



## Superintendent's Message

I am very excited about this year's Interfaith Candlelight Service which will take place this Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. The Interfaith Candlelight Service is a traditional NYMA event that dates back more than a hundred years and brings the Corps of Cadets, faculty and staff, and parents together to mark the holidays in a way that celebrates the diversity on our campus.

The program for Sunday will include readings from Christian, Hebrew, Kwanzaa, and Muslim texts calling for peace on earth. We will also sing traditional American Christmas carols. The candle-lighting itself, the passing of light from one person to the next, symbolizes all of our shared hopes for the future.

For the first time in years, we will have close to 150 people joining us for the event. Dinner will be served after the service. You should have already received an invitation and I am looking forward to seeing everyone there. I also want to thank those who have helped prepare for the event and/or made generous donations.



All the cadets have been studying and preparing for the upcoming mid-term exams. This year we moved the ending date of the Fall Semester up to December so everyone will have a very nice and relaxing Winter Furlough. The break will officially start on Friday, December 21<sup>st</sup>. I sincerely wish you all a very happy holiday season and a Happy New Year! To those who will be traveling to be with your loved ones, I wish you safe travels!

Please be reminded that in order to help arrange transportation needs, we have created a dedicated email for your requests. If your child needs to be dropped off before furlough and/or picked up after furlough, please email [transportation@nyma.org](mailto:transportation@nyma.org). When you make a request, please include as much information as possible such as day, time, location, flight number, etc. Please note that if your child will ride the school van to and/or from Beacon Station, you do not need to submit a special email request. The deadline for requesting a drop-off service is Tuesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>; the deadline for requesting a pick-up service is Wednesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## Dean's News

This past Thursday marked the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Marking Period. On Friday, teachers began reviewing for mid-term exams. The review will continue on Monday and will be followed by morning and afternoon exams for the remainder of the week. We have added an additional study hall in the library this Saturday evening from 7:00-9:00 pm for any student looking for a quiet place to study. Students may depart for the Winter Furlough on Friday after they have completed their last exam.



We have been conducting rehearsals for the students that will be reading at our candlelight service this Sunday. Please join us for this beautiful ceremony that celebrates the many cultures that are present at our school. The service will be held in our chapel at 5:00 pm and will be followed by a holiday dinner in the Curie Dining Hall. We really hope to see you there! There were a handful of students that helped us with the holiday decorating and we so appreciate it. I'd like to give a special shout-out to Kobe Parker that saved the day by resuscitating our Christmas tree. If any parents would like to rid their attics or closets of excess Christmas decorations, we would surely be able to make use of them for future years to come.

The Barnett brothers, Noah and Jacob, were recently recognized and accepted into the Corps of Cadets. Cadet Alvin Lukose is placing epilates on Noah while Cadet Robin Zhao places epilates on his brother Jacob. Our cadet leaders will be busy training once again as students that have been accepted for the second semester begin to arrive.



The representative from Jostens came to NYMA this Wednesday to discuss purchasing class rings. He measured any student that expressed interest and presented them with ordering information. Students must send the representative a deposit to place the order and the rings will be presented to the students at our annual Ring Hop in May (if it has been completely paid for).

Mr. Lemon's 7<sup>th</sup> grade History students were continuing to learn about how the Founding Fathers created a new government while his 8<sup>th</sup> graders finished the unit on American Imperialism. Both classes were busy getting ready for their mid-terms by participating in class activities and preparing their study guides.

Ms. Hill's 8<sup>th</sup> grade ELA students finished the novel, *Speak*, which is about a girl their age that gradually learns the skills to bravely overcome a serious problem. In the novel, Melinda learns how to express her feelings through art by experimenting with all mediums to capture the subject of a tree. Each student in Ms. Hill's class picked a significant date in their life and drew a tree to represent the day's events.



In an exploration of the ideas of slope and y-intercept, students in Mrs. Harrell's A-block Algebra class used their math skills to determine how many styrofoam cups it would take to equal Mrs. Harrell's height. The lesson involved measurement, calculation, graphing, and more.

Success! All three balls that the robot shot made it into the basket. Great job, Duke! Hard work and fun are combined in NYMA's Robotics Lab (below-right).



