IAP, standing for Independent Activities Period, is when we get to do whatever we want for a month. Lots of sisters did interesting things for the duration of the month.

**Upcoming Events**

- **February 9th**
  - MacDowell Month MFA Event

- **February 17th**
  - Retreat at the Boston Zoo

**Top:** Wolfkat ’14 spent a week in Wichita, KS giving presentations to girls in middle school about science and engineering, through the MIT Women’s Initiative. The goal of the group is to expose girls around the country to engineering and science as careers and share why these fields are so exciting.
**Right:** Barbara Schloss ‘15 and Hannah Barrett ‘15 managed to walk the freedom trail in the cold!

**Below:** Jean Fang ‘13, Elizabeth Phillips ‘13, and Divya Chhabra ‘13 built and rowed a cardboard boat in the Head of the Z’s annual cardboard boat race. Kirsten Lim ‘15 also helped to laser cut the inside of the boat.

**Below:** Jess Haskins ‘14 worked at NASA Goddard Space Flight center on a project to visualize the Lunar Atmosphere and Dust Environment Explorer (LADEE) satellite that will be launched in August of this year.

**Top: Left to Right:** Jess Haskins ‘14 eating with Amy Brazin ‘10, Tayina Tardieu ‘09, Amy Jacobi ‘11, Katie Kauffman ‘12, and Amy Leung ‘10.
**Below:** Audra Podany ‘13 took a ten-day trip to Italy led by three MIT Ancient History Professors. She explored Rome including the Roman Forum, Colosseum and visited Pompeii.

**Top:** Audra Podnay at the Trevi Fountain in Rome.

**Below:** Kirsten Lim ‘15 worked at 5 Wits Productions, which is a company that designs and fabricates interactive exhibits. Kirsten’s MIT admissions blog entry gives more details about her internship.

**Left:** Beth Garcia ‘15 was on the Big Island of Hawaii doing environmental fieldwork. She used a mobile lab and sensors mounted on a UAV to measure SO₂ and particulate matter concentrations from the plume of the Kilauea volcano.
Vinati Kaul ’14, Jean Fang ’13, Lauren Lo ’13, Divya Chhabra ’13 and Yinfu Chen ’14 took an Engineering Leadership course during the first week of IAP and learned what it meant to be an engineering leader.

Below: Joanie Weaver ’14 went to Milan, Italy and taught at Galvani high school for 3 weeks through MISTI Italy Global Teaching Labs. She taught several Computer Science classes and a few Math classes to students ages 14-19. It was an incredible experience!

Right: Christine Sowa ’14 spent the first two weeks of IAP in Belgium through January Scholars program with ten other French-speaking MIT students to learn about Belgian culture.
Divya Chhabra ’13 and Jessica Li ’13 took a ballroom dance class.

Alana Peters ’16 took a Python class and participated in a standup comedy workshop.

Caitlin Mackey ’15 and Morganne Klein ’14 went to Leadership Academy.

Pam Cai ’16 took LeaderShape along with Teresa Lin ’15, Preeti Singhal ’15, Amelia Brooks ’15, Barbara Schloss ’15, Miriam Zachau-Walker ’13 and Joyce Chen ’15. Pam describes her experience at Leadershape: “If there was one thing this year, 2013, that has changed my perspective on life, it would be LeaderShape. Seventy people gathered together in a place about 30 minutes away from MIT with access to internet and phones and a dictionary of mean and harsh words, and all of a sudden, I have entered paradise. The phones are obediently put away and the dictionary suddenly gets cleared of anything judgmental, prejudiced, or false. Ground rules that are set on the first day are followed right up to when we arrive back on campus. More than just these behaviors, I made lasting bonds with people that I met there through the emotional stories we shared about each of our diverse backgrounds. All in all, I wish every MIT student could experience the wonders of LeaderShape.”