



# SUCCESS

2018 SPECIAL GRADUATION EDITION

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Dear Friends of San Miguel Academy,

This year we will see 14 boys move forward into positive high school learning environments because of the commitment each has made to his education during the past four years of middle school. We are particularly grateful to our teachers, support staff, and volunteers who daily commit to breaking the cycle of poverty through education. Without our donors and benefactors none of this would be possible. Together, we all have reason to celebrate the accomplishments and achievements of the Class of 2018!

This class had the benefit of talented and dedicated instructors who made sure that each child learned according to his particular style. So too, our high school placement team worked collaboratively with families to ensure a secondary education that is appropriate to each student. We are proud that every member of the Class of 2018 will find his way to an alternative public school or private school that best fits his needs. This year's list of receiving high schools is among the best we have ever had. Congratulations to our boys for making all of this a reality!

On July 1, 2018, we embark on our 13th academic year with our Summer Scholars Program. More than 200 families depend on us for educational access and equity. Our curriculum serves the needs of our boys well and it assures that each child has an equal opportunity to strive for a productive life. Our high rate of high school success and college access is testimony to the effective work done by San Miguel Academy. Thank you, on behalf of all whose lives we have touched, for the generosity and compassion that allows for this indispensable educational alternative for youth in a still troubled city.

Sincerely,  
Father Mark



# Introducing the Graduates

## Kenny Aguilar



Quiet and confident, Kenny Aguilar has forged an early path to success with his strong character and firm resolve to be his best self each day. Kenny has been flawless during his four years at San Miguel Academy. His cheerful nature sets a positive tone for his classmates and his optimism serves as a role model for all of our students. We are grateful to Kenny for his embodiment of the San Miguel Spirit!

The beneficiary of this studious young man will be our long time receiving high school, The Harvey School in Katonah. Kenny will join the ranks of his fellow SMAN alumni, all of whom have succeeded wonderfully at this prestigious school. Kenny will also bring to Harvey his love of soccer and the high hopes that he can return to playing the violin in Harvey's performing arts program.

Kenny has set a fine example for his younger brother, Khalil, who will be an eighth grader at SMAN in July. Together these boys represent the best of what SMAN has to offer. God bless, Kenny!

**Favorite Subject - Science**  
**Favorite Book - The Maze Runner**  
**Soccer - 8**  
**Favorite Movie - The Death Cure**  
**Clubs - Lego, Swimming, Hiking, Cooking, Movie, Financial Literacy, Book**



Angel Arizpe is no stranger to San Miguel Academy. Since 2009, when he was just a small boy, he's been an enthusiastic presence in our halls. Angel's older brothers, Esteban and Alejandro, are SMAN alum, Class of 2013. With a head start advantage, Angel brought his relaxed style and good humor to our Class of 2018. Angel leaves us with determination and grit, while very much looking forward to his education at Excelsior Academy, Newburgh's P-tech school for computer science.

Angel contributed to our Soaring Eagles soccer team on defense, and he daily adds to our outdoor physical education with his wit and occasional sarcasm. A friend to all, Angel will be missed, and none of us will be surprised if he one day finds his way to stand-up comedy. As the third and final boy in his family to enter our program, we are excited about Angel's aspiration for a coveted 21st century career in computer science and engineering.

Angel received his Sacrament of Confirmation this Spring which will only further his good character and kind disposition. Good luck, Angel!

## Angel Arizpe



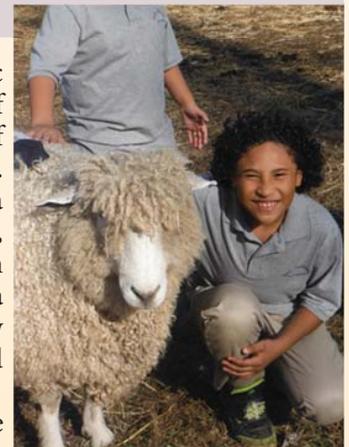
**Soccer - 8**  
**Clubs - Fitness, Cooking, Robotics, Film**  
**His worst memory - When the fish he caught on Block Island swallowed the hook and died**  
**Favorite Subject - Science**

## Kevin Gutierrez



Kevin Gutierrez ranks among our most energetic and enthusiastic students. With his own unique learning style, Kevin has learned the value of patience and the benefit of determination and grit. Kevin has utilized all of the resources of our professional staff to realize his talents and strengths. Kevin is also a capable athlete, leading our Soaring Eagles soccer team to a winning season with his goalkeeping. Today Kevin is ready for high school, and we join him in celebrating his placement at The Woodhall School in Bethlehem, Connecticut. At Woodhall, Kevin will continue to grow as a learner while also developing his gift as an artist. We know that Kevin will take full advantage of the individualized learning environment at his new school.

