



Leadership and Service

Alumni Newsletter 2016

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To Lead is to Serve

Ralph Waldo Emerson once remarked, “*Our chief want is someone who will inspire us to be what we know we could be.*” At San Miguel Academy of Newburgh, one of the hallmarks of our education is the character formation program. From the moment a boy enters in grade 5, he’s invited into an environment where respect and achievement go hand in hand. We teach empowerment through collaboration and cooperation. In a city where violence prevails, many young people get the early message that “might makes right.” In our school, we



Board member, Greg Kiernan, Canterbury '75, reminisces with Tito about his role as Student Body President at Canterbury School more than forty years ago. Tito was elected Student Body President for this school year at Canterbury. Also, Vera and Greg hosted yet another summer pool party and bbq for the boys in July. That makes 8 years in a row!

“...inspire us to be what we know we could be”

invite the child to see the world in a different way. We use project based learning methods to teach the child that more good is accomplished in the world when people work together to problem solve and seek resolution. In other words, we inspire!

We see the fruits of our inspirational environment when our guys move on through high school. So often heads of school have told us that our guys stand out in their ability to lead and communicate. In our Class of 2013 several of our graduates have attained remarkable positions of leadership and service.

Following is just a sample of the impact our students are having in their high school environments.

Our reaction at SMAN is “Try to Trump This!”



2016 GRADUATE EDITION

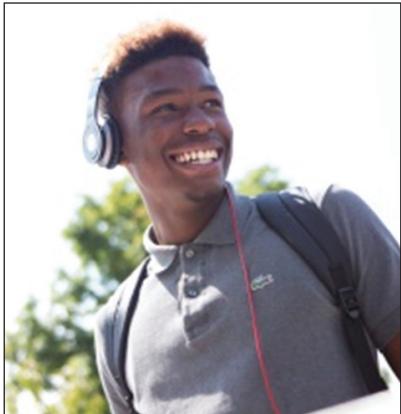
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The Outstanding SMAN Class of 2013



Luis "Tito" Jimenez, Canterbury '17, SMAN '13, was elected by his peers to be the Student Body President at Canterbury School for the 2016-2017 academic year. In addition he was selected to serve as a Sacristan by a faculty committee. These coveted positions are seldom earned by a senior student at the same time. The most recent person to earn both titles was Henry Garcia, Canterbury '15 and SMAN '11! Tito has also been chosen to be a senior dorm proctor. Congratulations on such amazing achievements!

Tito Jimenez offers his gratitude during his inaugural address to the Canterbury community after being elected Student Body President.



Dajour Fisher often steps up to be an announcer or DJ for various Harvey School events.

Dajour Fisher, Harvey School '17, SMAN '13, was recently elected Co-President of Student Government. Dajour is also a three sport athlete while also being involved in community service and outreach activities. Good work, Dajour!



Lisandro Chihuahua pays a visit to SMAN during his spring break.

Lisandro Chihuahua, Oakwood Friends School '17, SMAN '13, has also become a campus leader. "Big L" serves as a dorm proctor, student government class representative and a student member of the Judicial Action Committee. "Big L" is also a three sport athlete, excelling in basketball, soccer, and baseball for Oakwood. Lisandro is a valued member of his school community, and a crowd favorite at all home basketball games.



Chris Lane, Marvelwood '17, SMAN '13, was named the 2016-2017 Bodkin Scholar by outgoing recipient Brittany Broberg '16 at the Marvelwood School in Kent, CT. The Robert and Cornelia Bodkin Memorial Scholarship was established by the Nancy and Andrew Wood Charitable Foundation. The Scholarship provides full financial assistance for one year to a student who has met specific academic and leadership criteria. Great job, Chris!

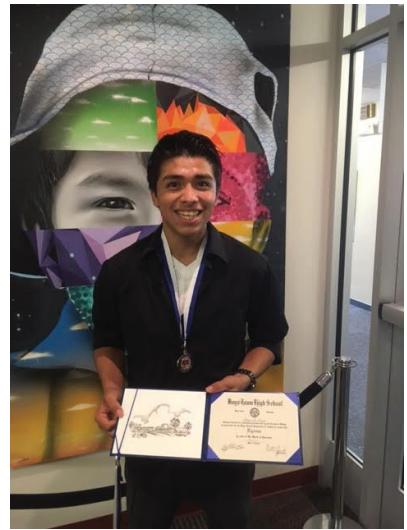
Chris Lane is pictured at a Marvelwood School assembly where he was named Bodkin Scholar.

