure the papers address IB issues; review topics prior to acceptance; and provide more time. More student activities and interactive sessions were recommended by 3 (14.3%) respondents. Two respondents (9.5%) recommended that the conference should not take place during the high school break; and another 2 (9.5%) suggested that more selective schools be invited to the conference. Some of the other recommendations included having the conference closer to central Indiana; have fewer presentations per session; reach out to more IB schools; and advertise the conference more. As commented by IB Coordinator Matthew Nichols of Goshen High School, *“I wonder if we couldn't do the conference every other year in central Indiana and the years between alternating between north and south. I'm thinking of the kids' busy schedules as well as our transportation budget. This rotation might allow all of us to get more kids more often?”* It is clear that students and many others were happy with the conference, and would like to attend another one in 2017. Hopes are high that HIBS will be able to do organize an event like this again.



---

## NEW IB COURSE OPTIONS AT JOHN ADAMS

SBCSC School Board of Trustees recently approved four new IB courses to the JA curriculum. The new courses appear in the new 2017-18 Course Description Book and include:

**IB Psychology SL** (Group 4 subject) aims to develop an awareness of how research findings can be applied to better understand human behavior and how ethical practices are upheld in psychological inquiry. Students learn to understand the biological, cognitive and sociocultural influences on human behavior and explore alternative explanations of behavior.

**IB Economics SL** (Group 4 subject) aims to provide students with a core knowledge of economics, encourage students to think critically about economics, promote an awareness and understanding of internationalism in economics and encourage students' development as independent learners.

**IB World Religions SL** (Group 4 subject) is a systematic, analytical yet empathetic study of the variety of beliefs and practices encountered in nine main religions of the world. The course seeks to promote an awareness of religious issues in the contemporary world by requiring the study of a diverse range of religions.

**IB Film SL** (Group 6 subject) aims to develop students' skills so that they become adept in both interpreting and making film texts. Through the study and analysis of film texts and exercises in film-making, the course explores film history, theory and socio-economic background. Students also develop the professional and technical skills needed to express themselves creatively in film.

---

## SCIENCE OLYMPIAD TEAM ACHIEVES A FIRST

The Science Olympiad team continues to improve. At an Invitational meet held on December 3, the John Adams team placed 6th out of 27 teams, and earned their first ever trophy at an invitational competition.



Out of 23 different events that they prepared for, there were only seven events in which they did not receive a medal. Breaking down the results, it is wonderful to note that the team placings included 1st place in six events; 2nd place in three events; 3rd place in two events; 4th place in one event; 5th place in seven events, and 6th place in two events. According to team sponsor and coach Ms. Sally Troxel (Biology), most Science Olympiad coaches "stack the deck" by loading the most skilled members on the varsity team but John Adams does not do that for invitational meets. Ms. Troxel likes to spread the abilities between the varsity and JV students. This means that if she "stacked the deck", John Adams would have had a much higher ranking. John Adams High School has a solid team that has a shot at being top five in the State for the first time in our history!

Indeed, the team finished 4<sup>th</sup> at an event at Northridge High School on January 21 and placed 4th out of 42 teams beating Northridge & Whiting (both National champs) along with Bishop Dwenger, Riley & Mishawaka, LaLumiere, & Peru. As noted by Ms. Troxel, "their dedication, skill, and positive attitude is amazing".

Congratulations to members of the team that includes Roy Bualuan, Novali Centellas, Amelia Chupp, Hannah Curl, Alyssa Dang, Gwen Fourman, Robert Howard, Fiona Hughes, Alyssa Ignaco, Jason James, Manas Khadka, Jeremiah Kittrell, Madlean Koehler, Ben Kolda, Ryan McCann, Lorena Morgan, Keisha Natal, Renee Nerenberg, Matt Neumann, Dan Nguyen, Denise Raven, Lydia Rose, Sarah Shafer, Chad Steele, Mia Utayde, and Grant Wiarda

## STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN INDIANA!

On December 5, the Period 2 IB Spanish students attended an in-house field trip where the students heard from guest speaker Ian Hurst on a topic about human trafficking. The topic coincided with a unit the students were studying about child labor and human trafficking in Latin America and Spain. Ian Hurst - the coalition coordinator for the Indiana Trafficking Victim Assistance Program's northwest region - said Indiana State Police investigated 40 cases of human trafficking in 2014 and more than 60 in 2015. He shared insight and ways in which students can help identify and help if they ever witness or hear about possible issues related to this topic.



## JOHN ADAMS' IB STUDENTS RECEIVE SCIENCE RESEARCH GRANTS



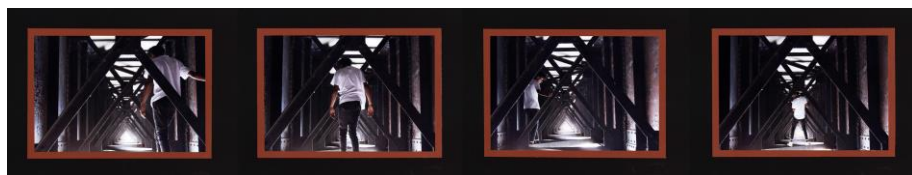
Following a fifty-year pattern of success, four John Adams High School students recently learned their research proposals had been funded by the American Association for the Advancement of Science. This national organization funds professional scientists' work and provides support for a limited number of high school investigations. Most of the students'

investigations continue last year's progress in the Adams Science Research Program and in addition, will satisfy the Extended Essay requirement for the IB Diploma Program.

