

# THE WEEKLY WORD

Jan. 29, 2021



## Praise for IWA Computer Science

Incarnate Word Academy has earned the College Board AP<sup>®</sup> Computer Science Female Diversity Award for achieving high female representation in AP Computer Science Principles. We are one of 831 schools nationwide to receive the honor. The College Board presents the Female Diversity Award to schools that have expanded girls' access in AP computer science courses. IWA offers both AP Computer Science Principles and AP Computer Science A, along with several other courses in computer programming and digital design. We're proud to have earned this honor.

## The Coming Week

January 31 - February 6, 2021

- Catholic Schools Week (*full details below*)

January 31

- NACAC Virtual College Fair (*registration details below*)

February 5, 2021

- All-School Mass 8:10 a.m.
- IWA Teens for Unity Talent Show "We Are All Originals"

Via live stream and with limited in-person seating; tickets \$10; shirts \$15 (*see below*)

## Important Dates

February 12, 2021

- Student-Parent-Teacher Conferences (*see below*)

## Tuition Update

Earlier today, we sent out notices about tuition for the 2021 - 2022 school year. Families may also access the letter we emailed [here](#).

## Financial Aid and Scholarship Deadline | Feb. 1

The Financial Aid Application deadline for returning students is approaching. [The application for financial aid is here](#). Please see the [IWA website](#) for additional details and contact [Bryan Gonzalez](#) with any questions.

## Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences | Friday, Feb. 12

Virtual parent/student/teacher conferences will take place Friday, Feb. 12 from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.

All conferences will take place on Zoom.

[Please sign up in advance](#) to schedule a 10-minute Zoom conference with a specific teacher. *Sign ups close Wednesday, Feb. 10 at 12 p.m.*

Only parents who have scheduled a conference will be allowed to meet with teachers. Because spaces are limited for the spring, we ask that parents only sign up if you have particular concerns you would like to discuss.

## Celebrating Catholic Schools Week



Check out what we have planned!

### Monday | Feb. 1

#### Celebrating Your Community

Students may wear a T-shirt from their Catholic elementary school, Catholic college or an IWA (club, athletic or spirit) shirt with their IWA skirt or denim jeans.

### Tuesday | Feb. 2

#### Celebrating Your Students

Students can wear an IWA club, athletic or spirit shirt with their IWA skirt or denim jeans. During both lunches, students can stop by the conference center to create clothespin

affirmations to show appreciation to teachers, staff members and fellow classmates.

### Wednesday | Feb. 3

#### Celebrating Vocations/Nation

Father Richard will celebrate vocations in our morning Mass. Students can wear an IWA club, athletic or spirit shirt with their IWA skirt or denim jeans, and may add on patriotic items, such as scarves, socks or jewelry. We also want to celebrate IWA's sisterhood which prepares us to use our God-given talents to the fullest.

### Thursday | Feb. 4

#### Celebrating Faculty, Staff and Volunteers

This is a day to show appreciation to our faculty and staff, the leaders in our



community who inspire us to grow as authentic, bold servant leaders. Let us also affirm our peers who partake and encourage us on this journey! Students can show Falcon spirit by wearing an IWA club, athletic or spirit shirt with their IWA skirt or denim jeans. There will also be Chick-a-Fil for lunch (\$5 for chicken sandwich; \$1 for a cookie). Pre-orders will be accepted Monday and Tuesday; cash only.

**Friday | Feb. 5**

### **Celebrating Families**

We'll celebrate our community, by praying together at our all-school Mass for IWA and the mission that we have been given. Student must wear Mass attire today.

## **IWA Students Earn Writing Honors**



*Ashley Chavez '22, front row, left*

### **Essay Contest Winner**

Last weekend the VFW hosted its 2020-2021 Texas Top Ten Voice of Democracy banquet aboard the USS Lexington in Corpus Christi. Ashley Chavez '22 placed 1st in Houston for the Voice of Democracy Essay Contest and 7th in the Texas Top 10. The theme for this year's essay was "Is this the country the founders envisioned?" We're proud of her accomplishment!

### **Scholastic Writing Award Winner**

Amelia (Mel) Horner '22 took home three honors in the Scholastic Writing Awards. She won Gold and Silver Keys for her poetry submissions, and Silvery Key for her personal essay.

We love celebrating our students' creativity!