Mrs. Martinez's Spanish class was working on verb conjugation this week. Each student was given a different verb to work on and had to indicate if it was regular or stem-changing. This was great practice for the mid-term exam next week.

Mr. Langan participated in a virtual class visit to Norwich University last week to discuss his writing in the context of American Gothic Literature. He received a beautiful thank you note for his participation:

*Dear John,*

*I wanted to thank you again for paying a "virtual visit" via GotoMeeting to my English 390 class, "Topics in American Literature: Horror and the Gothic Tradition in American Literature," at Norwich University on Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018. You did a great job. Your comments about your novel *The Fisherman*, which I had assigned to the class, were well-presented and very helpful to my students, as were your more general comments about writing and American literature. Your take on the characteristics of an "American Gothic" were especially useful. The students responded very positively to your visit. I also appreciate your handling the tech on your end so adeptly. It was a great way to wind up the course. Thanks again!*

*Best,*

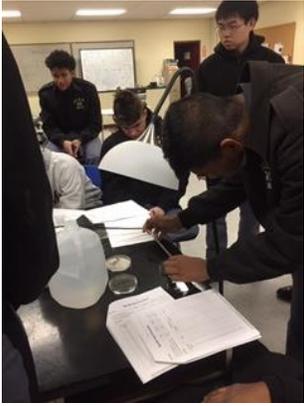
*Brett*

*F. Brett Cox, Ph.D., Charles A. Dana Professor of English*

*Dept. of English and Communications, College of Liberal Arts*

*Norwich University*





Specific heat is defined as the amount of heat per unit mass needed to increase its temperature by one degree Celsius. Students in Dr. Fjerdningstad’s Physics class conducted an experiment using a lamp to add heat to samples of sand and water. Then using a thermometer, they were able to measure how much the temperature of each substance changed in a given amount of time. They were able to conclude that water has a very high specific heat, meaning that it needs to absorb a lot of energy before its temperature changes. Sand and ashes, on the other hand, have lower specific heats.

Thomas Koumas, Judy Zhou, Yafei Wen, Ethan Hassane, Roberta Bjornman, and Serena Yang (pictured below) were all announced as the winners of the Holiday Card Contest created

by Ms. Zhang and Ms. Simon. Every year, students from Ms. Simon’s art class participate in this challenge to create our NYMA holiday card. These cards designed by the students will be sent to each of our NYMA family members. They always do such a beautiful job posing us with the dilemma of choosing a winner. It’s simply not possible so you will see their artwork on the front, inside, and back of your cards as well.

## From the Admissions Office

Another busy week has come and gone for the Admissions Department. We fielded 43 inquiries about the school, received two new applications, and gave two tours to interested families. We also welcomed New Cadet Benedict Danilov who transferred from Valley Forge Military Academy.

We will be hosting an Open House here on campus tomorrow. It will begin at 10:00 am and end at approximately 1:00 pm. Families will join in an informal meet and greet with the Academy’s staff, enjoy a brief presentation, and be shown around campus by cadets. Interviews of prospective applicants will also be conducted. To RSVP for an Open House, please contact our Admissions Office at [admissions@nyma.org](mailto:admissions@nyma.org) or at (845) 534-3710, Ext. 4272.

- 2019 Open Houses:** Saturday, January 12<sup>th</sup>      Saturday, February 9<sup>th</sup>  
 Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup>      Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>      Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>

**Review NYMA on Niche:** We value your feedback! Share your NYMA experience by writing a review of our school on Niche! Share your story at: <https://www.niche.com/k12/new-york-military-academy-cornwall-on-hudson-ny/#reviews>



## From the Athletic Department

12/7 - NYMA had a double-header with the Girls and Boys Varsity Basketball teams against Faith Christian Academy. The girls’ game was first and they played very solidly winning by the score of 87-17. The Lady Knights were led by Cadet Zuzia Kulinska who scored 30 points.



The boys’ game followed and they also won. The Knights defeated FCA by the score of 82-12. They were led by Cadet Jaylen Davis who finished with 22 points. Zamere McKenzie had 10 points while cadets Bob Wang and Jeannot Basima each scored 9.