The students and their topic titles include: Caroline Pitts, *A Comparison Between the Effectiveness of Operant and Pavlovian Conditioning in Planarian Flatworms*; Jack Lloyd, *Comparing the Effectiveness of Chlorella vulgaris and Ceratophyllum demersum in Removing Elevated Concentrations of Nitrogen and Phosphorus from Lake Water*; Patrick Bauer, *Modifying the Anode of a Direct Methanol Fuel Cell Using Graphene Nanopower Paired with the Effects of Increased Temperature to Increase Power Output*; and Robert Howard, *Utilizing Ducted Turbines to Maximize Energy Generation from the Wind*. Pictured above from left to right are Robert Howard, Caroline Pitts, Patrick Bauer and Jack Lloyd.

## FOUR ART STUDENTS AWARDED THE GOLD KEY!

A total of eleven students from John Adams had their work chosen for exhibition at the annual Scholastic Art Awards competition held at the South Bend Museum of Art (Feb.3-Mar.11). The event represents the most comprehensive national annual assessment that seeks to encourage, foster, and reward creativity and to confer recognition on emerging talent. We are proud to recognize the success John Adams at this year's event. The highest achievement at the regional level is the Gold Key, which is awarded to some 5–7% of all regional submissions, and are considered for national-level recognition. Other awards include the Silver Key and Honorable Mention award. Gold Key recipients from Adams this year include Maite Pensado (Gr.12-IB – in photography – bottom), Nathanael Chrzan (Gr.12-IB – ceramics on top), Nikolai Hebron (Gr.12 – printmaking leaves on right), and Eric Zheng (Gr.10 – dragon drawing on right). Area schools with the highest percentage of Gold Key recipients included Mishawaka HS (49%), John Adams HS (36%), St. Joseph HS (33%), Clay HS (29%), Marian HS (27%), and Penn HS (25%). Kudos to all students who participated and teachers on this wonderful achievement!



## LIFE AFTER ADAMS

The *IB Intellect* welcomes updates from our IB graduates. This month we share the success of **Abigail Brockman** (IB Diploma 2014).

*In my first year of college, I was especially grateful for my HL English and History teachers at Adams. The work I did in these classes prepared me to meet the high expectations of UChicago's Humanities and Social Sciences sequences, and gave me the confidence to enroll in challenging reading and writing courses early on. I am now part-way through my third year at UChicago, well underway in my Sociology major and Latin American Studies minor. Outside of classes, I have been very involved with my school's chapter of GlobeMed, an organization that partners with community-driven, grassroots organizations with the aim of combatting global health inequities. For the past two years, I have led the chapter's education team, developing a quarterly curriculum for the rest of the chapter and organizing public events. I have also held internships at community organizations serving high-crime areas in both South Bend and Chicago, as well as with the City of South Bend Office of Innovation. Through each of these experiences, I have developed a strong interest in community development, equity in resource distribution within cities, and violence prevention. Although I am not yet set on a particular career path, I would love to work in a field that allows me to address these issues in a concrete way.*

(Source: e-mail from Abby to Dr. Mika Dec.14, 2016).

## NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY HOLIDAY PARTY 2016

By Cecilia Stanton-Verduzco

Another year and the tradition continues! National Honor Society students of John Adams High School invited students from the Boys & Girls Clubs of Harrison Primary Center to a holiday party at the High School. NHS members made beautiful invitations to about 50 members. There was food, music, Santa Claus, face painting, gingerbread houses and a number of arts & craft activities for the students and members to do.

This event was highly anticipated by the younger members as many of them had older siblings take part in the past few years. Each Club member is paired up with one or two NHS students and the NHS student is responsible for ensuring their younger member has a great time. As is always tradition, the NHS students present the child with a gift before they leave. And while every child loves a good gift, the highlight of the afternoon is usually the snowball fight in the hallways. Everyone always has a great time.



IB Senior Ben Hawkins makes a new friend!



IB Senior Max Lander has fun painting faces!

A large group of NHS students shared time on December 14 with children from Harrison Boys & Girls Club. The children were very happy and excited with all the activities and events.

### UPCOMING EVENTS & DEADLINES:

Feb.3-Mar.11	2017 Scholastic Art Awards Exhibition at Warner and Community Galleries, SBMA
March 17	End of Quarter 3 at JA
March 20	Teacher Record Day – no school for students
March 29	IB Visual Art exhibit at John Adams High School
April 1	Deadline for entry of IA assessment scores and predicted grades
April 3-7	Spring Break

### STAY CONNECTED WITH THE IB INTELLECT

Stories from students and teachers are encouraged. Please submit materials to Dr. Mika. The deadline for the next issue will be Monday, April 10, 2017. If you would like to be added to the e-mail list for Adams IB Magnet families, please send your e-mail address to Dr. Mika at [mroinila@sbcsc.k12.in.us](mailto:mroinila@sbcsc.k12.in.us).



*The IB Intellect* is a Newsletter of the John Adams High School  
International Baccalaureate Programme  
808 S. Twyckenham Drive  
South Bend, IN 46615  
Principal: Mr. James Seitz  
IB Coordinator: Dr. Mika Roinila  
Room 2117, Phone: 574-393-5321

