

# Nativity News

A collection of stories written by Nativity  
Preparatory Academy students in collaboration  
with mentors from St. John Fisher College

*Written by Nativity's own Ayari, Ayush, Breeya,*

*David, Isabella, Natalie, Patrika, Priscila and Robin*



## Forward

Written by St. John Fisher College Mentors

Part of the new St. John Fisher core curriculum is a community engaged learning class. Four of us enrolled in this class decided that Nativity Preparatory Academy was the community site to work with, and our project began.

Enrichment at Nativity Preparatory encourages students to further their education with extra-curricular activities. For the students, enrichment “Is a time where you can have fun during school. It can be relaxing, something you enjoy and a place where you can learn skills now that will help you later in life”. Enrichment is a concept unique to Nativity Preparatory. It is a block from 2:30-4 providing students with time to pursue their interests. Our goal for our students in enrichment was to provide them with the tools they need to successfully write a short piece of writing about a news topic. Shortly after starting, we found that our students were less interested in news topics as they were other topics. For some, this time allowed them to dive into topics that interested them like college. For others this provided a means for them to talk about the things that make Nativity special.

Nativity allows their students to grow in a community of vastly diverse peers. Despite this diversity, these students have formed valuable connections with each other. Most of our students would agree that Nativity is its own diverse little community with resources that have made their middle school experience something special. It’s apparent from the moment you enter the building that Nativity is it’s own little community and unlike any other school. It was this sense of community and our students wildly vivid imaginations and personalities that made this project so enjoyable for us. It was also these bright personalities that made us decide that much like they had welcomed us into their community we would like to invite them to join ours for a day. By bringing these students to Fisher we will bring this project full circle, and hopefully inspire our students to strive to go to a school like Fisher where their community will be valued like it is here at Nativity.

It’s been a pleasure getting to enrich these beautiful minds with the power of writing, and we hope that what they’ve learned in enrichment with us will stick with them. We have a class full of scientists, activists and authors and have no doubt that with the education they’ve been fortunate enough to receive here at Nativity they’ll reach their goals and beyond.

Abby Latini ‘24, Nursing

Phoukham George Vongkhily ‘24, Nursing

Katie Cecconi ‘24, Nursing

Ashanti Nelson ‘24, Legal Studies



# Breeya & Ayari's Story

The story of Nativity and how it makes a difference.

Nativity Preparatory Academy is a private school in Rochester NY. Nativity is sponsored by many donors. The school has students going through grades 5-8 ! Nativity's student's all have many different backgrounds. Some come from different areas of Rochester, and some even come from different countries. But we are all connected as if it were a community.

Nativity betters their surroundings by helping the community and respecting the community around them . For example during the summer Nativity helped garden and produce food for 490 farmers. Another example is when Nativity walked around the community and picked up trash and recyclable items. Nativity also emphasizes respecting the volunteers that come and help us.

Nativity is full of all types of different people with different interest and hobbies, even though we're different in so many ways we still are connected in one way... we are all apart of the Nativity family. Even though some of us may not be related we still are a big family. Just like a family we have our groups , favorites, challenges and issues , we have good days, bad days and ok days. No matter what we might feel or express one thing that we always do is forgive and move forward, we can get over any issues or challenges we face when we work together and try hard to make it work. Our family may not be perfect but we definitely are different and unique and we try.



St. John Fisher Student, George with Nativity Preparatory Student, Ayush

# Ayush's Story

The story of how a young man moved from Nepal to the United States of America to receive better education.



Hi, my name is Ayush, and I go to school here at Nativity Preparatory Academy in Rochester, New York. This is my story of how I came from Nepal to the U.S. When I came here at first, it was scary, but I got used to it. At first, going to school was scary but little did I know, it was fun. The things I like about the United States are the food, my new friends, and especially anime. I like to play soccer, video games, and talking to my friends while having fun all day at school. I think about my life and how grateful I am to be hanging out with my friends because it was hard at first to trust someone you just met after a month of knowing them. We started feeling comfortable with each other and were best friends after a year. I am truly blessed to be here in the United States of America and achieve my goal of becoming a soccer player when I grow up.

- Ayush (7th Grader at Nativity Preparatory Academy)



# Robin's Story

The story of how Nativity has helped Robin get through Middle School

October, 2021

My name is Robin and I'm 12 years old. I go to Nativity Preparatory Academy. For this newsletter I'm working with Saint John Fisher college students. In this newsletter I am going to write about resources that have helped me grow, this is because the resources that have helped me and made me keep going in life.

## My Counselor

One of my resources is a counselor and teacher named Anna. She graduated college with a degree in social work. She is important to me because she helps me and teaches me through mental and physical health. It affects/helps me because as people grow up they start to have more choices that could lead to good or bad consequences. Anna has helped me make some of these choices, and she has helped me through stages in my life that have been difficult.



