

# COUGAR PRINTS

Character | Scholarship | Leadership | Service

## March Forth

by Hannah Decolongon, Class of 2016

March. Although the name of the month is a reference to Mars, the Roman god of war, I would like to focus on the meaning of the verb, "to march." Merriam-Webster defines the word as "to move in a direct and purposeful manner."

Around this time of year, you have more responsibilities and bigger projects due. You may have a gravity project in Physics or a Calculus assignment that asks you to find values you did not even know existed. Your work load might feel like a burden, and you might be tempted to whine and complain or even run away from the work, leaving it for later.

It is a fact that we can accomplish more when we set our minds on a task. Colossians 3:23 can help put this into perspective: "Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord." When we feel like we have too much to accomplish, remember that in everything we do, we do it for someone who is bigger and greater than any of us. We do it for the honor and glory of our Creator.

So, this month, let us move in a direct and purposeful manner as we tackle our daily responsibilities, and remember that in all we do, we should give glory to God.



## NHS Welcomes New Members

by Marla Mallari, Class of 2015

On 06 February 2015, Glendale Adventist Academy's chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS) more than doubled in size, adding seventeen students eager to serve their community. Two seniors, four juniors, and eleven sophomores took the NHS oath of character, scholarship, leadership, and service in front of their family and friends.

One favorite part of the induction service came during the introductions of the candidates. Current members had the privilege of sharing stories about classmates, best friends, and even a sister. This year Ellee Posner, a senior, inducted her sister, Vivien Lee, a sophomore. We found out that sophomores Braden Warrick and Brian Keshish are both inspired by the GAA and NHS achievements of their older brothers who are graduates.



## Strive for More

*an acrostic poem*

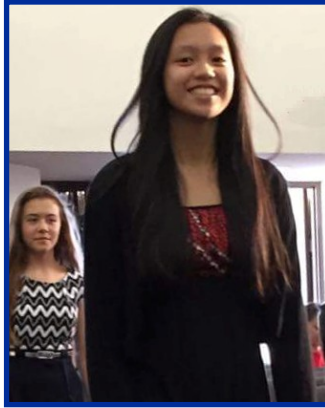
by Lucas Marcondes, Class of 2016

Laziness is the  
**U**tmost challenging foe. He is the  
**C**ause of not only missed  
**A**ssignments, but missed  
 opportunities.  
**S**o we strive to resist  
**E**very ounce of laziness, but this  
**D**evil looks  
**S**o good  
**O**n countless nights of  
**N**etflix. He  
**P**ries  
 Into our souls,  
**N**ever willing to leave.  
**H**e closes all  
**O**pen windows and shuts blinds,  
 leaving  
**M**orbid shadows to lurk around.  
 We need  
**A** new start that only Heavenly  
**R**oyalty can give to us.  
**C**hrist takes  
**O**ur laziness, throwing it,  
**N**ever to be found, into the  
**D**epts of the sea. In God's  
**E**ndless love, He never  
**S**tops encouraging us to strive  
 for more.



2014-2015 NHS Officers

President Sydnee Nicolas  
 Vice President Marla Mallari  
 Secretary Kaylee Pak  
 Treasurer Marianne Albarracin  
 Historian/Pastor Hannah Decolongon  
 Parliamentarian Mahta Marefat



Junior Kimia Fariborz has a rescue dog, named Boogie II, who is one of her best friends, and classmate Jarrukorn Chernbumrung, known as "Book" to many, likes to challenge students to ping pong matches after school. David Cecil, a senior planning to join the U.S. Coast Guard after graduation, appreciates that the four pillars of the NHS have a similar emphasis as the Coast Guard focus on honor, respect, and devotion to duty. Britney Oeung, a sophomore, likes to bake for her friends.

