

YOUNG WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

SAN ANTONIO ISD

College Preparatory, Leadership Development, Health and Wellness

2123 W. Huisache Avenue

210-438-6525



Dear Cardinal Family,

Allow me to begin by thanking you for being a part of the Young Women's Leadership Family and contributing to our shared success. We are honored and excited to let you know that our school, once again, received an "A" rating by the Texas Department of Education. Our success is your success and together, we have, we are, and will continue to excel! Our theme this year is *The Power of Us*.

We want to encourage you to encourage your students to discover the talents they possess and share those talents to help empower others. This theme aligns with the initiative we started over a year ago with integrating social emotional learning within our classrooms so that together we are working to design an environment that nurtures the whole student. Additionally, our campus has moved from STEM to STEAM by incorporating the Arts component within core classes and expanding our model to include high school theater, 6th grade Orchestra, and a second Art Teacher. Our club fair takes place each September and we are looking forward to seeing our students demonstrate their strengths and interests in helping to build a sense of community and leadership. Again, our success is your success, and your support is much appreciated and welcomed. Please feel free to contact me or our Family and Community Engagement Specialist, Mrs. Moreno, for information on how you can contribute to the amazing work of our students and staff. Together we will create great learning opportunities for our students. Thank you for your continued support!

Sincerely,

Regina Arzamendi - YWLA Principal

Cardinal Family,

This past year, YWLA was invited by the Texas Education Agency to participate in the Replicating Great Option (RGO) initiative to scale the great work our dedicated teachers and diligent students have achieved at YWLA. After much consideration, we committed to establishing a STEAM elementary program anchored in college readiness, leadership development, and health and wellness. We proudly opened YWLA Primary as part of SAISD and as part of the Young Women's Preparatory Network (YWPN). YWLA Primary is YWPN's first elementary program. We already have some of our sister schools considering opening an elementary program, too. Your schools are blazing new trails across Texas for the YWPNetwork! We have had a great start at both academies and we are excited about the growth of our school into a network. Between both schools, we are serving 696 students!

With our growth, you may have noticed some new titles and some of you have had questions regarding these changes. I have a new title and additional responsibilities, but my passion is steadfast for all our girls! I am now the Head of Schools of the YWLA Network. I oversee YWLA and YWLA Primary and support our exceptional leaders, Regina Arzamendi and Andre'a Pitts. Mrs. Arzamendi is the principal of YWLA and Ms. Pitts is the principal at YWLA Primary. They are responsible for the daily operations at each school. I spend time at both schools and report to SAISD, Dallas Executive, and San Antonio Advisory board members. Mrs. Stephanie Aguilera Hawk, is our Assistant Principal as of last year. Our daughters are in great hands with our highly qualified principals, teachers, and staff. It is my privilege to expand our impact on young women with two teams that set the standard for excellence in education.

As always, I am here to serve you. If you have any questions about the structure of our network or want to reach out to me, please contact me at: dmclerran1@saisd.net

Now, as we move into our 5th week of school, I must share the great news about our students' achievements. YWLA received 7 out of 7 academic distinctions from TEA based on STAAR scores; 65 total recognitions from College Board for 43 Advanced Placement (AP) scholars; 5 AP Scholars with Honors; 15 AP Scholars with Distinction and 2 National AP Scholars! YWLA had a 59% increase in students earning College Board recognition from last year to this year. We are extremely proud of our students and faculty and we ask that you continue supporting both throughout the year.

Respectfully,

Delia McLerran - Head of Schools

OPEN HOUSE/PTSA Meeting

September 18, 2019 5:30 pm-7:00 pm

Please bring your student's class schedule. You will be rotating through periods as you learn about each teacher's expectations.



Mu Alpha Theta & Science National Honor Society

Induction Ceremony

September 24, 2019

6:00 pm-7:00 pm YWLA Auditorium



Cardinal Senate Induction Ceremony

September 26, 2019

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm YWLA Library



Senior Ring Ceremony

October 3, 2019 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Class of 2020

PSAT and SAT Exam

October 16, 2019 - 10th - 11th grade

12th grade—SAT Exam

October 23, 2019 - 6th - 9th grade

MANDATORY for All 6th - 11th grade

Please do not schedule any appointments on this day (excused or unexcused)

Parent Meetings

Meeting	Date	Time	Location
Class of 2024	September 10, 2019	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Library
Class of 2021	September 11, 2019	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Library
Class of 2023	September 17, 2019	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Library
Open House/PTSA	September 18, 2019	5:30 pm - 7:00 pm	Auditorium
Class of 2022	September 19, 2019	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Library
Athletic Booster Club	September 25, 2019	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Library
Class of 2025	October 1, 2019	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Library
Class of 2020	October 2, 2019	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Library
Class of 2024	October 8, 2019	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Library
Mandatory Junior Parent Night	October 9, 2019	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Library

It is the policy of San Antonio ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation or disability in its vocational programs, services or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and SAISD's board policies DIA, FFH, and FFI.