Achievements and Updates



Henry Garcia, Fairfield '19, Canterbury '15, SMAN '10, is pictured with his classmate, **Guillermo Cruz**, Marist '19, St. Benedict's '15, SMAN '11, at our October 2015 Benefit Dinner. Henry continues to soar with an honors GPA at Fairfield and community service activities. Guillermo has been training all summer as he will be joining the oarsmen at Marist College in the fall. Impressive achievements from two of our graduates!

Arturo proudly displays his Boys Town High School diploma and medal for his friends at SMAN.



Arturo Reyes, Boys Town High School '16, SMAN '12, successfully completed his high school journey as an honors student. For his achievements, Arturo has been awarded the "Lighting the Way Scholarship" at Mount Saint Mary College, where he will take up studies in the fall. Congratulations, Arturo!



Brandon Miller, Church Farm School '19, SMAN '15, works out on the treadmill, while **Lisandro Chihuahua**, Oakwood Friends '17, SMAN '13, bench presses. We continue to be grateful for our fantastic workout room, which is regularly used by our graduates. This generous donation from Curt Snyder has been a boost to our graduate support efforts because of the steady stream of alums into the building. We are also grateful to Lauren and Bob Steers who recently donated a treadmill and elliptical trainer. All of this adds mightily to our holistic approach to education.



Kevin Morales, MSMC '18, OLLCHS '14, SMAN '10, stands with Sean Glander of Vanacore, DeBenedictus, and Weddell, our accounting firm. Kevin is an accounting major at Mount Saint Mary College. Kevin will be interning during his junior year, under Sean's supervision, on a variety of business accounts. We're proud of Kevin and all of his achievements!



Achievements and Updates



Jadden (center) is photographed with Church Farm School administrators shortly after he received recognition for his record breaking service hours at an awards ceremony.

Jadden Montijo, Church Farm School '18, SMAN '14, proudly accepts the Community Service Award for 300 hours of service during the academic year, the most ever since the award has been given! Jadden has also been appointed dorm proctor for the 9th grade dorm next year. On top of it all he will be taking two Advanced Placement classes in the fall. We are proud of you, Jadden!



Gilberto Garcia returns to his alma mater shortly after returning from basic training.

Gilberto Garcia, Cornwall High School '14, SMAN '10, gave an impressive presentation to current students, speaking about service and leadership. Gil has joined the ranks of the United States Marines, and is presently training as a combat engineer. Let us all pray for our men and women serving our great nation. God bless you, Gil!



Daniel Ruiz, Loomis Chaffee '19, SMAN '15, (back row, third from right) is pictured with Henry Kravis Scholars during a recent awards ceremony.

Daniel Ruiz continues to impress at the Loomis Chaffee School. His winning personality and academic achievements have earned him the respect of his peers and his teachers. Daniel also participated in several service activities during his freshman year. This summer Daniel was invited to the Loomis Summer Program where he's continuing on his winning ways.



Osmond Lewis, SMAN '11, staffing the cash register at Home Depot. Osmond is entering his second year at Dutchess Community College as a resident student.

Commencement 2016



The newest alumni of SMAN, the Class of 2016!

Fifteen new SMAN alumni were inducted into the Student Success Program on the day of their graduation. We are expecting great things from the Class of 2016.



Bayron Morales speaks to the Class of 2016.

Bayron Morales, St. Benedict's Prep '16, SMAN '12, delivered a moving graduation talk to the Class of 2016. Bayron spoke about all of the obstacles he encountered during the span of his young life. Fortunately he is defying the odds, and in September he will bring his winning ways to Fairfield University.



Father Mark is flanked by SMAN graduates **Tito Jimenez, Henry Garcia and Guillermo Cruz** during the winning pre-season performance of the NY Giants over the Patriots. Our gratitude goes out to **John and Kathy McCarthy, Louie and Julie Pipolo, and Tim and Ann Cacace** for giving us the memory of a lifetime.

SMAN and the NY Giants, two winning teams!



Active Summer Studies Programs



Marc Ramos preparing for the Geometry Regents exam.

Jessica Dauer, summer tutor, works with Marc Ramos, Lourdes '18, SMAN '14, for his re-take of the Geometry Regents exam. During the summer months those SMAN graduates who need added support for high school can find it as part of our Summer Scholars Program. Good luck, Marc!



