



IB in Action

Summer 2016

Issue No. 1



***Congratulations to the Class of 2016
International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme***

Upcoming Dates:

August 1st: Summer assignment deadline for some subjects. Assignments can be found at:
[Summer Assignments](#)

September 22nd: IB Inner Core Night @6:15pm
For the parents of Year 1 Full IB Diploma
Candidates

October: Exam registration

IN THIS ISSUE:

Learn how IB students are making a difference both locally and globally through IB CAS; obtain details on the upcoming IB Student College Fair; and highlights on where Ballston Spa's IB graduates have been accepted to college.

IB Coordinators:

Christy Knapp
cknapp@bscsd.org
884-7150 ext. 2367

Nicole Stehle
nstehle@bscsd.org
884-7150 ext. 2366



Project Warm Code Blue

Accomplished by: Shaina Gormley

After the last bell rings on a Friday in Ballston Spa High School, students and teachers rush to practices, rehearsals, and the start of the weekend. However, on Friday February 5th a group of 45 students and teachers stayed on school grounds for an exciting opportunity: hat knitting.

Shaina Gormley, a full International Baccalaureate candidate, led Project Warm Code Blue as part of her Creativity Action Service (CAS) Project. Everyone participating learned how to knit hats on looms provided by the company KidKnits. KidKnits is a company founded by a nine year old, on the principle that "You're never too young to change a life on the other side of the world." The yarn provided by the company produced a job for a woman in Rwanda, Chile, Kenya, or Mexico.

The classroom began to fill on Friday as students trickled in after the last bell rang. Each student found a hat-making kit on a desk and began learning to knit on a loom. "Everyone sat down determined to knit for a great cause," Gormley remarked. That cause is the Code Blue Shelter in Saratoga Springs. Code Blue provides shelter for the homeless when winter weather creates unsafe conditions. All hats knitted will be donated to Code Blue to provide warmth to its patrons after leaving the shelter.

After three hours, many hats were finished and ready to be donated. "Although it sounds like it might be dull to knit for hours," Gormley said, "that was not the case Friday. It was unbelievable the fun and creative environment this random group of students and teachers created." Perhaps the power lies in the group's focus on service that afternoon. The extra hours at school paid off to help a life on the other side of the world and on the other side of town.

Ballston Spa community comes together for Shaina Gormley's IB CAS project: Project Warm Code Blue



Carpe Diem Productions

Accomplished by: Ellie Rutkey

When Ballston Spa senior Ellie Rutkey first began planning her International Baccalaureate CAS project, an independent service-related endeavor, she immediately knew that she wanted to incorporate Carpe Diem Productions. Carpe Diem is a student run theatre company based in Round Lake where Rutkey has spent the last four summers. This year, Rutkey will be choreographing two musicals with Carpe Diem: *Once on This Island Jr.* and *Winnie the Pooh Kids*. "Carpe Diem means the world to me," says Rutkey, "and having the opportunity to give back to the program that has given me so much is an amazing feeling."

In March, Rutkey began the initial stages of her project. She turned to her boss and the founder of Carpe Diem, Joe Shaver, for advice. The two decided that the best way to benefit the program would be in the form of monetary assistance, which would be given to families with financial need. With an end goal in sight, Rutkey was then tasked with the job of determining the best way to fundraise for her cause.

"In the beginning, it wasn't as easy as I had expected," Rutkey explains, "I went through a lot of ideas that just weren't feasible before I found one that was."



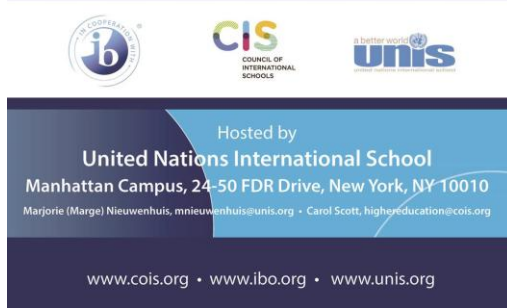
Carpe Diem Productions performers and crew support Ellie Rutkey's IB CAS project

The idea that worked? A t-shirt sale. Rutkey partnered with Print Says, a printing company based in Ballston Spa. With

the help of Frances Kerr, one of the company's owners, Rutkey designed an original t-shirt that would be sold to Carpe Diem families. After two weeks of shirt sales, Rutkey's fundraiser raised nearly \$300, which would be used to establish a scholarship fund for the program. The fund will help to ensure that Carpe Diem remains open to all families, regardless of socio-economic status.

