



success

2013 SPECIAL GRADUATION EDITION

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Congratulations to the Class of 2013!

As we celebrate our students and their achievements, recent events remind us of the challenges that our boys have to face every day. A few weeks ago, the City of Newburgh made the headlines. Typical of such occasions, it was not a flattering depiction of the city where our school resides.

Local and national publications reported comments made by U.S. District Court Judge Colleen McMahon during a sentencing hearing. In short, Judge McMahon stated "There is one industry in Newburgh, and that is selling drugs. There is one law in Newburgh, and that is the law of the streets. Newburgh is the most pathetic place in the State of New York."

We should not be dejected by Judge McMahon's comments; after all, she stated what we know to be the daily truth for our students, and for too many in the Newburgh community. Judge McMahon's comments highlighted the constant struggles and crippling obstacles the residents of Newburgh face on a regular basis.

But, there is another reality, the reality of San Miguel Academy. Our students are choosing to overcome those challenges by working hard in school and "defying the odds".

All of their lives are moving in a forward direction. They have all been accepted to amazing high schools and boarding schools. The Board, our benefactors, our families, and our teachers, all offer to them our congratulations, the Class of 2013 at San Miguel Academy of Newburgh.

They continue to marvel us with their energy, their enthusiasm and their intelligence. Upon each of them we place our hope that one day Newburgh, and indeed the whole world, will be a better place because of them!

We look forward to them coming back to their alma mater as alumni. It is now their turn to influence a fellow "brother in blue" at San Miguel.

God bless you all!

Thomas M. Crispi - Chairman of the Board of Trustees

Introducing the Graduates

Lisandro Chihuahua

Lisandro's surname, Chihuahua, belies this young man's stature. Tall and strong, Lisandro is most commonly referred to as "Big L;" a good description because Lisandro is big in spirit, commitment, and enthusiasm. In all situations, Big L can be counted on to emerge as a leader. Always sitting in the front row of the classroom, Lisandro is dedicated to his studies. Because of his achievements, and most importantly his work ethic, Lisandro was awarded a full scholarship to Oakwood Friends School in Poughkeepsie, where he will take up residency in September.

Lisandro was confirmed at St. Patrick's Church last month where he is an active member. In school Lisandro has been our goalie for soccer and lacrosse, and of course he plays the post position on our basketball team. Outside of school, Lisandro has excelled in rowing, outranking most high school rowers in our region. Great things are expected from Lisandro as his high school career unfolds. God bless you, Big L, make us proud!



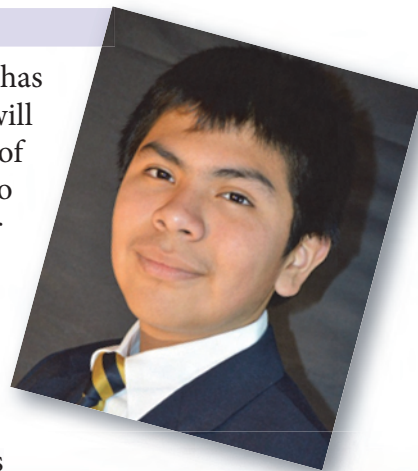
2013 GRADUATE EDITION

Online Giving at www.newburghsanmiguel.org

Dilan Herrera

Dilan Herrera is a bright and creative young man. As a prolific reader, Dilan has acquired an exquisite command of the English language. His high aptitude will create a world of possibilities for him in the years ahead. Dilan is also fond of drawing, and art in general. He excelled in graphic arts at SMAN, and he also demonstrated a skill for acting in our Drama Club. Dilan will be attending Our Lady of Lourdes in Poughkeepsie.

Dilan is no stranger to the Adirondack Mountains. For the past two summers, Dilan has attended a seven week session at Camp Treetops in Lake Placid. He will be departing for his third summer at Treetops in just a few days. Dilan is active in his parish church, St. Patrick's, where he sings with his parents' musical group. We have no reason not to expect wonderful things from this impressive person in the years ahead. God bless your journey, Dilan!