In addition to learning about the character and interests of candidates, attendees also found out about their leadership skills. All inductees have demonstrated leadership at school, during extra curricular activities,



and in the community. Most of the inductees hold school, class, or club offices. Many are leaders in Pathfinders, help out at Vacation Bible School, or work with summer camp programs for their local churches. Inductees are tutors and teacher's aids, and one even teaches children at a local art school.

While high grades are important, and all inductees have met or exceeded the grade point average minimums required and are on track to earn College Preparatory or Advanced College Preparatory diplomas, the most important characteristic of each inductee is the desire to serve. As part of NHS, members donate 15 hours of community service each semester. The GAA chapter of

NHS is dedicated to service, and members develop a lifelong habit of helping others. The main reason most inductees listed for wanting to join NHS was to be a part of a group that actively helps both the community and school. Senior Krystal Danlag said, "I feel like it is a great opportunity to serve and be a good influence to others, and I want to join people who have the same goal in mind." Sophomore Caitlyn Ng noted that she wants "to be part of a community that helps others."



The NHS congratulates each new member: Matthew Hutchinson, David Cecil, Krystal Danlag, Jarrukorn Chernbumrung, Desirae Darrett, Kimia Fariborz, Nolan Alinsod, Ariana Calderón, Melanie Grey, Alexa Jacinto, Brian Keshish, David Larsen, Caitlyn Ng, Britney Oeung, Vivien Lee Posner, Justin Sapigao, and Braden Warrick.

## By God's Grace

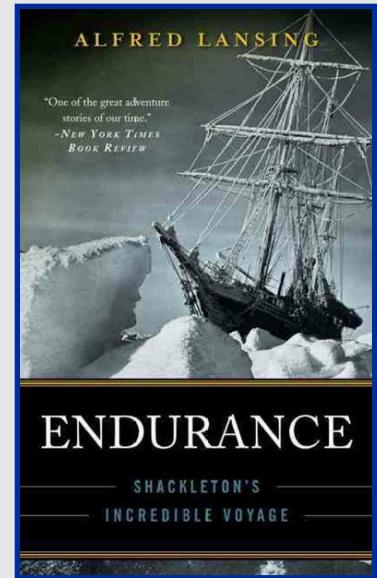
by Sydnee Nicolas, Class of 2015

*"And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me."*

*II Corinthians 12:9 KJV*

From 29-31 January 2015, juniors and seniors from Southern California Conference Adventist academies and churches joined together for Bible Camp at Pine Springs Ranch. While it is an annual retreat for high school students, this was my first time attending.

Not naturally an outgoing person, the thought of meeting



## Book Recommendation

by Matthew Hutchinson, Class of 2016

*"For scientific leadership, give me Scott; for swift and efficient travel, Amundsen; but when you are in a hopeless situation, when there seems no way out, get down on your knees and pray for Shackleton."*

As an aspiring explorer in the early 20th century, Sir Ernest Shackleton had been a member of several expeditions. Now he was ready to embark on the most daring adventure yet: a land-crossing of the Antarctic.

*Endurance: Shackleton's Incredible Voyage* (1959), by Alfred Lansing, details the staggering and true story of a band of twenty-eight men who precariously clung to ice packs after their ship was crushed by floes. Shackleton's brilliance kept his crew alive through subzero temperatures, furious blizzards, polar nights, and the huge waves of Drake Passage until rescue finally arrived months later.

Lansing writes the gripping adventure with the distance of a researcher, but his masterful storytelling keeps the reader gasping at each turn of a page.



## Support for Missions

In February, the NHS responded to calls from GAA and NHS alumnae who are dedicating their Spring vacations to world missions: Renee Morales, Class of 2013, now at Southern Adventist University, and Brittney Gregg, Class of 2014, enrolled at the U.S. Air Force Academy. Renee, a nursing student, will be traveling to Haiti as part of a medical aid group. Brittney will be working in Poland with Campus Crusade for Christ. NHS members, by asking for donations and selling ice cream floats after school, raised \$600.00 to help defray mission expenses.