*Komi Can't Communicate*  
A comic by Tomohito Oda



*The Magic Fish*  
A graphic novel by Trung Le  
Nguyen  
A favorite of Robin's

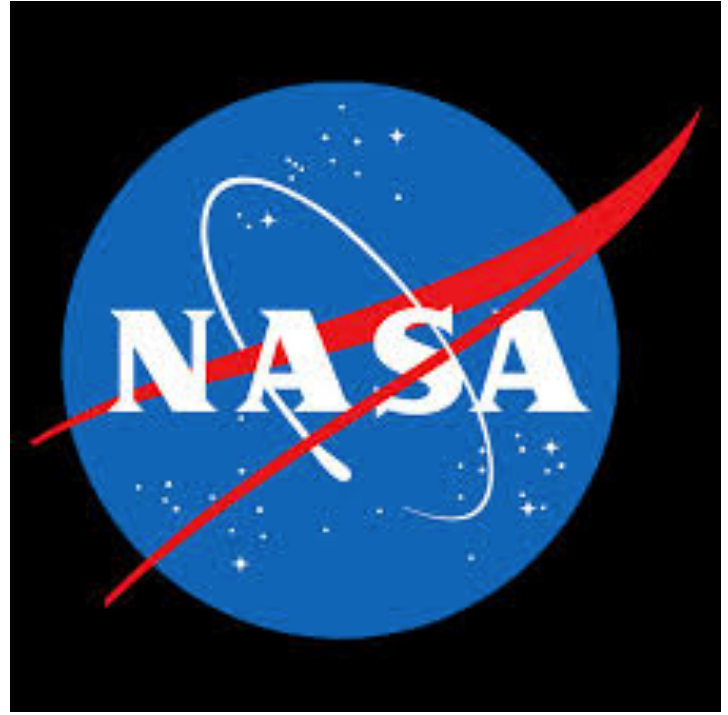
## Reading

Another one of my resources is Reading. Reading is important to me because it is a hobby and something stress relieving for me. It affects me because during my tough times I would go to my mini bookshelf and take one of my mangas out which is a Japanese comic book. I knew that if I ever wanted to read on a day when I wasn't feeling well I could go to my bookshelf or my brothers for manga since it is my favorite.

## Webtoon

The last one of my resources is Webtoon which is a comic that people create and post online for others to read. Webtoon is important to me because it kinda goes with reading. But with Webtoon if I ever had a break it would always be a source of stress relief and make me happy whenever I could go on Webtoon. And it went to the point where my friend and I planned to make a Webtoon called "Far More Stranger Things". This is because whenever I was bored I would read horror webcomics on Webtoon and I was happy.





NASA Logo

# David's Story

## How to Become a NASA Scientist

My name is David Maldonado and I am currently a student at Nativity Prep Academy. My hope is to someday work for NASA. I enjoy science, reading, and playing all sorts of games. I want to encourage more people to work at NASA and want to help others achieve their goals.

## Why I want to Become a NASA Scientist

I strive to become a scientist at NASA, as it would help amazingly with first-impressions, opportunities for my future, and also its NASA. I've done so much research into making this dream come true that instead of keeping it to myself, I would like to give the chance to the world to give it a shot with me to become a NASA scientist.

## Colleges

The basic requirements to join NASA are a bachelor's degree in space sciences, geology, math, engineering, or a similar field. 3 years of engineering or 1,000 hours of flying, and to pass the NASA Astronaut Physical Examination Test. Personally, the hardest part in all of this is Engineering, specifically where. I would like to get into Harvard to start my college education for NASA. Space Science would be my top choice for majors because they are number two for their space science programs which gives me hope of getting into NASA someday.



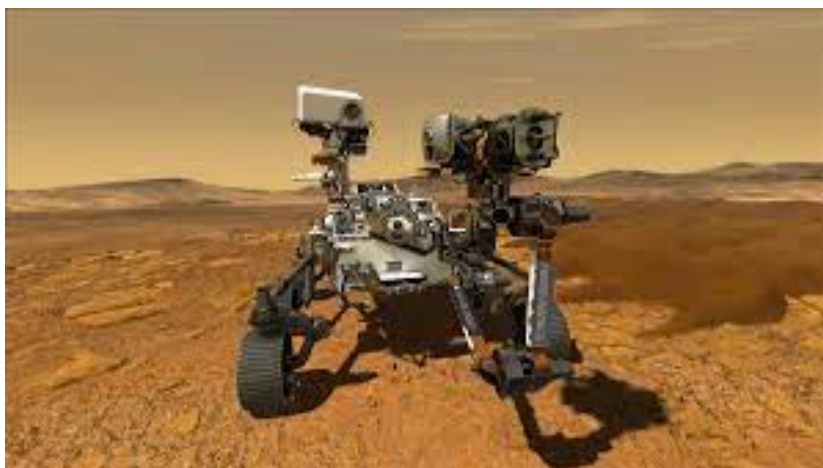
NASA's Space Shuttle  
Orbiter *Columbia*

## For Others...

NASA has so many opportunities for money and progress in the scientific research. A person who gets to work at NASA has made a huge accomplishment for themselves and others and the way it works you start out working for NASA but later NASA ends up working for you. NASA will promote you so you can grow and move up the ladder to the point of making you the best you can be.

## How This Has Impacted My Life

NASA is a large goal for me, this goal has pushed me to succeed in school and in life. This goal has made me work harder to one day reach this goal. Although my main goal is to get into NASA there are so many other things I need to one day get there, I have to graduate school, college, graduate school, and many other things. So even if I don't get to my goal I will have so many other opportunities for myself.



NASA Rover *Perseverance*