Keyrell Staples



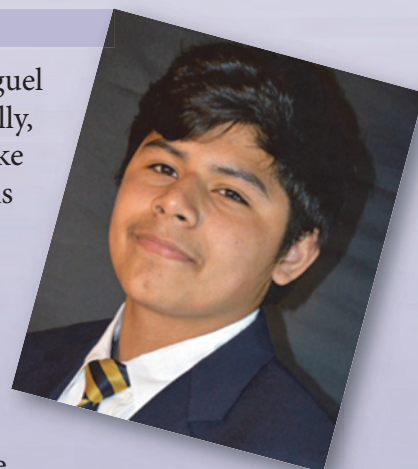
Keyrell is the second boy from the Staples family to graduate from San Miguel Academy. Much like his brother, Teshawn who graduated two years ago from SMAN, Keyrell is known for his humor and wit. Keyrell's outgoing personality is a great asset to him. Everyone enjoys his company because when Keyrell is around, there will always be laughs. Like many of his schoolmates, Keyrell has yet to reach his full academic potential, but with dedication at Our Lady of Lourdes High School the best is yet to come.

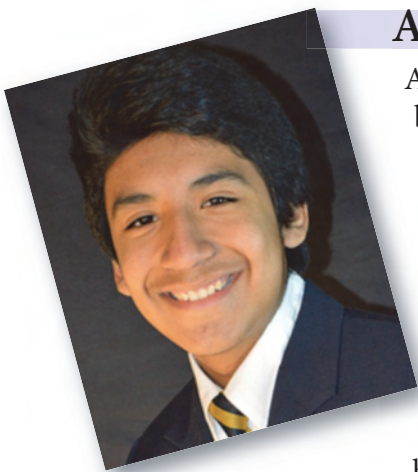
Keyrell played basketball for the Soaring Eagles, and this year he emerged as a talented lacrosse player. Blessed by a loving and protective family, Keyrell has all that he needs to become a successful and productive leader in the 21st century. Good luck, Keyrell. Make us proud.

Eduardo Rivas

Strong and proud, Eduardo Rivas took complete advantage of his San Miguel experience. Today, full of confidence in his ability to learn, and to think critically, Eduardo is poised to do great things as part of our inaugural group at John S. Burke Catholic High School. Eduardo is quick with a smile and is helpful when help is needed.

While at San Miguel, Eduardo played skillful soccer, and this year he learned to like lacrosse as well. Eduardo sometimes had to walk a few extra blocks to get home in the afternoon, just to avoid those who would make an issue of his blue and gold shirt. With this type of perseverance, we can be sure that Eduardo will continue to grow in his commitment to use education as a means to break the cycle of the streets. Eduardo is determined to rise above the streets, and we wish him all of God's blessings on the road that lies ahead.





Antonio Del Aqua

Antonio Del Aqua spent the past four years at San Miguel Academy. Antonio has become known for his Robin Williams-like humor and talkative ways. It has taken Antonio time to realize the depth of his intellectual abilities, and aptitude for learning. Even still, with dedication to his studies, Antonio can find his way through high school and beyond.

At San Miguel Academy, Antonio has been involved in Yearbook Club, Photo Club, and Fitness Club. He plays soccer, and he enjoys his affiliation with St. Patrick's C.C.D. program where he was recently confirmed a Catholic. This witty young man has many talents, and much to offer the world. Along with his mother, Antonio will be moving to California after graduation to be with his father. Our prayers and best wishes go with the Del Aquas as they move west to start a new life. Antonio, good luck in your future pursuits.

Frederick Dillard

Frederick Dillard was blessed with tremendous God-given talents. This feisty young man has spent the past four years working at his studies and developing his athletic skills. Frederick is daring, and not afraid to try new things. While at San Miguel Academy Frederick excelled at soccer and basketball, and took on lacrosse where he showed great promise. Outside of school he played football, and rowed for the Newburgh Rowing Club. He is also known to play the drums at his church on Sunday.

With a gifted intelligence and athletic prowess, there is little that can keep Frederick from achieving his full potential. Frederick has an active application at The Milton Hershey School at the time of printing and has already been accepted to Our Lady of Lourdes High School. Where ever Frederick ends up, we can all expect to hear great things about his performance in high school and beyond. Keep your head up Frederick, and may God bless your journey!



Dajour Fisher

Adjectives abound when describing Dajour Fisher. Effusive, optimistic, and energetic only begin to describe Dajour. He embodies the ideal San Miguel Man. Dajour has taken full advantage of the opportunities given him at SMAN. He has achieved in the classroom, pulling himself up to grade level performance. Today Dajour has confidence in his capacity to learn, while at the same time being involved in the community. Dajour was the first San Miguel student to be chosen as an Orange County Young Leader. Dajour is also the apprentice in training to take over maintenance of the famed Charles Fastoldt clock at First Ebenezer Baptist Church in Newburgh.

