



# 2024-25 Student Activities

## INVOLVEMENT OVERVIEW

Your one-stop shop for all things  
EXTRACURRICULAR at  
Niles West High School!

**Find Your Place  
within Our Pack:**

@NilesWestActivities 

west.niles219.org/activities 

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## Niles West Students & Families!

Welcome to Niles West High School! We are so thrilled to have you a part of our pack!

This Student Activities Overview is intended to be a one-stop shop for all things extracurricular at West.

Wolves, your high school years will fly by. However, one of the best ways to ensure meaningful connections, memories for a lifetime, and opportunities to make an impact in your community is through your participation beyond academics.

Please take some time to sit down and explore all clubs and activities available here at West, and then make a plan to get involved. There is truly something here for every member of our Wolfpack, and you are encouraged to try new things at any point in the year.

Have a question or are interested in pursuing something you don't currently see listed? Stop by the Student Activities Commons (#1601 - next to the cafeteria) and let's chat!

This is YOUR student experience, and we are here to help you make the most of it!



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# ACADEMIC CLUBS

## CHEMISTRY CLUB

Are you interested in the mysteries of chemistry? Explore the world of chemistry by experimentation and investigation! Club members will prepare for outreach programs, compete in chemistry competitions and network with other chemistry students!

Sponsors: Brittany Wu - briwu@d219.org  
Cassandra May - casmay@d219.org

## FRENCH HONORS SOCIETY

Do you enjoy your French class? Do you excel in the French language? Then the French Honor Society is for you! We meet regularly to discuss activities that promote French in our school and create & encourage French themes & experiences outside the classroom. Join and expand your language skills!

Sponsor: Elizabeth Hinsinger - elihin@d219.org

## GERMAN HONORS SOCIETY

The German Honor Society is a National Educational Honorary established to recognize high school scholastic achievement in German and to promote interest in the study of the German language, literature, and culture. Check AATG for more information. Academic eligibility requirements include an overall GPA of 3.0 and a German GPA of 3.5. Students must be enrolled minimally in their sixth semester of German. Once inducted, honorary members tutor underclassmen German students and plan for various activities involving German culture, language and literature during the year

Sponsor: Joe Neumayer - josneu@d219.org

## HOSA- FUTURE HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

HOSA is dedicated to enhance the delivery of compassionate, quality, healthcare by providing opportunities for career and technical education knowledge as well as leadership development for the secondary and post-secondary student whose career interest is health science technology

Sponsors: Ali Sayed-Ahmad - alisay@d219.org,  
Britt Czapryna - briczu@d219.org  
*\*Health Careers course requirement\**

## NATIONAL ART HONORS SOCIETY

NAHS (National Art Honor Society) is designed for high school students in grades 10-12. The purpose of National Art Honor Society is to inspire and recognize those students who have shown an outstanding ability in art. The NAHS strives to aid members in working toward the attainment of the highest standards in art areas, and to bring art education to the attention of the school and community. Students need to complete at least 4 hours of community service focused on the arts and must maintain a B average in their art classes.

Sponsor: Deanna Sortino - deasor@d219.org

## NATIONAL HONORS SOCIETY

National Honor Society is a prestigious nationwide organization with a very select membership. Students who qualify are selected by the National Honor Society Selection Committee. Students display leadership, character, service and scholarship. Members participate in planning the annual NHS induction ceremony, a canned food drive, and other service projects. Membership in NHS is contingent on an application process at the end of a student's junior year.

Sponsors: Dan Gin - dangin@d219.org  
Stephanie Lau - stelau@d219.org

## RESEARCH INVESTIGATORS OF TOMORROW (RIOT)

RIOT is a club designed to allow students to learn the basics of science research and to investigate and research science! Students compete at the local and state science fair with the opportunity to win cash prizes. Whether it's investigating how pollution alters an ecosystem, developing a new fuel cell, or researching a cure for cancer, RIOT will help students discover how to do it! We will conduct our research in the STEM lab and with the help of scientists in the real world. As a RIOT participant, students will have the opportunity to research a topic of your choosing under the guidance of a RIOT sponsor.

Head Sponsors: Parin Patel - parpat@d219.org  
Thomas Jodelka - thojod@d219.org

## SPANISH HONORS SOCIETY

Do you enjoy your Spanish class? Do you excel in the Spanish language? Then the Spanish Honor Society is for you! We meet regularly to discuss activities that promote Spanish in our school and create & encourage Spanish themes & experiences outside the classroom. Join and expand your language skills!

Sponsor: TBD; visit World Language Department for details  
*\*Membership is by invitation only.\**



## ARCHERY CLUB

This is an introduction to Archery where the students will learn the safety of the sport and how to shoot from different bows.

The main purpose of the club is to allow students to practice the sport in a safe environment. Archery provides many benefits for the students such as upper body strength, balance, coordination and acute mental focus.

Sponsor: Doug Roberts - dourob@d219.org  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## BADMINTON CLUB

Badminton Club meets in the spring. Participants compete in intra-squad matches. Let's see who is the best in the school! No experience needed!

Sponsors: Stacy Roth - starot@d219.org  
Kristen Baron - kribaro@d219.org  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## PAINTBALL CLUB

The Paintball Club offers an action-packed experience for students who enjoy strategy and teamwork. Join us to improve your game and build camaraderie with fellow paintball enthusiasts. Fieldtrips on Saturdays to play.

