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Dear Students and Parents,

HPA is excited to let you know of a new opportunity for international study and travel over the December holiday break. We have partnered with a recognized leader in comparative global education, the Institute for Shipboard Education, to offer a 21-day educational voyage through Central and South America on the MV EXPLORER. The voyage departs from San Diego on December 15, 2010 and arrives in Fort Lauderdale on January 4, 2011.

This pre-college program is available for students in grades 10-12. Ports of call include Puerto Quetzal, Guatemala; Corinto, Nicaragua; Puntarenas, Costa Rica; Cristobal, Panama, and Roatan, Honduras. The ship also will make a daytime passage of the Panama Canal on this voyage.

The MV EXPLORER is the floating campus of the Semester at Sea® program, which is academically sponsored by the University of Virginia, one of the top public universities in the country. The MV EXPLORER is a modern cruise liner launched in 2002. The ship features 418 cabins, medical clinic, 10 classrooms, state-of-the art student union, 9,000-volume library, computer lab and has Wi-Fi throughout most areas.

Over the past 46 years, Semester at Sea has provided more than 50,000 college students the opportunity to experience the world in a unique environment. The December voyage marks the inaugural pre-college voyage, giving high school students the chance to participate in a stimulating learning environment. Students will attend college-level lectures while at sea and participate in land-based programs during 12 port calls. While on land, students will travel in pre-arranged groups and have high school faculty and chaperones accompany them.

On this inaugural voyage, six high schools will be participating, representing some of the most highly-regarded high schools in the country: Derryfield School (Manchester, NH), Harvard-Westlake (Los Angeles, CA), High Tech High International (San Diego, CA), the Marlborough School (Los Angeles, CA), Lawrenceville School (Lawrenceville, NJ), and Hawai'i Preparatory Academy (Kamuela, Hawaii). Additional information can be found at [www.semesteratsea.org/pre-college](http://www.semesteratsea.org/pre-college).



Space is limited on this voyage to 12 of our students; registration and deposits are due by September 30, 2010. Please contact Upper School science teacher and trip advisor Dr. Kristal Blacksmith ([kblacksmith@hpa.edu](mailto:kblacksmith@hpa.edu) or 808-881-4258) for more information.

Sincerely,

*Mark*

Mark A. Noetzel  
Principal, Upper School