At San Miguel Academy Dajour plays soccer, basketball, and lacrosse, and was among the first of our students to join the inaugural rowing program. For all of his achievements Dajour was awarded the Grandview Scholarship which will allow him to attend the Harvey School in Katonah beginning in September. Dajour is also a three summer recipient of the Camp Dudley scholarship award, where he will return in July.

Keep smiling, Dajour, and best wishes for your future endeavors!





Esteban Arizpe

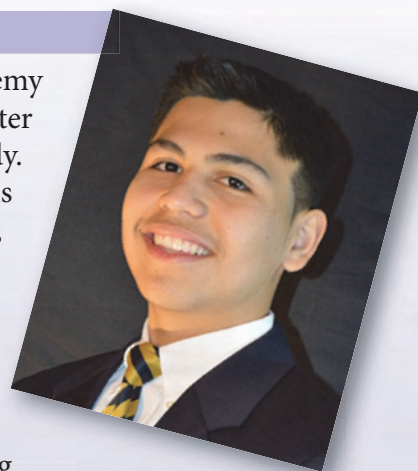
Esteban Arizpe is one of two brothers to grace our eighth grade class. Esteban is a quiet leader among this graduating class. They say “still waters run deep.” If that is the case, Esteban measures fathoms greater than the rest of us. Poised and self-controlled, Esteban is devoted to his classwork and to his future academic success.

At San Miguel, Esteban played soccer and lacrosse. Off the field he is involved in youth activities at his parish church, where he was recently confirmed. This talented young man will be among the first to represent San Miguel Academy at John S. Burke Catholic High School in Goshen. We have no doubt that Esteban will represent us, and himself, with great distinction. We wish you the best of luck in all your endeavors, Esteban, and blessings upon the road ahead.

Anthony Fiscal

Anthony Fiscal personifies steadiness and strength. He joined San Miguel Academy a year later than his classmates, but he quickly emerged as a leader with character and integrity. Anthony got right to business, applying himself to work and study. He is a good manager of his time and is prompt with his assignments. Anthony is a gritty athlete. He plays soccer, basketball, and lacrosse for the Soaring Eagles, while outside of school he plays football and rows. The same determination he demonstrates in the classroom he brings to the playing field. Anthony is also involved in youth activities at St. Patrick's Church where he was recently confirmed.

Anthony will now take his talents to St. Benedict's Preparatory School in Newark, NJ. The Grey Bees will be delighted to have this fine young man among their ranks! Keep focused, Anthony, and God bless you!



Luis Jimenez

Luis Jimenez willingly gave up his first name to avoid the confusion of having two boys with the same name in the same grade. Quickly he became known as Tito, a nickname given him by his family. Tito is a multi-talented young man who is full of determination and drive. He is relentless in the face of adversity, and has distinguished himself with his strong academic performance. For these reasons, Tito was named a Grandview Scholar, which will allow him to attend Canterbury School in September. Tito is no stranger to the boarding school world, as he gained a scholarship to attend the summer program at Suffield Academy last summer where he excelled.

Tito is a talented soccer player, and he likes basketball and lacrosse. Tito was also one of the first boys to step forward to join the Newburgh Rowing Club two years ago. Tito was recently confirmed in his parish church, St. Patrick's. We'll be expecting a solid performance from Tito in high school as he makes his way towards college. God bless you, Tito, and good luck.



Christopher Lane

Christopher Lane is the first person to have a kind word, or to offer a warm greeting. Characteristic of Chris is his compassion for others and his sensitivity to those around him. Chris has been a soothing presence at San Miguel Academy over the past four years. Naturally bright, Chris is also known to have an inquiring mind. During the summer of 2012, Chris had an opportunity to expand his base of knowledge by attending Access Cheshire, at Cheshire Academy. For all of his hard work Chris was awarded a scholarship to attend The Marvelwood School in Kent, CT, this fall.

While at SMAN, Chris played soccer and lacrosse. Like a lot of boys his age, Chris is also known to spend some time on Xbox when he's not in school. Chris will be especially remembered as being a friend to all. This kind-hearted young man, with his diplomatic ways, may very well end up at the United Nations one day. Until then, Chris, study hard and keep up the good work!