Sponsors: Matt Allen - matale@d219.org  
Felix Caceres - felcac@d219.org  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## PICKLEBALL CLUB

The Pickleball Club welcomes students of all skill levels to enjoy this fun and fast-paced sport that combines elements of tennis, badminton, and ping-pong. Members can participate in regular matches, practice sessions, and friendly tournaments to improve their skills and stay active. Join us to play, learn, and connect with fellow pickleball enthusiasts in a supportive and energetic environment.

Sponsor: Chris Barnett - chrbar@d219.org  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!**



## PING PONG CLUB

Looking for a fun time with a great group of students? Join the Ping Pong Club! We have over 12 tables and all levels are welcome to play. **Top players will be invited to compete on the competitive Varsity Table Tennis team.** Fun fact: Many pro athletes play ping pong during their off season to stay in shape. No experience required. Paddles provided.

Sponsor: Jerry Pope, jerpope@d219.org  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## POWERLIFTING CLUB

Powerlifting Club is a dynamic and inclusive group dedicated to the sport of powerlifting, which focuses on the three main lifts: squat, bench press, and deadlift. Our club offers training sessions for all levels, from beginners to advanced lifters, emphasizing proper technique, strength building, and safety. Whether you're looking to compete or simply improve your strength and fitness, you have a home in the weight room with Powerlifting Club!

Head Sponsor: Leonore Moran - leomor@d219.org  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## SKI & SNOWBOARD CLUB

If you love the snow, you'll love us. Come shred with the best West has to offer. All abilities welcome. Meetings begin in November for approximately 3 ski trips, potentially including an overnight trip

Sponsor: Marko Kljajić - marklj@d219.org  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## SPORTS MEDICINE CLUB

Are you interested in sports and want to pursue a health-related career? Then Sports Medicine Club may be for you! The club is designed to create an environment where students can observe and experience the field of sports medicine, through the supervision of our certified athletic trainers.

Sponsors: Niles West Athletic Trainers  
Zain Anjum - zaianj@d219.org  
Nicole Tinetti - nictin@d219.org  
Ryan Melligan - rymel@d219.org  
**\*Application Required\***

# ACTIVE CLUBS



# COMPETITIVE CLUBS

## AUTO COMPETITIONS CLUB

Meetings are held weekly in which students can compete in various automotive competitions. Challenge USA is a project where students research, design, and build an eco-marathon vehicle. Skills USA is a hands-on automotive skills and diagnosis competition. The Hot Rodders of Tomorrow Engine Rebuilding Competition is a team of five students rebuilding a Chevy 350 V-8 as fast and accurately as possible.

Sponsor: Kyle Thomas - kyltho@d219.org

*\*Participation requires Automotive course enrollment\**

## CHESS CLUB

Chess Team competes against other teams within the North Suburban Chess League. Members may also have the opportunity to compete at the IHSA State tournament. Recreational and competitive members are encouraged to join.

Head Sponsor: Doug Roberts - dourob@d219.org

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## DEBATE CLUB

The debate team is open to all students who are interested in working on their critical thinking skills, analytic abilities and competing in interscholastic speech and debate competitions. Team members compete in several local, regional, and national tournaments throughout the year. Finally, as members of the Debate Team, students are recognized by the National Speech and Debate Association and honors society and professional organization. Come check it out!

Sponsor: Nicholas Jennings - nicjen@d219.org

## DECA

DECA is a competitive business club offered to students enrolled in a business education course. Membership in DECA is the first step you can take towards achieving your goals and realizing your greatest potential. DECA member benefits include travel to competitions, scholarships, and the opportunity to meet 160,000 other DECA members from all over the world. DECA members gain real world experience through competition at the regional, state and international level and our student-run ice cream business, DECAlicious.

Head Sponsors: Eric Lueder - erilue@d219.org

*\*Participation requires enrollment in a business course\**

## Esports

The Niles West Esports team is a welcoming and diverse community of video gamers who engage in competitive group or individual gaming. The team is a great place to hone your skills, make friends, and win tournaments. Team members will commit to practicing their games, sharing gaming strategies, and working with others to help our team win competitions.

Sponsor: Ali Sayed-Ahmad - alisay@d219.org

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**



## MATH TEAM

Do you enjoy the challenge of mathematics? Are you interested in exploring concepts beyond your normal classroom activities? If so, the Math Team is for you! Math Team is open to all students in all course levels who wish to challenge themselves and work together with classmates from their grade level. Members compete in five North Suburban Math League contests, as well as the Regional and State contests sponsored by the Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

Coordinator: Suzy Jarosik - suzjar@d219.org

## MOCK TRIAL

The Niles West Mock Trial team(s) competes in functional courtrooms in the Chicagoland area. Mock trials are set up and structured just like a real court, bound by similar rules. This can help the students to know exactly what role each of the different people in court (judges, lawyers, witnesses, etc.) do in the judicial system. The Niles West Mock Trial team also participates in the state competition held on the University of Illinois at Urbana - Champaign campus. New members are encouraged to attend a meeting during first semester to learn about the club.

Head Sponsor: Rick Rosenberg - ricros@d219.org





## MODEL UN

Do you like finding solutions to real-world issues? Are you interested in improving your public speaking all while traveling and winning awards? Well, then Model UN is for you. Model UN is a simulation of the United Nations where students can debate real-world issues, represent a country, and learn about international affairs all while competing for awards. MUN is a great way to improve public speaking, a great addition to your college application, and we travel to competitions on a monthly basis!

Sponsor: Matt Wiemer - matwie@d

## POETRY SLAM

Eight students comprise the main body of the team; however, there are anywhere of up to ten people who come to practice. Those 8 students compose and perform original works of poetry. The club meets weekly for the purpose of drafting, revising, and critically listening to the work done by members.