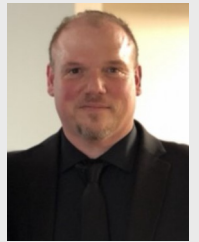
Es norma del distrito de San Antonio no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, identidad de género, expresión de género, orientación sexual o discapacidad, en sus programas, servicios o actividades vocacionales, tal como lo requieren el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, según enmienda; el Título IX de las Enmiendas en la Educación, de 1972, la Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmienda, y las pólizas DIA, FFH, y FFI de la mesa directiva de SAISD.

Welcome new YWLA Faculty/Staff

Sara Aleman My name is Sara Alicia Aleman and I teach 6th Grade Social Studies. I was born in Austin but grew up here in San Antonio and graduated from Marshall High School and UTSA. This is my 9th year teaching middle school. I have two children, Amaya age 18 and Elijah age 20 and a Chihuahua named Zeus. I love to read, travel and try new places. I also love sweet tea and brownies.



Jody Noblett Mr. Noblett began his teaching career in 1993 as an elementary music teacher at Japhet elementary school in SAISD. After 5 years, he moved to Saint Mary's Hall as a middle school choir and music history teacher. In the Fall of 1999. Mr. Noblett joined the choir program at MacArthur High School and continued as a high school choir director until 2007 when he changed paths and became an Assistant Principal at Ronald Reagan High School in NEISD. Mr. Noblett spent the last 4 years as the Director of Music Programs for the North East Independent School District where he supervised the music programs of 7 high schools, 14 middle schools, and 46 elementary schools. Mr. Noblett has traveled across the United States and abroad as a choral clinician, arranger/composer, and performer. He has multiple published choral octavos and continues to write and arrange for many choral ensembles. This past July, an original piece written by Mr. Noblett was performed as part of a Sunday morning mass at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. After many years in administration, Mr. Noblett realized how much he missed working directly with students. He is very excited about his position as the choir director for the Young Women's Leadership Academy.



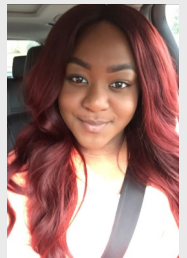
Hannah Contreras Joining the YWLA family and the fabulous English department, is Hannah Contreras. She will be teaching sixth grade English and AVID. This is her twelfth year teaching in SAISD and she is thrilled to be a Cardinal! Mrs. Contreras and her husband Bobby have two sweet daughters, Ella and Olive. Together they enjoy camping, climbing, and spending relaxing time at the coast. Stop by room 125 and say hello to Mrs. Contreras today!



Darian De Freitas Darian DeFreitas is beginning his first year teaching after graduating from the University of Texas at San Antonio, with a Bachelor's in Music Composition. Mr. DeFreitas enjoys composing for the concert hall, composing for public schools, and editing recorded music when he is not teaching. A native of Ontario, Canada, Mr. DeFreitas moved to Houston in 2007 and to San Antonio in July of 2019.



Nneka Okonkwo Hello! My name is Nneka Okonkwo and I am very excited about the upcoming year. I grew up in Houston, Texas and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from The University of Texas at San Antonio I'm currently working on a Master of Science in Applied Mathematics. I began my teaching career here in San Antonio and taught high school math for four years before joining YWLA. This year I will be teaching 7th grade Math. I am a teacher by trade, but my hobbies include exercising, traveling outside of the country exploring different cultures, and spending time with family and friends. I look forward to having an impactful year. You can reach me at nokonkwo1@saisd.net.



Marcella Gutierrez My name is Marcy Gutierrez, art teacher with 26 years of teaching experience in S.A.I.S.D. Currently, this is my first-year teaching at YWLA/YWLAP. I am looking forward to a year filled with happy art students who want to learn how to be creative and use their imagination. There are many great things about my job, the first is the A-Ha moment on a student's face, second, is watching students glow about their artistic accomplishments, and third, is sharing my knowledge and skills of art with them. Personally, I enjoy the simple things in life. Being at home, listening to music, dancing, gardening and having my family near. My future goals are to travel more. I would like to venture out and see Machu Pichu, Greece, and Spain.