12/8 - The Girls Basketball team was back in action against HVAL opponent, Darrow. They beat the Ducks by a score of 89-20. The team gave up just five points in the first half in a solid defensive effort. Leading the defense was Flera Vinerte and Roberta Bjornman. Zuzia Kulinska led the team in scoring.

12/8 - The NYMA Knights Wrestling team led by Coach Tom Roselli started their season off with a trip to Marvelwood for the Skiff Mountain Scuffle. The team did a great job and was led by Jacob Almakias and Kobe Parker who both finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in their respected weight classes.





12/11 - The NYMA Boys Varsity Basketball team played host to NEPSAC power, St. Thomas More from Connecticut. The Knights won by the score of 50-45 as they improved to 3-0 on the season. They were led by Cadet Jaylen Davis who had 18 points. NYMA is back in action as they play Our Savior Lutheran from New York City on Friday Night at the City Legends College Showcase at St. Raymond's High School in the Bronx.

12/12 - The Girls Varsity Basketball team traveled to Holy Child (Class A) in Rye, NY. The game stayed close through the first five minutes with NYMA holding a 13-11 lead. Over the next 11 minutes, NYMA outscored Holy Child by a 27-9 margin sparked by the play of Cadet Zuzia Kulinska. Zuzia finished with 25 points in the half and 40 for the game. Gianna Whitenour contributed with strong defensive play as did Isabel Sanchez.

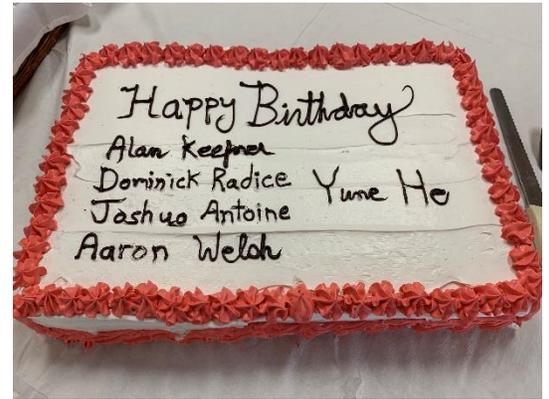
## From the Commandant

A lot of exciting things are currently happening at NYMA. The cadets are excited for their upcoming break and the look on their faces during the first E-sports meeting was great! I am still fundraising to get all the required equipment for them to have an official competing team.



We had Birthday Wednesday this week as we do every month. We celebrated the birthdays of five cadets! Although the cake is huge, it goes fast.

This coming weekend is closed in preparation for exam week. During this weekend there will be room and uniform inspections, a physical cadet challenge, and a candle lighting followed by a family dinner in the Mess Hall. Thank you to all of you who continue to support NYMA!



## Counselor's Corner

Greetings families and guardians! PSAT scores have come in and I will be sending you a copy if you haven't already seen them through your student's CollegeBoard account. As I did last year, I will send out information on how to interpret the scores. If you have any questions about your student's scores, please feel free to reach out.

[Raise Me](#) is a wonderful opportunity that utilizes "micro scholarships" to give students regular opportunities to earn money for college. Just for completing the PSATs, SATs, and ACTs, you can earn some money. Did you get good grades? Earn money! Perfect attendance? Earn money! Play a sport? Earn money! Complete your FAFSA? Earn money! [Use this link](#) to create an account today!

Speaking of college money, Senior Parents/Guardians, if you haven't already started on your [FAFSA](#) or [CSS Profile](#), please do so soon. It does require some paperwork and documents to reference, so organizing what you have and need may take some time. Please let me know if you have any questions.

## From the Activities Coordinator



Thank you to those who made this semester of Cadet Activities a huge success! Over the next several weeks, I will be crafting the second (spring) semester calendar. If you would like to share ideas and suggestions or help in any way, please contact me at [shill@nyma.org](mailto:shill@nyma.org). We will be adding some airsoft activities, more shopping mall trips, ice skating trips, hikes, movies, and even a trip to the Orange County Speedway.

Cadets will be spending much of this closed weekend getting ready for the Candlelight Ceremony, but can join Dr. Webb for a cookie decorating contest in the Mess Hall Friday evening. Have a fabulous break!