Sponsor: Paul Bellwoar - paubel@d219.org

## ROBOTICS CLUB

The VEX Robotics Competition is the ultimate STEM activity for middle school and high school students. Each year, an engineering challenge is presented in the form of a game. Students, with guidance from their teachers and mentors, use the VEX Robotics Design System to build innovative robots designed to score the most points possible in qualification matches, elimination matches and Skills Challenges. In addition to having a great time and building amazing robots, through their participation in the VEX Robotics Competition and their work within their team, students will learn many academic and life skills.

Sponsor: Tim Sullivan - timsul@d219.org

## SCHOLASTIC BOWL

Quickly! Name the longest river in South America. With what war is Pearl Harbor associated? Who wrote the novel *Of Mice and Men*? What does *carpe diem* mean? The graph  $y = 5/x$  is a \_\_\_\_\_? Correct answers and the quick press of a buzzer are keys to success on our Scholastic Bowl teams, both Varsity and JV. Members compete in local, state, and national contests, which ask questions from all areas of the curriculum as well as from a few offbeat realms.

Sponsors: Matthew Wiemer - matwie@d219.org  
Joe Edwards - josedw@d219.org

## SCIENCE OLYMPIAD

The Science Olympiad Club is a competitive team that engages students in challenging science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) events. Members collaborate to prepare for regional and national tournaments, honing their knowledge and skills in various scientific disciplines. Join us to explore your passion for science, participate in exciting competitions, and connect with like-minded peers.

Head Sponsor: Julia Komrska - julkom@d219.org



# COMPETITIVE CLUBS



# CULTURAL & IDENTITY CLUBS

## ALBANIAN CLUB

The Albanian Club celebrates Albanian culture and heritage through cultural events, language practice, and educational activities. Join us to explore Albanian traditions, connect with fellow enthusiasts, and promote cultural diversity on campus.

Sponsor: Charles Martin - [chamar@d219.org](mailto:chamar@d219.org)

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE CLUB

ASL club is committed to immersing its members in not just the language itself, but also the culture of the deaf and hard-of-hearing community. We learn the basics of sign language, advancing from the alphabet to conversational vocabulary. Additionally, we volunteer for various causes, hold fundraisers, and take field trips!

Sponsor: Jessica Verceles - [jesver@d219.org](mailto:jesver@d219.org)

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## ASSYRIAN CLUB

The Assyrian Club is open to all students who are interested in celebrating the Assyrian culture and cultivating ethnic ties. Assyrian Club members will have the opportunity to participate in International Feast and Fest, Activities Night, and many different fundraisers. Other activities may include: The Assyrian New Years Day Parade, movie nights, holiday parties, bowling, trips to the Oriental institute, and an end of year party.

Sponsors: Ramcin Sheeno - [ramshe@d219.org](mailto:ramshe@d219.org)

Rita Shamo - [ritsha@d219.org](mailto:ritsha@d219.org)

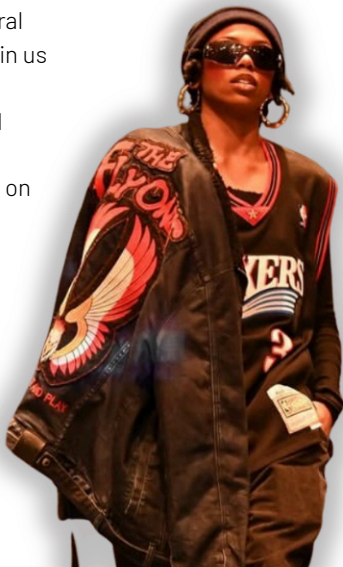
**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## BLACK STUDENT UNION (BSU)

The Black Student Union (BSU) fosters a supportive community for Black students, promoting cultural awareness and social justice. Join us to engage in empowering discussions, cultural events, and initiatives that celebrate Black heritage and advocate for equity on campus.

Sponsor: Dillin Randolph - [dilran@d219.org](mailto:dilran@d219.org)

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**



## BOSNIAN-MONTENEGRIN CLUB

The Bosnian-Montenegrin Club celebrates the rich cultural heritage and traditions of Bosnia and Montenegro, fostering a community where students can connect through cultural events, language practice, and shared experiences. Open to all, the club offers an inclusive space for learning about and appreciating the unique histories and contributions of these vibrant cultures.

Sponsor: Jasminka Jukic - [jasjuk@d219.org](mailto:jasjuk@d219.org)

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**



## BOLLYWEST CLUB

The BollyWest Dance Group blends the vibrant styles of Bollywood and Western dance, offering an energetic and inclusive space for dancers of all levels. Join us to learn exciting choreography, perform at various events, and celebrate the fusion of diverse dance cultures.

Sponsor: Raj Patel - [rajpat@d219.org](mailto:rajpat@d219.org)

**\*Audition required\***

## CALLED TO CHRIST CLUB (C2C)

If you are looking to find a Christian community at Niles West, or are just interested in learning more about Jesus, check out the Called to Christ Club. In a typical meeting, we worship (sing songs), we pray, and then we have a message given by one of our leaders followed by fellowship or small group discussions. We always have snacks at our meetings and are always happy to see new faces.

Sponsor: TBD

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## CHINESE CLUB

Chinese Club promotes cultural awareness through various activities, such as performances for International Night, a visit to Chinatown, cultural food festivals, and various celebrations. In addition, members share their common interest in Asian culture, such as language, customs, and traditions.