This summer, a family in need will be able to attend Carpe Diem thanks to the money raised through Rutkey's fundraiser. "I think the success of our fundraiser really speaks to the sense of community that Carpe Diem fosters. I'm proud of what we were able to accomplish by coming together and supporting a cause that we care about."

To learn more about Carpe Diem, including information about an upcoming second round of shirt sales, visit www.carpediemshows.com.



Connect with top universities at the IB Student College Fair!

IB students and parents are invited to attend. This is a **free** event designed exclusively for grade 11 and 12 students currently studying in the IB Diploma Program. Representatives from over 70 colleges and universities are eager to meet with you! This event is a wonderful opportunity for students to talk face-to-face with admissions officials from institutions who actively recruit IB graduates.

In order to attend the college fair, **students and parents must register by September 14th**. All attendees must be registered and present a photo ID to be granted access to the fair.

Register here:
<http://mailbuild.ibo.org/h/r/C349C095122ED5FB>

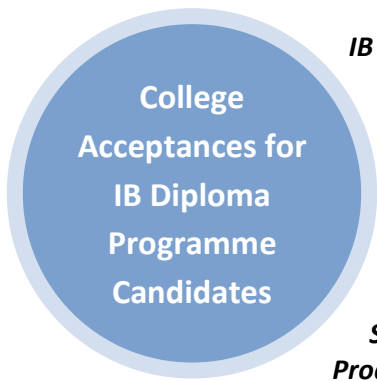
For additional information contact Marjorie Nieuwenhuis at the United Nations International School at mnieuwenhuis@unis.org



Hofstra University recognizes the merits of the International Baccalaureate curriculum and has seen that IB students the go to Hofstra are particularly well prepared for college in general, of course, but also for their Honors College first-year course sequence called Culture & Expression, where IB students thrive. With credit for IB course work, whether for the Diploma or not, IB students often have flexibility in their schedules to choose a second major or a minor, and even a second minor.

Hofstra not only awards 30 credits automatically to incoming students with an IB Diploma score of 30 or above (with three Higher Level exams with scores of 5 or above), but now also awards credit for individual courses. Many departments award credit not only for Higher Level exams (score of 5 or above) but also for Standard Level exams.

You can view Hofstra's course credit equivalencies at:
http://www.hofstra.edu/admission/adm_international_baccalaureate.html

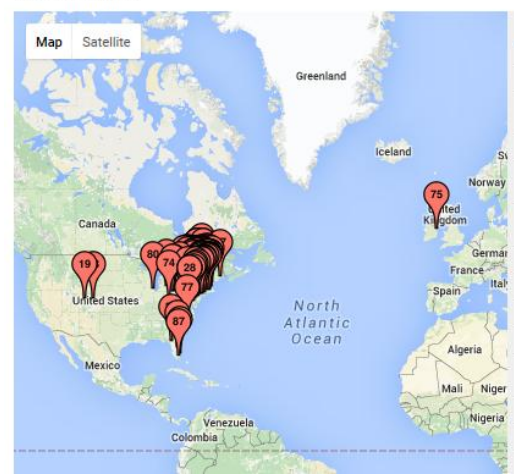


IB Diploma Programme students not only do well academically in high school, but also go on to perform well at the university level.

95% of IB Diploma Programme graduates in the US enroll in four-year institutions (60% national average).

Studies find that the alumni of the IB Diploma Programme attend top-ranking universities.
 (*Source: www.ibo.org)

IB Acceptances



Ballston Spa High School IB Diploma Programme Candidates are being accepted at top-ranking universities. To see a complete list of acceptances visit our IB webpage at http://www.bscsd.org/High.cfm?s_ubpage=18205