# DR. PACE

www.drpaceseminars.com

### **Summer 2011 Newsletter & Schedule**

### WIN SCHOLARSHIPS TO DR. PACE'S PROGRAMS

n solidarity with the people of Japan, Dr. Pace established a Facebook page that displays this art image (in color on Facebook at "Pat Sisca Pace").



Dr. Pace invites students, and their parents (or any adult!) to submit a story that this image suggests to them. Scholarships will be awarded to the five people who submit the best stories. Any adult who wins would give away his/her Scholarship to a deserving student in grades 6 to 12.

# **5 Scholarships Available**

- One full \$445 scholarship to one of the three 25-hour SAT Academic + SAT Retreat Programs offered in the summer of 2011
- Four scholarships, \$80 each, to be used toward Slaying the Dragons of Standardized Tests, High School Entrance Edition for Students and their Parents offered either in the summer or in the fall of 2011

#### **Rules**

Submit stories (100 words maximum) on the Facebook Wall of Pat Sisca Pace, which is now linked to www.drpaceseminars. com. Stories should reflect what the writer believes is taking place in the image. Be sure to use details in the art work. Stories should aim to increase hope in the survivors of the Great Eastern Japan Earthquake and Tsunami. Submission Deadline: Midnight EST, May 25, 2011. These 5 Scholarships are offered as credit to be used for either the 25-hour SAT program or Slaying the Dragons of Standardized Tests, as listed above. Winners must supply their own transportation to and from the program.

acie Farrell is going to Princeton University! "High test scores are no guarantee to the ivy league; however, poor tests scores can detract from an amazing applicant. Nerves were not a big issue for me, but Dr. Pace thoroughly addresses nervousness through her holistic approach. Dr. Pace delineates the underlying patterns of question asking that are present in standardized tests, which can help students perform at the higher end of their ability continuum. Through her Whiz Kids Series, Dr. Pace appreciates students' thirst to learn—even incredible hungers for knowledge that cannot always be accommodated in the classrooms of schools. Dr. Pace is determined and energized in her teaching approach; thus, she produces determined and energized students. While test scores have no ability to define you, they can hinder your college application success. The good doctor can remedy that!" Kacie Farrell, Mount Saint Joseph '11, Princeton '15

"Some students stand out, and Kacie Farrell is one of them. Kacie was in 7th grade when she first started working with me. She was among the original group of 7th grade students to take Slaying the Dragons of Standardized Tests. Soon afterward she enrolled in my Whiz Kids Series, and then my SAT Workshops, Refreshers, and the 25-hour SAT Seminar. By the start of her junior year, Kacie was in command of the PSAT/SAT: earning high enough scores to make her a National Merit Finalist. She has been offered the Mayor's Scholarship to UPenn, a 1789 Scholarship to Georgetown, and a full-tuition scholarship to the University of Pittsburgh Honors College. Other acceptances include Dartmouth and the University of Maryland Scholars Program. I respect Kacie and look forward to learning how she will use her considerable talents to make our world a better place. As a hint to those talents—Kacie is an International Science Fair Finalist!" Dr. Pace



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#### **Summer 2011 Newsletter**

#### **SLAYING THE SAT DRAGON**

By Christie L. Chicoine - CS&T Staff Writer February 26, 2011

#### THIS ARTICLE IS REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION OF THE CATHOLIC STANDARD & TIMES

tudents who dread taking the PSAT or SAT might want to consider their academic conquests dragons and themselves modern-day dragon-slayers.

So suggests Patricia Sisca Pace, a test preparation instructor and retreat director who has coached numerous Catholic school students across the Archdiocese through her program, "A Holistic Approach to Test Preparation."

Through a variety of academic and spiritual seminars, workshops and retreats, Pace, an educator who holds a doctorate in psychology, assists students with their academic pursuits by promoting educational excellence, emotional readiness, physical preparedness and a spiritual awareness of one's personal best.

Among Pace's numerous pupils who attest to the success of her test-prep programs are Samantha Nichols, a junior at Archbishop Wood Catholic High School in Warminster, and Tam Nguyen, a senior psychology major at Yale University in New Haven, Conn., and 2007 graduate of Cardinal Dougherty High School in Philadelphia.