Sponsors: Wileen Hsing - [wilhsi@d219.org](mailto:wilhsi@d219.org)

Gloria Kim - [glokim@d219.org](mailto:glokim@d219.org)

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**



## CROATIAN CLUB

We will have a lot of fun learning Croatian culture and language by watching movies and listening to music. We will also be reading some interesting articles from Croatian newspapers. Each meeting we will bring different foods, and share recipes to then choose "food of the year". Members will present themselves in the International Week programs each year and participate in the Homecoming Parade. We will raise money to organize field trips and meet with other Croatian students from other schools.

Sponsor: Jasminka Jukic [jasjuk@d219.org](mailto:jasjuk@d219.org)

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**



## FILIPINO CLUB

Filipino Club is open to all students who want to learn about Filipino culture, food, traditions, and history. Filipino Club traditionally participates in all aspects of International Fest. Filipino Club runs fundraisers for these events, and we host seasonal parties every year. Filipino Club tries to sponsor events that promote bringing the Filipino community into Niles West.

Sponsors: Barb Carabio - [barcar@d219.org](mailto:barcar@d219.org)

Mary Leonardo - [marleo@d219.org](mailto:marleo@d219.org)

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## FRENCH CLUB

Do you enjoy French cuisine, French language and the French culture? Then the French Club is for you! We meet regularly to discuss club activities. Some of these activities include International Night, fund-raising, outings, cooking French foods, volunteer work, and our end of year banquet at a fine French restaurant. You will also meet new people and expand your knowledge of a different culture.

Sponsors: Catherine Nimtz - [catnim@d219.org](mailto:catnim@d219.org)

Lynn Amy de la Breteque - [lynamy@d219.org](mailto:lynamy@d219.org)

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## GENDER SEXUALITY ALLIANCE (GSA)

The goals of the GSA, which is a student-led after school club, are 1) to provide a safe and supportive environment for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, queer, asexual or allied, straight, intersex and pansexual students (LGBTQQAISIP), 2) to create a safe school community free of prejudice, bullying, discrimination, harassment and intolerance by increasing awareness and through activism, 3) to create a welcoming environment for all students regardless of sexual orientation or identity.

Sponsors: Kelly Stallard - [kelsta@d219.org](mailto:kelsta@d219.org)

Joan Lindgren - [joalin@d219.org](mailto:joalin@d219.org)

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## FUTURO LATINO CLUB

Futuro Latino is a club at Niles West with a theme of college awareness/readiness for Latino students at our school. Two major components of the club are: 1.) Helping to facilitate a monthly "cafecito" before school where Latino parents can ask questions in Spanish about our school and the college process. 2.) Two field trips to visit colleges and learn about financial aid opportunities.

Sponsor: Luisa Karimighovanloo - [luikar@d219.org](mailto:luikar@d219.org)

## GERMAN CLUB

You don't have to be in German class to join German Club - everyone is Willkommen! German Club promotes cultural awareness through a variety of activities. Please stop by one of our meetings to say "Hallo" and join the club!

Sponsors: Natalie Rodriguez - [natrod@d219.org](mailto:natrod@d219.org)

Caroline Adducci - [caradd@d219.org](mailto:caradd@d219.org)

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## HELLENIC (GREEK) CLUB

The purpose of the club is to promote and maintain the Greek heritage and cultural identity. The club meets at least twice a month after school. At the meetings, students exchange ideas on various topics such as music, fundraising activities, and outings.

Sponsor: Christina Kokoris - [chrkok@d219.org](mailto:chrkok@d219.org)

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COUNCIL

The International Relations Council coordinates the events during the February's International Weeks, including the Feast and Festival. The council also provides an opportunity for greater interaction amongst the Niles West cultural and ethnic clubs.

Sponsor: Jasminka Jukic - [jasjuk@d219.org](mailto:jasjuk@d219.org)

## JAPANESE ANIME CLUB

Yookoso! Welcome to the Japanese Club! All students are encouraged to join our club. Students learn about Japanese culture and participate in school events (International Night & Homecoming). Members have taken field trips to plays (Kabuki), restaurants, and Japanese shopping centers.

Sponsor: Dan Gin - [dangin@d219.org](mailto:dangin@d219.org)

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## JEWISH STUDENT ASSOCIATION

The Jewish Student Association is where students can go to learn about Israeli and Hebrew culture while participating in fun activities and games. Food is a staple at all club meetings. The club is open to students of all backgrounds.

Sponsor: Kelly Stallard - [kelsta@d219.org](mailto:kelsta@d219.org)

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## KOREAN CLUB

The Korean Club offers students a dynamic environment to explore and appreciate Korean culture through activities such as language exchange, traditional cuisine, K-pop events, and cultural festivals. Open to all, the club fosters a deeper understanding and appreciation of Korea's rich history and contemporary influence.

Sponsor: Gee Sook Baik - [geebai@d219.org](mailto:geebai@d219.org)

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**



## MENA CLUB

Celebrate the cultures, languages, and people of the Middle East and North Africa! We are involved in a variety of activities that focus on Middle Eastern life and culture—debke dancing, raising money for refugees, learning Arabic, cooking middle eastern food, and more.

Sponsor TBA

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## MUSLIM STUDENT ASSOCIATION

MSA gives students the opportunity to perform the Friday Prayer and to increase their knowledge about Islam. All students, regardless of their religious orientation are welcome to attend.

Sponsor: DJ Kosiba - [dankos@d219.org](mailto:dankos@d219.org)

Ainee Fatima - [ainfat@d219.org](mailto:ainfat@d219.org)

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**



## PAN-ASIAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION (PASA)

PASA is a club that strives to bring more exposure to the history of Asians in the United States. Everyone is welcome no matter their race, gender, or age. We hold fundraisers for Asian American causes, raise awareness, advocate for, and discuss issues related to Asian American social issues, and do community-building activities.