## **Spotlight on Service**

This week's look at our seniors' service projects highlights students working with a variety of nonprofits.

**Dana Theroux '21** served as a Peer Teen Leader with St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, where she worked with students preparing to make their confirmations. She led small group discussions on Zoom, drawing from her own faith experience, and helping students understand the individual lessons. Her service project allowed her to work with middle schoolers in St. Vincent de Paul's Edge program, something that took her out of her comfort zone, for



sure. But the experience taught her about being authentic. Read more about Dana's service project [here](#).

**Evelina Torres '21** volunteered with Star of Hope's Stellar Meals program, where she helped serve meals and clean the kitchen. It allowed her to understand just how much a meal could mean in someone's life. Volunteering meant Evelina needed to put aside her own ego, as she explains, to be present in serving those in need. On her shifts, she and other volunteers found ways to make service more efficient, and Evelina came to see more deeply the Catholic social teaching themes of helping the poor and vulnerable, and the dignity of the human person. Read more about Evelina's service project [here](#).



**Karley Kieschnick '21** chose to volunteer at her parish, St. Rose of Lima, working in the food pantry. She was familiar with the organization, having attended St. Rose of Lima Catholic School, and volunteering with her classes. Coming back as a high school student gave her more responsibility, working with the pantry's clients, helping them select food to feed their families. This was both rewarding and challenging. She said the experience helped her realize to appreciate all that she has, and that leadership is about serving others. Read more about Karley's service [here](#).

**Sofia Garza '21** traveled to Costa Rica with AMIGOS International for her service project, where she lived with a host family and worked in the village, painting walls in a community center. AMIGOS is an organization dedicated to instilling individuals with lifelong leadership skills. Sofia talks about the clash she faced with her partners on their project, and how she had to see her way through the conflict. She also milked a cow, and made tres leches with her host mom, memories she said will stay with her always. She learned to collaborate, and to bring a vision to fruition. Read more about her work [here](#).





Mark your calendars and get excited for an event that has become a favorite here at IWA. The 14th annual Teens 4 Unity Talent Show coming up on Friday, February 5th at 7 p.m. at IWA's auditorium\*!

Tickets are \$10. Bring family and friends, **reserve your ticket today!** You can [purchase tickets on the Spirit Shop website](#) or during all lunch periods next week. All proceeds will go to help build a library at La Escuela de Café Con Leche in Santo Domingo.

You can also make a donation and follow the show live from home.

*\*CDC guidelines for mask wearing, social distancing, temperature checking and sanitizing will be followed.*



## Valentine's CandyGrams

The senior class is selling CandyGrams for Valentine's Day.

Parents and students can send CandyGrams to any IWA student to spread Galentine's love! Orders will be taken [online only](#) from Feb. 1 - 4 and payment *can be made with a credit card. Cash payments will be accepted at lunch Feb. 3 - 5 only.* Distribution will be on Thursday, Feb. 11. Anyone with questions can contact [Leah Lucas '21](#).

## NACAC Virtual College Fair | Sunday, Jan. 31

The first NACAC Virtual College Fair of the year is this Sunday from 12 - 6 p.m. More than 500 colleges and universities will present more than 1,500 Zoom sessions and it's a great day to explore, ask questions and demonstrate interest...all without leaving home. Students can [register for free here](#).



## 2021 IWA FALCON RAFFLE

IWA

## Weekly Winners

The 10 students who were top raffle ticket sellers last week had lunch on our rooftop. In addition, **Sheridan Victoria**

Simmons '23 was the winner of this week's prize drawing for students who sold more than 40 tickets. She received a Nike gift card.

Students who sell more than 100 tickets gets to wear jeans on Fridays throughout raffle season. So far, **Alex Benedict '21**, **Alex Perez '23** and **Kylie Salch '23** have earned the honor. We're so proud of all our students' efforts with this important fundraiser. The IWA Falcon Raffle runs through March 5. [Buy your tickets here.](#)



## Don't Miss Out

Missed an issue of *The Weekly Word*? Catch up with our *Weekly Word* archive, [available here.](#)

[Visit incarnateword.org](https://www.incarnateword.org)

## MISSION

Incarnate Word Academy provides young women with a Catholic college preparatory education helping them grow in their relationship with Jesus, the Incarnate Word, and live according to His values.

Incarnate Word Academy  
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