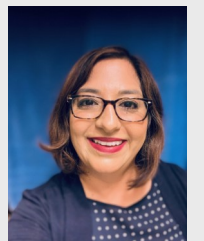
Laurentina Perez My name is Laurentina Perez. I am from Eagle Pass Texas. Received my Bachelors in Spanish from Texas A&M- Corpus Christi. Moved to San Antonio and got certified from UTSA. Taught at Spanish 1 & 2 for eight years. Took a break to study culinary arts. I am a certified Chef.



Berkley Irwin Ms. Berkley Irwin is the new Dance Teacher at YWLA. She has been dancing since she was 7 years old, has danced competitively for many years, danced throughout high school and college, and has been teaching at a private dance studio in New Braunfels since 2015. She is highly experienced in teaching ballet, jazz, tap, contemporary/modern, and hip-hop. Ms. Irwin graduated from Texas State University in 2018 with her bachelor's degree in Dance Education and with a second Teaching Certification in Health Education. While at school, she was a Texas State Strutter for one year, giving her the opportunity to perform for the San Antonio Spurs, in Tulsa Oklahoma, in the annual Dallas Children's Parade, and in Disneyland Paris. She has received several choreography and technique awards for her original dance pieces.



Rosanne Volpert Rosanne Volpert is a 6th Science Enrichment and a 7th Gr. Science Teacher for Young Women's Leadership Academy. Her experience in experimental design has recognized her students at the Alamo Regional Science Fair competition and at the State Texas Science and Engineering Fair competition. Mrs. Volpert's hobby is capturing moments with her photography skills and enjoys spending time with her husband and daughter. You can reach her at rvolpert1@saisd.net.



Student Name: _____ SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER _____ PREP Teacher _____

This must be returned to your Advisory teacher by 9/11/19 for a grade. If it is not returned, you will receive a grade of 50.

Student Signature: _____ Parent Signature: _____

YWLA Science Fair: December 7, 2019

Due Date	Assignment	Description
September 3-September 13 Must show your procedure to your teacher before you start	Student time to work on their Research plan	Student should be working on putting together research plan. Class time will be provided on Sept. 8 th and 15 th . Any unfinished sections MUST be completed outside of class hours.
September 5-6, 2019 (45 minutes of class time) Data Table	Data collection table workshop (in class)	Student will create a Data Table to be used for data collection
September 7, 2019 Grades 6-12	Science Fair Info Sessions for Parents September 7, 2019 10am-11:30am	Science teachers will present an info session for parents on the science fair time-line. Parent Hours will be given.
September 18-19, 2019 Research Plan	<u>*Research Plan and SRC Paperwork is Due</u>	Student must turn in a TYPED research plan to be used as part of the final science fair report. IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT THE RESEARCH PLAN IS SAVED. Research plan must include: 1) Research Question, 2) Hypothesis, 3) Experimental design (refer to handout) 4) Materials, 5) Procedure, 6) Explanation for how the Data will be analyzed, 7) Bibliography (5 sources minimum and in the correct format MLA or APA). Research plan must be in future tense and have no pronouns. SRC paperwork must be completed and turned into your Science Teacher
September 18-19, 2019 Article One is Due 7 th Grade Parents PLEASE SEE THE CHANGES MADE BY MRS. VOLPERT FOR ARTICLE DUE DATES.	<u>Article one is Due</u> *Print-out 1 st Article related to Science fair topic. Write up a summary using CER and following the example, you were given.	Student will find an article that relates to the topic that they are doing. This article is for the purpose of educating the student on the topic/preparing them to answer questions from the judges. Student is to write a one-page summary using the example for a guide and the CER method to answer the following questions: 1. How does this article relate to my science fair project? 2. What does this article teach me about my science fair topic?
September 23-October 18	<u>Project work-time</u>	At this the student will be working and completing their science fair project. The due date is October 30-31
September 27, 2019 Data Collection CHECK	<u>*Data collection check.</u>	You will collect your raw data for your experiment, and you need a minimum of 10 trials completed and organized. Data will be collected in your Science Fair spirals.
October 17-18, 2019 (45 minutes of class time) Data analysis and conclusion	Science fair Slide Presentation Workshop (in-class)	Students will use this time to convert their electronic copy of their research plan into a Slide Presentation. Any work not completed must be done outside of class time.
October 23-24, 2019 Final Data Collection check	*ALL DATA must be collected and completed Minimum of 10 trials	You will collect your raw data for your experiment, and you need a minimum of 10 trials completed and organized. This data will be collected in your Science fair spiral.
October 25, 2019 Article Two 7 th Grade Parents SEE NOTE UNDER ARTICLE ONE DUE DATE	<u>Article two is Due</u> *Print-out 2 nd Article. Write up a summary using CER and following the example, you were given.	PLEASE SEE THE INSTRUCTION ABOVE FOR ARTICLE ONE
October 25, 2019 Practical apps and Future expansions	Science fair Slide Presentation Workshop (in-class)	Students will use this time to convert their electronic copy of their research plan into a Slide Presentation. Any work not completed must be done outside of class time.
October 30-31, 2019	<u>*Science Fair Slide Presentation Print-out (6 slides per page)</u>	See Hand-out for how to write a Science Fair Slide Presentation
November 4-15	<u>*Presentation practice</u>	Students must present to each other or present in Science elective classes. They can also present to their Science Teacher and sign-up times will be outside of class time.
November 13-15, 2019 Slide Presentation corrections	Corrections and resubmissions of Science Fair Power Point printout	Students will make corrections to their Slide Presentations for full credit. If student does not make the necessary corrections, the original grade will become the final grade. Students must submit the original Slide Presentation with the corrections and new Slide Presentation printout, to receive a new grade.
November 15 th	<u>*Corrected Slide Presentation is due</u>	Students must submit original Slide Presentation with corrections and new Slide Presentation printout, to receive a new grade.
November 15, 2019 Article Three	<u>Article three is Due</u>	PLEASE SEE THE INSTRUCTION ABOVE FOR ARTICLE ONE
December 2 nd - 6 th , 2019	Practice presentation skills in Advisory	A grade will be taken for 2nd period Advisory
December 7, 2019** (Saturday)	<u>* YWLA Science Fair</u>	You will present to judges and the finalists for regional will be chosen the following Monday 12/09/2019. Come prepared to present again on Monday.