Sponsors: Sean DeFelice - [seadef@d219.org](mailto:seadef@d219.org)

Wileen Hsing - [wilhxi@d219.org](mailto:wilhxi@d219.org)

John Lee - [johlee@d219.org](mailto:johlee@d219.org)

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## POLISH CLUB

Polish Club welcomes all of Niles West is to come together to bond over, celebrate, and learn about Polish culture and traditions. Some fun activities we do include bake Polish goods, make Polish crafts, listen to music, and just chill while chatting about the Polish culture!

Sponsor: Tijana Stosovic - [tijsto@d219.org](mailto:tijsto@d219.org)

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## RAICES LATINX CLUB

The goal of Latinx Club is to create an inclusive and supportive environment for our Latinx student population. Raices also allows members to openly converse about current events, pop culture and history as it relates to the Latino/Hispanic community in a safe group setting. The club not only provides representation for all Latinx/Hispanic students but extends opportunities for all students to have a better understanding of the Latinx/Hispanic history and heritage. We are dedicated to creating a strong community within Niles West High School.

Sponsors: Adriana Aleman-Rodriguez - [adralej@d219.org](mailto:adralej@d219.org)

Venesa Ocasio - [venoca@d219.org](mailto:venoca@d219.org)

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## ROMANIAN CLUB

Romanian Club welcomes all students to come and learn about and celebrate our cultural heritage! From playing traditional games to having mini Romanian lessons, our club members participate in various activities to learn about our cultural background. We have multiple fundraisers, including bake sales with the most popular Romanian treats, and use the money we raise to support various causes in our community.

Sponsor: Tijana Stosovic - [tijsto@d219.org](mailto:tijsto@d219.org)

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**



## SERBIAN CLUB

Serbian Club is growing in numbers and strength and is welcoming to a diverse group of people who enjoy the Serbian community, traditions, food and folklore. Serbian Club has worked fundraising in various ways in order to provide donations to orphanages in Serbia to the children who were left with nothing. Please join us as we grow and expand school wide, for our charitable and community goals.

Special functions/events: Activities Night in January, International Feast and International Fest in February every school year. We are also hoping to raise money for a Serbian Club Scholarship. Interest in developing a connection with students or churches in Serbia for philanthropic endeavors.

Sponsor: Daniel Maric - [danmar@d219.org](mailto:danmar@d219.org)

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**



## SOUTH ASIAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Join SASA as we celebrate the South Asian cultures by participating in International Night with traditional songs and dances as well as a fashion show. We keep busy by hosting guest speakers and participating in community cultural events. Each year the club plans social events, such as basketball games and potluck dinner-dances with clubs from other schools, including Niles North. Our biggest event is SASA Night, a spring talent show for the whole D219 community.

Sponsor: Raj Patel - [rajpat@d219.org](mailto:rajpat@d219.org)

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## VIETNAMESE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

The Vietnamese Student Association provides a supportive community for students to celebrate and explore Vietnamese culture through events like Tet festivals, cuisine tastings, and cultural workshops. Open to all, the association aims to promote cultural understanding and unity while fostering a deeper appreciation of Vietnam's rich heritage and traditions.

Sponsor: John Lee - [johlee@d219.org](mailto:johlee@d219.org)

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

# CULTURAL & IDENTITY CLUBS



# FINE & APPLIED ARTS

## ART CLUB (OPEN ART STUDIO)

Open Studio is a time for Niles West High School students enrolled in Visual Arts courses to gain some additional studio time, one-on-one teacher instruction and/or opportunities to work alongside their peers. Open Studio also is a great way for aspiring art students to further develop their portfolio, photograph finished artworks and ready their artwork for exhibition.

Sponsor: John Zilewicz - johzil@d219.org

*\*Students should be enrolled in an Art course to attend\**

## CREATIVE COOKING CLUB

The Creative Cooking Club offers students interested in cooking, but who do not have a cooking class in their schedule, a chance to cook. Students decide what kind of food they want to prepare. We make anything from fajitas to brownies - come join us and have fun learning to cook!

Sponsor: Maria Kelly - markel@d219.org

*\*Must be enrolled in a cooking class or have taken a cooking class at West in order to participate\**

## EXTRACURRICULAR BAND GROUPS

Niles West's band program offers many extracurricular ensembles including Drum Line, Indoor Marching Band, Jazz Band, and more! Some of these performing groups are audition-based and others are open to all students enrolled in band.

Director: Justin Johnson - jusjoh@d219.org



## EXTRACURRICULAR CHORAL GROUPS

Niles West's choral program offers several audition-based extracurricular ensembles including two a capella groups (Resolve and Luminescence) and more!

Director: Justin de la Cruz - jusdel@d219.org

## FAMILY, CAREER, COMMUNITY LEADERS OF AMERICA (FCCLA)

A dynamic leadership organization designed for students who want to be focused and involved leaders in their community. Plan and take charge of various school and community service projects throughout the year! Also, students participate in a variety of regional, state and national competitions!

Head Sponsors: Kaitlin Anderson - kaiand@d219.org

Maria Kelly - markel@d219.org

*\*Must be in a Family and Consumer Science class to compete\**

## FASHION CLUB

Are you interested in fashion? Do you think you have an eye for style? If so, come and join Fashion Club. We will make t-shirts, learn fashion illustrations, do a variety of hand textiles (embroidery, knitting, or crocheting), meet with industry experts via Zoom, and prepare for the spring fashion show!