## Learning from the Holocaust

by Adriel Rillera, Class of 2015

While school may have been closed for Presidents' Day, Honors Government students took advantage of the free time to visit the Museum of Tolerance. We were privileged to hear two survivors speak.

The first was Harry David who was too young to remember his experience, but learned of it after the war. Born in Holland, Harry was blond, fair-skinned, and blue-eyed. When the NAZIs invaded in 1940, he was just 18 months old. Neighbors took him in to hide him from the Germans. Resistance fighters later smuggled him to the countryside where he was reunited with an uncle after the war.

Born in Hungary, Agnes Kun, the second survivor, was 18 years old in 1944 when the NAZIs forced her family into Auschwitz Birkenau. While Dr. Mengele selected her family to die in the ovens, Agnes worked in Birkenau's show clinic where her cousin, a doctor, kept her safe by employing her as a nurse. She was liberated by Americans in 1945.

new people and then having to spend every minute with them was a bit frightening. As soon as we arrived, students were divided into "Family Groups" and sent off for our first group sessions. When I walked into my assigned cabin to meet the Hopi Family Group, I looked around and felt a sudden tightness in my stomach: I didn't recognize a single face. My group was diverse, with students from many different Adventist schools and even public school students who came to Bible Camp with their local churches.



By God's grace, we clicked instantly. Over the next two days, our discussions ranged from our struggles in school to struggles in faith. Knowing that we all understood one another, we were not afraid to open up about our inner battles. "Does God accept me?" "Can He hear me?" "How can people be so sure God is there?" Discovering common weaknesses in faith helped us to grow together as we searched for guidance, comfort, and strength in the Bible. Before leaving for our dorm rooms, we exchanged hugs and "good nights." Somehow we had already become a family.

One of the most faith-strengthening experiences I had at Bible Camp was in the "Prayer Oasis." I attended the session with a friend from my Hopi Family group. In the Oasis, there were several different stations set up to focus on specific prayer needs--praying for others, praying for a closer walk with God, and speaking to Him about life,



rather than listing "wants." Before we knew it, my friend and I had spent almost two and a half hours in the "Prayer Oasis." We had completely blocked out all distractions and focused on our individual relationship with God. Fully opening our lines of communication with Him, we finally felt our relationships strengthening along with our faith. As we were leaving, my friend suddenly hugged me, and we knew that the Lord had touched both of our hearts that day.

Already a month later, my family group and I make it a point to connect with each other daily, and to let our friends know that we are praying for them. By making my path cross with a new group of friends, God has provided me with an additional support system for my walk with Him.



Bible camp taught me that God doesn't mean for us to take this journey alone. He will bring people into our lives who will follow the path of His will with us. Solomon, in Ecclesiastes 4:9-10, reminds us that "two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor. For if either of them falls, the one will lift up his companion."

I leave for college in just a few months, and, knowing that I will be "on my own" so soon has increased my desire to work on my faith and my personal relationship with God. My Bible Camp experience helped me realize that my I had not made enough of an effort to include God in my everyday life. Now, I have made the decision to begin this next chapter with Him as my guide and as my goal.

*"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."*

*Isaiah 41:10 ESV*

## Scholarship Opportunity

by David Cecil, Class of 2015

The American Fire Sprinkler Association awards ten seniors \$2,000 each for reading and taking a quiz over fire sprinkler systems. To be eligible, seniors must enroll in college in Fall 2015. All applicants must first read a short essay discussing the history, application, and benefits of fire sprinklers. Then they take a ten-question, multiple-choice, open-note quiz over the essay's content. Each correct answer rewards the applicant with one entry into the scholarship; an applicant can earn a maximum of ten entries. Ten winners are randomly selected. Visit [www.AFSAScholarship.org](http://www.AFSAScholarship.org) for more rules and for additional scholarship information. The deadline for entry is 01 April 2015.