Samantha Nichols (left), a junior at Archbishop Wood High School in Warminster, increased her PSAT score thanks to Patricia Sisca Pace's retreat program.

Nichols, 16, a member of the National Honor Society, earned a near perfect PSAT score of 236 out of 240. She credits the high score to her participation in Pace's 25-hour SAT Academic and SAT retreat program last July at Archbishop Wood.

"I had expected my scores to improve, but I was really shocked, especially because I was sick on the test day," Nichols said.

"The program really helped me feel a lot more confident, to stand up to the test."

A member of St. Luke the Evangelist Parish in Glenside, Nichols said the program's prayer component and concentration on trusting in God contributed to her higher marks.

Nichols took another of Pace's test-prep programs, "Slaying the Dragons of Standardized Tests, High School Entrance Edition," as a seventh-grader at Holy Martyrs School in Oreland.

In addition to stressing good study habits, Nichols said Pace reinforces the importance of getting adequate sleep on a regular basis and the necessity of maintaining a healthy diet.

Nguyen, whose home parish is St. Helena in the Olney section of Philadelphia, graduated from St. Helena School in 2003. He is scheduled to graduate from Yale in May with a degree in behavioral neuroscience.

"Dr. Pace's SAT program was a Godsend," said Nguyen, 21.

"Knowing that my SAT scores did not reflect my capabilities, Dr. Pace worked with me over the school year in the SAT retreat portion of her program. During the retreat sessions, (she) really helped me focus on attaining the best possible SAT score and she also played a vital role in giving me the confidence I needed to attack every SAT question.

"During the summer of my sophomore year, we met again to review test taking strategies and the results speak for themselves: I scored a 720 in critical reading and a 730 in writing, my two weakest subjects. Overall, I had a 300 point increase from my PSATs," Nguyen said.

"In addition to this great point increase, I was accepted to all of my top choices, including Penn, Princeton, Yale and Harvard. I can't imagine how this could all be possible without Dr. Pace's guidance within the classroom and her inspiring words and support following the seminars."

Pace, a parishioner of St. Cecelia in Northeast Philadelphia, said her primary goal is to help students reach their personal best on standardized tests and in the classroom by delivering academic excellence and bringing Catholic tradition and spiritual direction into test-prep and learning.

"The larger goal is to immerse students in the experience of God as an active partner in testing and learning



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environments and to connect those environments to their talent development," she said.

In addition to books, DVDs and CDs, Pace has also produced flashcards for vocabulary and mathematics. The vocabulary set features 226 building flash cards with more than 1,118 words presented in a variety of formats to help learners and test-takers master words that Pace considers essential for critical thinking, reading and essay writing. The math cards assist in accelerating problem-solving speed and accuracy.

Mary Rochford, superintendent of schools of the Philadelphia Archdiocese, applauds Pace for her work with students. Although Pace is not contracted by the Office of Catholic Education, "since she does focus on the spirituality of test taking, it certainly fits in with our stance that God is found everywhere — yes, even in test taking moments," Rochford said.

"She teaches the students how to keep their fears, apprehensions and nervousness in check so that it does not take over and therefore negatively affect the outcome of the actual test results."

Pace, who is also a spiritual director and retreat director certified through the Jesuit Center in Wernersville, Pa., offers a range of other programs for all age groups. Among them: a learning skills program for middle school and junior high age students that applies psychology and spirituality to math, reading, essays and grammar.

For more information about Pace's upcoming programs, visit drpaceseminars.com; e-mail admin@drpaceseminars.com; or call 215-725-6568.

CS&T Staff Writer Christie L. Chicoine may be reached at 215-587-2468 or cchicoin@adphila.org.