Sponsor Michelle Kline - mickli@d219.org

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**



## GRAPHIC ARTS CLUB

The Graphic Arts Club is open to all students currently enrolled in a digital art class. Students will be provided with open studio time to work on class projects. During club time, students can also work on independent projects, art contests, or their digital portfolios. Students will have access to the digital lab, the computers and Adobe programs. This is a fantastic opportunity to network with peers who share common interests and/or to have additional time to work on their artwork digitally.

Sponsor: Deanna Sortino - deasor@d219.org

*\*Must be enrolled in a graphic arts course\**

## ORCHESIS DANCE COMPANY

Orchesis is an athletic dance company at Niles West that holds tryouts each Fall and runs most of the school year. After Tryouts, students are chosen to choreograph their own pieces that the coaches cast. It gives students interested in dance an opportunity to learn and choreograph dances, select costumes, and perform in front of a live audience in the auditorium. There is also an opportunity to compete each year at the IL High School Dance Festival. Selected schools advance to IHSDF State. Orchesis is a great learning experience. Dedication is very important as we practice many hours. Dancers chosen for this group must devote much of their time to rehearsals. Rehearsals are twice a week after school from August-April.

Sponsor Kristen Baron - [kribaro@d219.org](mailto:kribaro@d219.org)

*\*Audition Required\**

## ORCHESTRA BOARD

The Niles West Orchestra Board & Equity Council are student-run organizations in which Orchestra students can bond with fellow members, show leadership, voice student concerns and needs, and help share the future of our Orchestra program. We also assist with recruitment efforts, community building and involvement, plan Orchestra performances and events, and make Orchestra the place to be. Orchestra Board is open to all Orchestra students and meets in the orchestra room after school.

Director: Natalie Frakes - [natfrak@d219.org](mailto:natfrak@d219.org)



## THESPIAN TROUPE #1714 OF THE INTERNATIONAL THESPIAN SOCIETY

The International Thespian Society is an honor society for actors and theater technicians who work with costuming, sets, and/or lighting. Members participate in an annual conference each January with 4,000 delegates from across Illinois.

*\*To qualify for membership, students must document at least 100 hours equaling 10 thespian points in at least two facets of theatre\**

Sponsor: Sam Rosenfeld - [samros@d219.org](mailto:samros@d219.org)

## THEATER DEPARTMENT PRODUCTIONS

Cast & crew of theatre productions is open to all students and is an excellent way for students interested in theater to get started. There are opportunities to help build sets, make costumes, and work with sound and lighting. Special functions/events: Five formal productions and several student-run "informal" productions

Sponsor Sam Rosenfeld - [samros@d219.org](mailto:samros@d219.org)

See [nileswesttheatre.com](http://nileswesttheatre.com) for more info!

# FINE & APPLIED ARTS

# SERVICE CLUBS

## COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN (CEC)

The Council for Exceptional Children (C.E.C. Club) offers all Niles West students an opportunity to become involved in enhancing the lives of people with disabilities. Our members volunteer as special education classroom aides, coaches for our C.E.C. Basketball team and lunch buddies for special students. Guest speakers bring a wealth of information to our meetings and an opportunity to explore professions serving special needs populations.

Sponsors: TBD; for more details see Special Education Director Stephanie Hentz - [stehen@d219.org](mailto:stehen@d219.org)

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## DANCE MARATHON

Dance Marathon is a student-led organization that chooses a new charity to benefit each year. Students fundraise throughout the year and celebrate at an end of the year party! DM has fundraised millions of dollars over the last 20 years, so come join us if you want to be a part of something special!

Sponsor: Dena Lichterman - [denlic@d219.org](mailto:denlic@d219.org)

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## GO GREEN (RECYCLING) CLUB

Members understand the value of and encourage more interest in developing a community of recyclers. Members make sure recycling is collected on a weekly basis and taken to the appropriate area for the next step in the process.

Sponsors: Chris Barnett - [chrbar@d219.org](mailto:chrbar@d219.org)

Susan Schram - [sussch@d219.org](mailto:sussch@d219.org)

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## HOMEROOM MENTORS

Homeroom Mentors are dedicated upperclassmen who provide guidance, support, and mentorship to underclassmen, helping them navigate academic challenges and adjust to school life. The application process begins in February and interviews are in March; the mentoring team for the next school year is finalized before Spring Break

Sponsors: Carla Green - [cargre@d219.org](mailto:cargre@d219.org)

Jennifer Myer - [jenmye@d219.org](mailto:jenmye@d219.org)

Joanna Tsekouras - [joatse@d219.org](mailto:joatse@d219.org)

*\*Mentors must be recommended to participate in this program\**

## RED CROSS CLUB

At Red Cross Club, our goal is to be a place for our members to feel included. We work with the Red Cross Foundation to educate others on current events and learn how you can make an impact on the community. This year, we hope to have several mission-related service projects such as volunteering at blood drives, hosting guest speakers, and our annual fly trap fundraiser! For each meeting you attend, you can get one volunteering hour! It is a great place to make friends, relax, and eat candy.

Sponsor: [natnop@d219.org](mailto:natnop@d219.org)

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## UNICEF CLUB

Don't wait until tomorrow to make a difference in the world. Start today! UNICEF is the United Nations Children's Fund. It is a children's humanitarian organization that works towards children's rights, survival, development and protection. High School UNICEF Clubs works with the U.S. Fund to gives students like ourselves the opportunity to educate, advocate, and fundraise about the issues existing in the world.