SMAN '16 grads stay on top of studies all summer

As part of our ongoing student success program, our recent graduates, Class of 2016, return all summer for math and English language classes. Mr. Frank Snyder, SSP Director, is pictured here with a small math cohort. The backslide for urban kids can be significant. At SMAN we're always moving forward!

College Visits

As part of our Student Success Program we assist families with college visits as their sons become prospective students. Recent trips have included Georgetown University, Catholic University of America, The United States Naval Academy, Loyola University Maryland, Harvard University, Boston College, Providence College, Notre Dame University of Maryland, College of the Holy Cross, Fairfield University, Mercy College, Mount Saint Mary College, and Sacred Heart University.



Luis Jimenez, SMAN '13, and Dilan Herrera, SMAN '13, moments before they began their tour of the Holy Cross campus.



Lisandro Chihuahua, Oakwood Friends '17, SMAN '13, Keyrell Staples, OLLCHS '17, SMAN '13, and brothers Alejandro and Esteban Arizpe, Burke Catholic HS '17, SMAN '13, upon a recent visit to LeMoyne College in Syracuse, NY. Good luck, guys, with your college search!

A New Partner in Higher Education



Mount Saint Mary College recently launched its “Lighting the Way Scholarship Program” to benefit the graduates of San Miguel Academy.

The Lighting the Way Scholarship will assist graduates from underserved backgrounds who wish to pursue a four-year college education at the Mount. Based on financial need, it will be awarded annually, with the possibility of renewal based on academic performance. The first scholarship has been awarded to Arturo Reyes, Boys Town High School '16, SMAN '12.

The Mount’s position in the students’ home city of Newburgh makes it a great fit for alumni of San Miguel. The Mount’s mission includes creating an environment which fosters close student-faculty interaction that enables students to reach their full potential. The college strives to provide a liberal arts education that will prepare students for lives of leadership and service.

Mount Saint Mary College is a coeducational, independent liberal arts college in the Dominican Catholic tradition. The student population has always included a significant number of first-generation college students, currently 35 percent.

After a mishap in our building the Summer Scholars Program was almost homeless for one week. Thanks to our good friends at Mount Saint Mary College we relocated to their campus to complete the program. As an added summer bonus the boys got to experience firsthand the college life that awaits them.

Mrs. DiMeo is pictured with the St. Benedict's Prep boys after an early summer meal in Newark. From left to right, Saheed Adams, SBP '19, SMAN '15, Bayron Morales, Fairfield '20, SBP '16, SMAN '12, JP Colon, SBP '20, SMAN '16, Kevin Marin, SBP '19, SMAN '15, Anthony Cruz, SBP '19, SMAN '15, and Cory Arias, SBP '19, SMAN '15. Congratulations to Kerry DiMeo who has been promoted to SMAN's Principal!



Why We Do This



On Thursday, September 1st, we found ourselves with a handful of tickets to the NY Giants pre-season game against the Patriots. Henry Garcia, Tito Jimenez, and Guillermo Cruz accompanied myself and Julie Pipolo for the event. We had the blessed fortune of being invited to sit in the Mara family box where we were treated like royalty.

At halftime we were taken to the field where the boys had an experience to be remembered for a lifetime.

On the way home, still walking on a cloud, we finally arrived in Newburgh. Henry lives a couple of blocks from my residence, so as we approached our neighborhood a bright glow appeared in the distance. As we got closer we realized it was a makeshift shrine to Kershaw Gayle who was gunned down this past Tuesday. To those of us who

live in Newburgh these shrines are a familiar sight. In this case it is all that remains of an 18 year old's life - votive candles and empty Hennessy bottles on the spot where he lay dead just two nights prior. Yet another senseless death of a boy who was trying to beat the streets, but found himself in the wrong place at the wrong time.

Henry took a deep sigh as we passed by, but said nothing. I knew what he was thinking. He sees the drug deals that go down on this corner several times a day. It's such a regular occurrence that the police themselves drive by even though they know what's going on.

We were home, and reality quickly plucked us from the imaginary cloud, and reminded us of where we live.

Henry is currently in the safe environment of Fairfield University, where he has begun his second year.

SAVE THE DATE

12th Annual Benefit Gala

Thursday, October 20th • 6:30 p.m. • Westchester Country Club

(contact Cathy Joyce Wooters : cjwooters@newburghsanmiguel.org)