## Check It Out Online

**www.DrGrammar.org:** founded in 1999 by English Professor James HiDuke, the DrGrammar website became a go-to site for those seeking answers to grammar questions. Guests from 120 countries and from all walks of life--from students to national television personalities, from congressional representatives to business professionals--consult the many resources available.

**Grammar Girl:** according to the site, Grammar Girl provides "short, friendly tips" to improve writing. The site "makes complex grammar questions simple" using memory tricks to help users "recall and apply those troublesome grammar rules." Find Mignon Fogarty's "friendly guide to the world of grammar, punctuation, usage, and fun developments in the English language" at [www.QuickandDirtyTips.com/grammar-girl/](http://www.QuickandDirtyTips.com/grammar-girl/).





Harley Federici, Class of 2015  
GAA Ceramics Class

## That's Puntastic!

by Mahta Marefat, Class of 2016

I'm reading a book about antigravity. It's impossible to put down.

Question: Where does Noah keep his bees?

Answer: In the ark hives.

My friend's bakery burned down last night. Now his business is toast.

I used to have a fear of hurdles, but I got over it.

Weddings are very emotional. Even the cakes are in tiers.

There was a big paddle sale at the boat store. It was quite an oar deal.

Nobody knew she had a dental implant until it came out in a conversation.

I was once in a theatrical performance about puns, but it was really just a play on words.

When my friend told me to stop impersonating a flamingo, I had to put my foot down.

# Gift of Education: Update

by Pastor Scott Griswold, ASAP Associate Director

In December 2014, the National Honor Society of Glendale Adventist Academy, with the help of their family and friends, raised enough money to send 16 children to Feed and Read schools in Cambodia for both Cambodian and Vietnamese students. Many of the children had been working full-time recycling garbage in the Phnom Penh city dump. The students, now fully equipped with school uniforms, shoes, backpacks, and classroom supplies, started school this January.



The Feed and Read Schools not only make it possible for children living in slums to access education, but also introduces students, parents, and the community around the schools to Christianity. Through the work of the Holy Spirit, in Phnom Penh alone, the program has resulted in more than 70 baptisms and about 100 children regularly attending Sabbath services.

Adventist Southeast Asia Project (ASAP) plans to incorporate vocational training programs for older students. But, for now, the schools are focused on developing basic reading, writing, and arithmetic skills that will enable graduates to find better jobs and will help them pursue higher education.



We at ASAP wish to extend our sincerest thanks to GAA for helping make education and a better future possible for these children.

## Generations Connect in Song

by Ellee Posner, Class of 2015

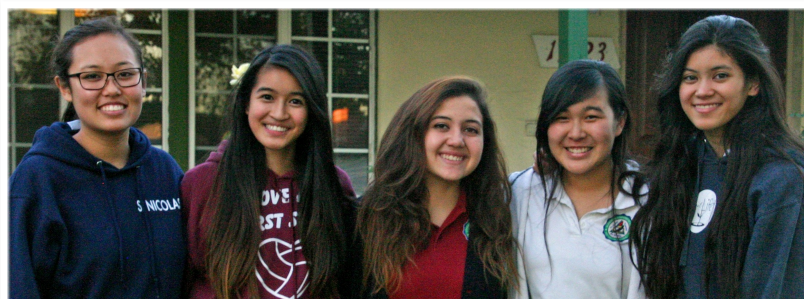
On 23 January 2015, five members of the National Honor Society, along with advisers Ms. Gross and Ms. Marcarian, trekked over to North Hollywood with plans to surprise those living at Ellee Residential



Care with a musical Friday evening vespers program. We sang songs, talked with the residents, took requests, and ended the evening with prayer.

For residents Helen, Margaret, and Frida, who are not often visited by family members, a room full of young people wanting to learn about them and their lives meant so much. The interaction also touched the NHS members, for we were able to understand more fully that it does not take a grand gesture to make someone's day. It just takes genuine interest in someone's life and a small, simple service to bring a smile and help someone feel loved.