Sponsor: Deanna Sortino - [deasor@d219.org](mailto:deasor@d219.org)

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## WEST HELPS OTHERS (WHO)

WHO Club is a volunteer club open to all students. Members participate in a variety of community projects, with organizations such as Emily Oaks Nature Center, Good News Kitchen, Habitat for Humanity, the Greater Chicago Food Depository and City of Hope. WHO also organizes school events, Bake Sales and participates in walks (AIDS, Diabetes, Breast Cancer). The club is a rewarding way to have fun while helping others.

Sponsors: Carla Green - [cargre@d219.org](mailto:cargre@d219.org)

Venesa Ocasio - [venoca@d219.org](mailto:venoca@d219.org)

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**





# SPECIAL INTEREST

## ASTRONOMY CLUB

Do you like to look at the sky, use telescopes, use computers and your digital camera? Then come check out the Astronomy Club. We do all of these activities in the Niles West Observatory! We have our own telescopes, access to telescopes world-wide via internet and digital cameras to look at the constellations and watch for the Aurora!

Sponsor: Anthony Comstock -  
antcom@d219.org  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!**



## AUTO CLUB

Auto club is an opportunity for students to bring their own vehicles and work on them using the school equipment and tools. Students must make an appointment to bring their vehicle in. Students should have taken Automotive Fundamentals or be enrolled in an automotive class.

Sponsor: Kyle Thomas - kyltho@d219.org  
*All students are welcome to attend, although participation requires enrollment in an Automotive course*

## BOOK CLUB

Do you like to read? Do you like to talk about what you read? Then join Book Club! We meet once a month to discuss an author, genre, or just something we like — and we eat LOTS of cookies! So come to relax, absorb, and enjoy!

Sponsor: Sharon Swanson - shaswa@d219.org  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## BREAKFAST CLUB

Breakfast Club was started to encourage students to eat breakfast, the most important meal of the day. Since its inception, it has taken on the social aspects of students starting their day by sharing a bowl of cereal. Breakfast Club has encouraged camaraderie and fellowship; we will go from buying and eating breakfast food with the profits going to charity, to cooking and eating breakfast together—and we'll figure out how to make a charitable contribution

Sponsor: Sharon Swanson - shaswa@d219.org  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## EXPRESSIONS CREATIVE WRITING CLUB

Expressions is a creative writing club that produces Niles West's literary magazine. Students who are interested in art and writing can submit their work year-round for possible publication. During meetings, members talk casually about stories and poems that they enjoy, write creatively, and occasionally share their work. Bring an open mind, snacks, and music to our meetings.

Sponsor: Michelle Lewis - miclew@d219.org  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## FEMINIST CLUB

The NW Fem Club is a club open to everyone regardless of race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, etc. Its goal is to create a healthy and fun learning environment to tackle the world's oppressions and give equality and equity to all.

Sponsor: Jody Weatherington - jodwea@d219.org  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## FUTURES IN STEM CLUB

The Futures in STEM Club offers students the opportunity to delve into the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics through hands-on projects, guest lectures, and industry visits. Open to all aspiring STEM professionals, the club fosters innovation, critical thinking, and collaboration, preparing members for future careers in these dynamic fields.

Sponsor: Stephen Mikels - stemik@d219.org  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## GARDENING CLUB

You don't need to have a green thumb or gardening gloves, you just need a community spirit and a desire to help beautify the outdoor and indoor spaces of Niles West with growing things. Gardening Club is for you if you:

Like playing in the dirt, like to watch beautiful things grow, like to eat strawberries and tomatoes, or just want to hang out with other people who enjoy life!

Sponsor: Gloria Kim - glokim@d219.org  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## GIRLS WHO CODE

Do you know you can change the world through code? Technology can make the world a better place. The Girls Who Code club's mission is to inspire, dedicate and equip girls with the computing skills to change the world around them while having fun along the way. You will learn to write code for apps and websites while working on an Impact Project of your choice. Girls Who Code are leaders! Come join us - NO prior coding experience needed.

Sponsor: Amber Mosier - ambmos@d219.org  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!**



## KNITTING & CROCHET CLUB

Learn. Create. Donate. Know how to crochet, or want to learn how? Join Knitting & Crochet Club. We teach stitches and patterns, create items, and donate to local charities. This is a great opportunity to meet new people, learn a new skill, and help others.

Sponsor: Kimberly Hansen - kimhan@d219.org  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

The Mental Health Matters Club promotes awareness of mental health. The main goal is to eliminate the stigma associated with mental health and create opportunities to have open conversations. The club implements school wide activities that increase awareness and provide a safe space for students to have meaningful conversations. The club is open to everyone. We also fundraise for mental health causes.

Sponsors: Felix Caceres felcac@d219.org  
Stefanie Kim stekim@d219.org  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## P.A.C.E. POLITCS CLUB

If you enjoy the news or are just interested in learning more about the world around you, this club is for you. Politics and Current Events (PACE) is a student-led club that allows members to learn about and discuss important political and cultural events of the previous week. Members should feel free to actively participate or to just listen and learn.

Sponsor: Joe Edwards - josedw@d219.org  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## ROCK 'N ROLL CLUB

Rock & Roll Club allows musicians of all musical backgrounds to come together and share their individual musical talents with others and to be openly accepted by their fellow musicians. All musicians have a place to go where they can express themselves musically, see how other musicians play, and better understand the beauty of music in full. Beginners are encouraged to join!