History Fair Workshop

September 23 and 24
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Middle School
Rm's: 131 & 134



Progress Reports/Report Cards

Progress Reports
September 4 and
September 24
Report Cards
October 16, 2019



Upcoming Holidays - No School

September 20, 2019 Student Holiday
Teacher Work Day
October 7, 2019 Holiday - Fall Break
October 14, 2019 Student Holiday
Teacher Work Day

Naomi Lozano

Hello My name is Naomi Lozano I am honored to join the YWLA Family as the HS registrar. I was born and raised in San Antonio. I am a wife and a mother of two children Judith Starr and Jayce and four fur babies. We love to travel especially to Disney. When we are not traveling we love to watch movies on our space time. I am also a Girl Scouts troop mom and enjoy helping with their activities. If there is anything I can help you with my email is Nlozano1@saisd.net.



Stephanie Moreno

I'm Stephanie Moreno and I am the Family and Community Engagement Specialist at both YWLA campuses. I was born and raised in San Antonio, TX but for the last two years I have lived in Floresville, TX. I have been married for ten years and have four children. I attended Texas A&M University-San Antonio and earned a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology with a minor in Criminology in 2013 and a Master of Arts in Counseling in 2016. I have worked as a substitute, an instructional assistant, and a teacher. I enjoy working with students and their families.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 	2 Labor Day Holiday No school	3 Texas A&M SA 11:30 am - College Ctr. Texas A&M CC 11:30 am Library HS VB vs. Pleasanton Freshman - 5:00 pm JV - 6:00 pm Varsity - 7:00 pm MS VB vs Harris White Team 5:30 pm 7th and 8th - HM	4 Hardin-Simmons University 11:30am College Ctr. Texas A&M Univ. 11:30 am Library Mandatory Senior Parent Night 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm Library	5 UIW 10:00 am College Ctr. <u>Night School</u> Engineering 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm MS VB vs. Lowell 7th - HM 8th - AW 5:30 pm	6 HS VB vs. St. Anthony's Freshman - 5:00 pm JV - 6:00 pm Varsity - 7:15 pm	7 Science Fair Info Session 10am to 11:30 am <u>Saturday School</u> AP Literature 8am - 4:30pm HS XC Meet Central Catholic
8	9 Denison University 11:30am College Ctr. TX State Univ. 11:30 am - Library MS VB vs Whittier White Team 5:30 pm 7th and 8th - AW	10 Boston University 11:30 am Library Skidmore College 11:30 am College Ctr. Class of 2024 Parent Meeting 6:00 pm Library	11 Austin College 11:30 am Library Amherst College 11:30 am College Ctr. Class of 2021 Parent Meeting 6:00 pm Library	12 Massachusetts Institute of Tech 11:30 am College Ctr. Univ. of Rochester 11:30 am Library <u>Night School</u> Computer Science 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm MS VB vs. Davis 7th - AW 8th - HM 5:30 pm	13 HS VB vs. Randolph Freshman - 5:30 pm JV - 5:30 pm Varsity - 6:30 pm	14 HS XC Meet Northeast