My parents opened Ellee Residential Care when I was five years old. As a registered nurse who worked with hospital, home-health, and hospice programs, my mother wanted to help the elderly by providing safe, affordable, and quality care home. When I told my fellow-NHS members about the facility, they decided to visit. The residents have invited us to return. In preparation for that return, we are learning more of their favorite hymns.



## Save the Date

How will you celebrate, commemorate, or take action for these March events?

- 01 Peace Corp founded (1961)
- 01 Peanut Butter Lovers Day
- 02 Read Across America
- 03 National Anthem Day (1931)
- 04 National Grammar Day
- 06 Sofia Kovalevskaya Math Day
- 08 International Womens' Day
- 08 National Proofreading Day
- 11 Johnny Appleseed Day
- 14 Pi Day (3.14.15)
- 15 Ides of March
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 20 Spring Equinox (6:45 p.m.)
- 20 World Storytelling Day
- 21 Poetry Day
- 22 World Water Day
- 25 National Medal of Honor Day
- 28 Earth Hour (lights off 8:30-9:30 p.m.)
- 30 USA purchased Alaska (1867)
- 31 Cesar Chavez Day

## Sofia Kovalevskaya

by Mahta Marefat, Class of 2016

Russian-born Sofia Kovalevskaya (1850-1891) was the first European woman to earn a doctorate in mathematics. Her greatest contributions to the field were her concept about partial differentiation involving time derivatives and free surfaces and her theory about the rotation of a solid body around a fixed point.

Fascinated by calculus and trigonometry from a young age, she determined to pursue studies in a field mostly closed to women at the time. Sofia published many papers and shared theories about math and science, many of which were originally rejected--not because they lacked merit--but because the author was female.

Her astounding understanding of mathematical concepts helped shape current theories on differentiation, integration, calculus, and physics.

Her work did not stop there. She also became an advocate for the rights of women to seek higher education.

## Special Thanks

We would like to thank Hakeem Boulin, Class of 1999, Sylvia Shaw Bond, Class of 1966, and Dr. Aziz Berjis of the Glendale Surgery Center for their generous donations that made it possible to publish and mail the March 2015 issue.

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## Cougar Prints

Cougar Prints is sponsored by the Glendale Adventist Academy chapter of the National Honor Society. The publication is committed to sharing positive examples of character, scholarship, leadership, and service found at the school, in the community, and among the alumni. Cougar Prints is available in digital format at [GlendaleAcademy.org](http://GlendaleAcademy.org).

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**Whatever things are true, whatever things are honest, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.**

Philippians 4:8 KJV

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## March Calendar

**01 Glendale-Foothill Communities CROP Hunger Walk** (1:00 p.m. registration; 1:00 p.m. walk begins at 1001 N Brand Blvd in Glendale)

**02 H&S Restaurant Night** (11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Acapulco in Glendale)

**07 Sophomore Lock-In** (7:00 p.m. at GAA)

**08 Clocks Forward** (set clocks ahead one hour)

**08 Benefit Concert** (7:00 p.m. at Hollywood Forest Lawn's Hall of Liberty)

**09 Block B Monday**

**12-18 Senior Class Trip to Hawaii**

**13 Minimum Day**

**15 SAT** (7:45 a.m. at GAA)

**16-27 Spring Break**

**30 Classes Resume**

## Talk to Us

If you have a story that could be part of this publication, please share it with us at [CougarPrints@GlendaleAcademy.org](mailto:CougarPrints@GlendaleAcademy.org). We would like to feature class projects, art, poetry, essays, alumni achievement, book recommendations, great websites/apps, and more. If you have supportive comments to share or if you would like to underwrite the printing of an up-coming issue, we would love to hear from you, too.



Sydnee Nicolas, Class of 2015  
GAA Ceramics Class