# NEUMANN SCHOLAR: Snega Kalaparambath, 8th grade, Maternity B.V.M., Philadelphia

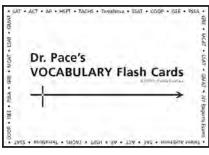
"I wanted to take the time to thank you personally for helping my sister, Snega Kalaparambath, attain the Neumann Scholarship. We are all very proud of her and want to thank you for your review class and preparation books which most definitely assisted her in gaining this prestigious scholarship award. Thank you again and God bless!" Sangeeta Kalaparambath

Dr. Pace's Programs Support Area Schools: 10% of tuition goes to the host school.

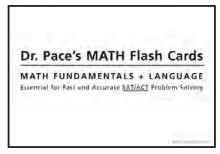
Students from all schools—private, archdiocesan, public, charter, as well as students who are home-schooled—are welcome to all programs!

### DR. PACE'S FLASH CARDS

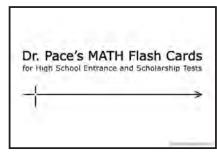
Dr. Pace's Flash Cards can be purchased at Nazareth Academy, Archbishop Wood, and Saint Basil Academy. Save on shipping costs by purchasing them directly from these schools!



**VOCABULARY FLASH CARDS** 



SAT/ACT MATH FLASH CARDS



HIGH SCHOOL ENTRANCE MATH FLASH CARDS

### **FOR INFORMATION ON FLASH CARDS**

CALL: 215-725-6568 VISIT: www.drpaceseminars.com



### **Summer 2011 Schedule**

# 25-Hour PSAT/SAT Academic + SAT Retreat Seminar

### MATH, CRITICAL READING, VOCABULARY, GRAMMAR, ESSAY + SAT RETREAT

Comprehensive review of mathematics, sentence completions, critical reading, grammar, and essay writing, with strategies and real SAT practice tests. PLUS the SAT Retreat: techniques for dealing with the non-academic factors (such as test-anxiety, distractions, and low confidence) that thwart personal best performance.

**COST:** \$445 includes textbook, workbook, trade book, CD, folder of material, 2 parent meetings, and online assistance.

**TIME:** 9:00a.m. to 2:00p.m.

### 3 DIFFERENT LOCATIONS, 3 DIFFERENT WEEKS, SAME 25-HOUR PROGRAM!

**DATES:** 5 Days: Monday - Friday 5 Days: Monday - Friday 5 Days: Monday - Friday

July 18 - 22, 2011 August 8 - 12, 2011 August 22 - 26, 2011

LOCATIONS:Archbishop WoodNazareth AcademySaint Basil Academy655 York Road4001 Grant Avenue711 Fox Chase Road

# **High School Entrance and Scholarship Test-Prep Programs**

**DATE:** Tuesday & Wednesday, July 12 & 13, 2011 **LOCATION:** Archbishop Wood

### SPECIAL TWO-DAY ACADEMIC PROGRAM FOR ARCHBISHOP WOOD SCHOLARSHIP TEST

One Day of Learning Math, English, and Cognitive (Tuesday) + One Day of Testing (Wednesday)

TIME: 9:00a.m. to 2:00p.m. COST: \$100, includes textbook

**DATE:** 5 Days: Monday - Friday, August 1 - 5, 2011 **LOCATION:** Nazareth Academy

### SPECIAL ONE-WEEK HOLISTIC AND ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

### + HOLISTIC PREPARATION FOR ALL HIGH SCHOOL ENTRANCE AND SCHOLARSHIP TESTS

Slaying the Dragons of Standardized Tests for Students and their Parent(s)

**IQ Nurturing!** In addition to learning holistic techniques that benefit performance, parents and students also learn ways to nurture IQ. For references to the program's long lasting effects, see articles in this Newsletter from some former students!

TIME: 9:00a.m. to 10:00a.m. COST: \$80, includes 2 workbooks

### + ACADEMIC PREPARATION FOR THE HSPT

Math, English & Cognitive + Testing & Daily Progress Report

TIME: 10:10a.m. to 12:00p.m. COST: \$150, includes textbook

Note: Any professional educator planning to sit in on or use Dr. Pace's teachings and/or techniques needs to call Dr. Pace for licensing fee information. 215-725-6568

FOR INFORMATION & RESERVATIONS & FLASH CARDS

CALL: 215-725-6568 VISIT: www.drpaceseminars.com