15	16 Southwestern University 11:30am Library Vanderbilt University 11:30am College Ctr. MS VB vs Rhodes White Team 5:30 pm 7th and 8th - HM	17 Class of 2023 Parent Meeting 6:00 pm Library HS VB vs. Providence JV - 5:00 pm Varsity - 6:15 pm	18 University of San Diego 11:30 am Open House/PTSA 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm Auditorium and Classrooms	19 Berry College 11:30 am College Ctr. Univ. of St. Andrew's 11:30 am College Ctr. <u>Night School</u> APUSH 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm Class of 2022 Parent Meeting 6:00 pm Library MS VB vs. King 7th - HM 8th - AW 5:30 pm	20 Student Holiday No School Teacher Workday HS VB vs. Cole Freshman - 6:00 pm JV - 6:00 pm Varsity - 5:00 pm	21 Latinos in Architecture Plaza Guadalupe 7am - 9am NAHS 11am - 12noon Spoken Word HS XC Meet Southwest
22	23 Schreiner University 11:30am College Ctr. Middle School History Fair Workshop 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm MS VB vs Rogers White Team 5:30 pm 7th only - AW	24 Our Lady of the Lake University 11:30 am College Ctr. Middle School History Fair Workshop 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm Mu Alpha Theta & NSHS Induction Ceremony 6:00 pm Auditorium	25 St Mary's University 10am College Ctr. Willamette Univ. 11:30 am College Ctr. Athletic Booster Club Meeting 5:30 pm Library	26 Drexel University 11:30 am College Ctr. Univ. of Redlands 11:30 am Library Cardinal Senate Induction Ceremony 6:00 pm Library	27 <u>Night School</u> Math 6th grade 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm	28 HS Region Choir Auditions 8am Medina Valley MS VB Tournament @ Whittier Class of 2021 Applebees Flap- jack Breakfast 7am - 10am
29	30 Wesleyan Univ. 11:30 am Library George Washington University 11:30 am College Ctr. MS VB @ Harris White Team 5:30 pm 7th vs Longfellow 8th vs Whittier	1 OCTOBER ACT Seniors 8:00 am - 12:00 pm Class of 2025 Parent Meeting 6:00 pm Library HS VB vs. Highlands Freshman - 5:30 pm JV - 5:30 pm Varsity - 6:30 pm	2 Whitman College 11:30 am Library Swarthmore College 11:30 am College Ctr. Class of 2020 Parent Meeting 6:00 pm Library Senior Ring Ceremony Rehearsal 5:30 pm Auditorium	3 TX A&M Kingsville 11:30 am College Ctr. University of Chicago 11:30 am Library <u>Night School</u> Engineering 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm Senior Ring Ceremony 6:30 pm Auditorium	4 World's Finest Chocolate fundraiser All money due HS VB vs. Jefferson Freshman - 5:00 pm JV - 6:00 pm Varsity - 7:00 pm Class of 2022 Halloween Wreath Making Fundraiser 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm YWLA Cafeteria	5 HS XC Meet SAISD MS VB Tournament @ Lanier

*Calendar dates are subject to change

Night School/Saturday School

Date	Time	Course	Location
September 5	4:00 pm - 5:30 pm	Engineering	Rm: 135
September 7	8:00 am - 4:30 pm	AP Literature	Rm: 202
September 12	4:00 pm - 5:30 pm	Computer Science	Rm: 135
September 19	4:00 pm - 5:30 pm	AP US History	Rm: 205
September 27	4:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Math 6th Grade	Rm: 127
October 3	4:00 pm - 5:30 pm	Engineering	Rm: 135
October 10	4:00 pm - 5:30 pm	Computer Science	Rm: 135

YWLA Parent Passport 2019-20

YWLA asks parents to complete a minimum of 10 parent volunteer hours per academic year, 1 hour per month or donations equivalent to 10 hours (\$10.00 = 1 hr.)

Parents are to complete at least 5 hrs./semester
1st semester hours due December 20, 2019 and 2nd semester hours due - April 28, 2020

Parents who complete all 10 hours 1st semester are **not** required to complete an additional 5 hours 2nd semester. Please contact Mrs. S. Moreno if you have any questions about your parent hours. smoreno1@saisd.net
(210) 438-6525 ext: 72328