Kelvin Vidals

Kelvin Vidals only spent two years at San Miguel Academy. I told him he would have to work twice as hard and twice as fast to catch up with his classmates, and that he did! Kelvin is a well-rounded kid. He's active at St. Francis C.C.D. where he'll be confirmed in the near future. He's a dedicated student, and a productive athlete, playing for all three of our athletic teams, plus rowing on the weekends. While doing all this, he also has a part time job on the weekend at a local tire shop. This entrepreneurial young man is not afraid of hard work. Kelvin will be attending Our Lady of Lourdes High School this fall where he'll continue on his winning ways.

Kelvin has a competitive spirit and yet, he is kind hearted. With sustained dedication, Kelvin will be college bound for sure. His intuitive nature will be a great asset for him as he makes his way through life. Best wishes, Kelvin, and continued success!

Luis Ascencio

Luis Ascencio is distinguished by his steady progress and determination while at San Miguel Academy. Now on the threshold of high school, Luis has established himself as a competent student and a confident learner. Our Lady of Lourdes High School will be glad to welcome Luis into their ranks in September. Luis has a calm disposition and gentle demeanor, but when he has the attention of a couple of friends he lets his sense of humor show forth. Luis is active in his church and helpful to his mother at home.

Luis plays soccer, and this year he grew to like lacrosse as well, playing in a defensive position. Luis is a good friend to all his classmates, and is respected by his teachers. Luis is now poised to take on greater challenges academically. If his performance thus far is an indicator, Luis is capable of great things in the years ahead. Good luck, Luis, and may God bless your journey.





Andy Morquecho

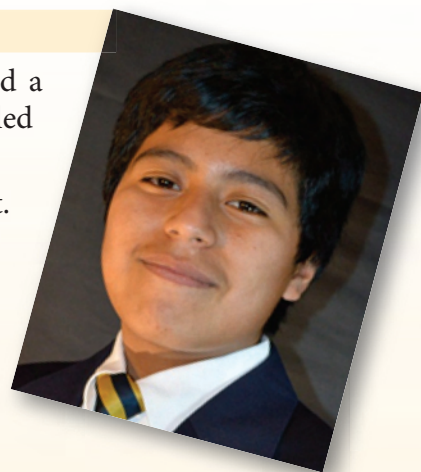
Andy Morquecho is the second boy in his family to graduate from San Miguel Academy. There'll be a third brother starting in July. Andy got the job done during his time at SMAN. He improved his math skills to above grade level, and he's known to be steady and consistent in all of his classes. Andy will have an opportunity to continue his education at John S. Burke Catholic High School in September.

During his middle school years, Andy offered a solid soccer performance for the Soaring Eagles, and he learned to like lacrosse too. When he's not on the athletic field, Andy can be seen around the streets of Newburgh on his skateboard with his brother Bryan. Andy is also a talented swimmer. With all of these gifts we can expect a top rate performance from Andy in high school and on into college. He's been a positive influence in our school so we're sure he'll represent us well as one of our first at Burke. God's blessings, Andy!

Alejandro Arizpe

Alejandro is the brother of Esteban. Like Esteban, he is a good student, and a dedicated learner. Together they will forge a path to Goshen as our first enrolled students at John S. Burke Catholic High School.

Outside of the classroom, Alejandro is involved in the youth program at St. Patrick's, recently receiving the sacrament of confirmation. Alejandro also plays masterful soccer and has exhibited a talent for lacrosse. This well rounded young man has great potential for future academic success. With a will to succeed, we have confidence that Alejandro will achieve his dreams. Cheering him on will be his dedicated father and mother, who have made many sacrifices for their sons' education. Good luck, Ale!



Raul Ramirez

Raul Ramirez is as steady as they come. Always consistent, Raul is a good example of dedication. Though he only spent two years with us, Raul has made great progress in self-confidence and academic performance. His ability to keep things organized will be a tremendous asset as he transitions into Our Lady of Lourdes High School in Poughkeepsie.

Raul is involved at St. Patrick's where he too was recently confirmed. At SMAN Raul is known for being polite and respectful to both teachers and classmates. He also has a reputation for his skill as an artist. Raul, along with Dilan, worked with street artist, Dasic, to create A Boy named Harmony, the fascinating work of art which hangs in our school. Raul also enjoyed working with LEGOS as a medium for self-expression. Good luck, Raul, at Lourdes and beyond!



**YOU'RE
INVITED**

**Please join us for the graduation
Thursday, June 6, 6 p.m., Ebenezer Baptist Church, Newburgh, N.Y.**

Graphic Design is a contribution from Kevin Connell Graphic Design, LLC. Contact KCGD at 352-895-8945 or kcgfgraphicdesign@gmail.com.