Sponsor: Steven Lander - stelan@d219.org  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## YOUTH ACTIVISM & LEADERSHIP

The purpose of the Youth Activism and Leadership (Y.A.L) club at Niles West is multifaceted, aiming to empower students to become agents of positive change within their school and broader communities. Y.A.L serves as a platform for students to engage in activism, advocate for issues they are passionate about, and develop leadership skills. In essence, Y.A.L serves as a catalyst for positive change, empowering students to advocate for causes they believe in and inspiring a new generation of socially conscious leaders.

Sponsors: D.J. Kosiba - dankos@d219.org  
Megan Spletzer - megspl@d219.org  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

# SPECIAL INTEREST

# STUDENT VOICE



## CLASS CABINETS

Class Cabinets are student-led groups dedicated to enhancing the school experience by organizing events, fostering class spirit, and addressing student concerns within each grade level. Each cabinet serves as a liaison between students and faculty, ensuring effective communication and a positive school environment, and are responsible for such events as Homecoming, pep assemblies, Prom, and Senior Send-Off.

### FRESHMEN CABINET SPONSOR:

Colleen Gogerty - colgog@d219.org

### SOPHOMORE CABINET SPONSOR:

Stephanie Lau - stelau@d219.org

### JUNIOR CABINET SPONSOR:

Margaret Bower - marbow@d219.org

### SENIOR CABINET SPONSOR:

Carla Green - cargre@d219.org

## NILES WEST NEWS

Niles West News is the student-run news website at Niles West High School in Skokie, IL. It is a designated public forum for student expression, wherein student editors make all content decisions.

Sponsor: Rachel Gross - racgro@d219.org

*\*Participation requires course enrollment\**

## NWN BROADCASTING

Broadcasting is a fun & creative place to help create videos to accompany the NWN broadcasts. Members will brainstorm engaging topics, and learn new skills such as reporting, anchoring, filming, or editing. Meet some great people and play an integral part in communicating information to the school community.

Sponsor: Steve Lander - stelan@d219.org

## PRINCIPAL'S STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM (SLT)

The Principal's Student Leadership Team is a group focused on raising student voice and participation from a diverse representation of Niles West. The team of students and the Principal meet to discuss ways to get student feedback, make student-generated changes to the school, and develop leadership skills.

Sponsor: Jeremy Christian - jerchr@d219.org



## STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Student Government serves as a political bridge between students faculty and administration through which students' interests can be expressed and acted upon appropriately. Members plan and organize school-wide assemblies, spirit weeks and fundraisers for school social events. In addition, Student Government seats a representative on the District 219 Board of Education and works to influence policy changes that benefit the entire Niles West student body.

Sponsor: Matt Wiemer - matwie@d219.org

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**



# **NW** Something for every member of our pack at West!

## **Academic Clubs**

Chemistry Club  
French Honor Society  
German Honor Society  
HOSA Future Health Professionals  
National Arts Honor Society  
National Honor Society  
Research Investigators of Tomorrow (RIOT)  
Spanish Honor Society

## **Active Clubs**

Archery Club  
Badminton Club  
Cricket Club  
Paintball Club  
Pickleball Club  
Ping Pong Club  
Powerlifting Club  
Ski & Snowboard Club  
Sports Medicine Club

## **Interested in Athletics?**

Visit [schools.snap.app/NilesWest](https://schools.snap.app/NilesWest)

## **Competitive Clubs**

Auto Competition Team  
Chess Team  
Debate Team  
DECA (Entrepreneurial Leadership)  
Esports  
Math Team  
Mock Trial  
Model UN  
Poetry Slam  
Robotics Club  
Scholastic Bowl  
Science Olympiad  
Varsity Table Tennis

## **Cultural & Identity Clubs**

Albanian Club  
American Sign Language (ASL)  
Assyrian Club  
Black Student Union (BSU)  
Bollywest Club  
Bosnian-Montenegro Club  
Called to Christ Club (C2C)  
Chinese Club  
Croatian Club  
Filipino Club  
French Club  
Futuro Latino Club  
Gender Sexuality Alliance (GSA)  
German Club  
Hellenic (Greek) Club  
International Relations Council (IRC)  
Japanese Anime Club  
Jewish Student Association (JSA)  
Korean Club  
Middle Eastern & North African Club (MENA)  
Muslim Student Association (MSA)  
Pan-Asian Student Association (PASA)  
Polish Club  
Raíces Latinx Club  
Romanian Club  
Serbian Club  
South Asian Student Association (SASA)  
Vietnamese Student Association (VSA)

## **Fine & Applied Arts**

Art Club (Open Art Studio)  
Creative Cooking Club  
Extracurricular Band Ensembles  
Extracurricular Choral Ensembles  
Family Career Community Leaders of America  
Fashion Club  
Graphic Arts Club  
Orchesis Dance Company  
Orchestra Board  
Theater Department Productions  
Thespian Troupe/Int'l Thespian Society

## **Service Clubs**

Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)  
Dance Marathon  
Go Green Recycling Club  
Homeroom Mentors  
Red Cross Club  
UNICEF Club  
West Helps Others (WHO)

## **Special Interest Clubs**

Astronomy Club  
Auto Club  
Book Club  
Breakfast Club  
Expressions Creative Writing Club  
Feminist Club  
Futures in STEM  
Gardening Club  
Girls Who Code  
Knitting & Crochet Club  
Mental Health Matters Club  
Politics and Current Events (PACE) Club  
Rock n Roll Club  
Youth Activism and Leadership (YAL)

## **Student Voice**

Class Cabinets:  
*Freshmen, Sophomore, Junior, Senior*  
Niles West News Broadcasting  
Principals Student Leadership Team (SLT)  
Student Government

**Have an interest that  
you don't see listed?  
Click [HERE](#) for  
information about  
starting your own  
club!**