Kevin has used his time well at San Miguel Academy. He has learned that school can be a friendly place and that learning is different for each individual. As Kevin has embraced his own style, and with this new found confidence in learning, we are thrilled that Kevin has lived the full extent of our daily creed, "I will not quit!" God bless Kevin.



**Favorite Subject - Math**  
**Favorite Book - 7 Habits of Highly Successful Teenagers**  
**Soccer - 8**  
**Rowing - 7**  
**Funniest Memory - Shea hunting the groundhog**



## Axel Juarez



Right off the starting block, this young man was ready to go. Upon his arrival in July 2014 for our summer program, Axel was all business. He intuited that there was an opportunity being presented to him and he took full advantage of all that would lie ahead. Eager and competitive, Axel is fearless about the challenges, academic or athletic, that come his way. As he prepares for high school, his reading and math scores are soaring, placing him well above grade level. The Marvelwood School will be delighted to get such a studious boy on their campus in September.

Axel's affable personality makes him a favorite among his peers, all of whom look to him for leadership. Axel is full of grit and determination, whether on our erg machines, on the soccer field, shooting from beyond the three point perimeter, or in our rowing shell. He wins with persistence and he loses with grace, but he's always selfless with his teammates.

Our academy places before each student a path to success. Axel wasted not a moment, and he plotted a course for himself that will take him to college and beyond. Keep an eye on Axel, as the best is yet to come! Good Luck!



**Favorite Subject - Math**  
**Soccer - 6, 7, 8**  
**Basketball - 7, 8**  
**Rowing - 6, 7, 8**  
**Favorite Book - Brian (series by Gary Paulsen)**  
**Clubs - Maker, Fitness, Hiking, Cooking, Film, Book**



Through the year Cristian's smile at San Miguel Academy has widened and brightened. Cristian leaves us better because of his four-year journey through middle school. Tentative and apprehensive upon arriving to our fifth grade in 2014, Cristian has grown in confidence and poise.

Cristian has become a very accomplished student, exceeding grade level in his math and language skills. On the field of competition Cristian has played soccer with his characteristic feisty style. Among his classmates Cristian was the first to grow in his love of rowing. His gritty attitude helped him to finally master the proper technique to keep his oar in the water and stroke with power.

Cristian will be attending St. Benedict's Prep beginning in July where Coach White will welcome him to the shores of the Passaic River boathouse. As a Grey Bee, we look forward to Cristian adding leadership and positivity to the Newark community at Benedict's, much as he has here at SMAN. We are delighted that Cristian discovered and embraced his true potential while in middle school. We believe that his focus and determination will take him to new heights in the years ahead. Good luck, Cristian!

## Cristian Lucero



**Favorite Subject - English**  
**Soccer - 6, 7, 8**  
**Rowing - 7, 8**  
**Favorite Book - Bud, Not Buddy**  
**Clubs - Swimming, Fitness, Cooking, Film, Hiking**

## Jack Minano



Jack has many gifts, not the least of which is his soft-spoken nature. It took us all a while to figure out how to get beyond his quiet smile, and then one day we saw him giving instruction to one of his classmates who was having difficulty with an assignment. Deep down there was a voice, and over time Jack opened up and let the world see how truly bright and incredibly generous he can be. Jack has great insight into life's mysteries, expressing thoughts and feelings with a maturity beyond his years. The biggest surprise came during an admissions interview for high school. He told the counselor he wants to be a brain surgeon! With his high intellect there is no doubt he is up to the task. It will be up to Fordham Prep to prepare Jack for his life's vocation, whatever it may be.

Jack loves soccer. If he is talking, it is most likely about the international soccer scene. He can also play, as he propelled our soccer team to two consecutive undefeated seasons with his defense! Jack also rows, leading Boat #2 for the Soaring Eagles. Jack's a great team player and a quiet leader, and he always gives each challenge his all.

Jack leaves us with Algebra II math skills and reading at a college level. This wonderfully talented young man has a great future ahead. God bless, Jack!



**Favorite Book - Journey into the Brain**  
**Favorite Subject - Science**  
**Soccer - 7, 8**  
**Rowing - 7, 8**  
**Clubs - Fitness, Film, Book, Financial Literacy**



## Christian Nunez



Christian Nuñez showed up a little late for fifth grade. Yet, his mid-year arrival was welcomed by all at SMAN given the fact that he's the cousin of Bayron Morales, SMAN Class 2011, currently attending Fairfield University. Just like his cousin, Christian is athletic, strong, and determined. Though it took Christian time to acclimate to his new environment, he won over his classmates readily. However, his shy nature gave the faculty a run for their money as they tried to translate his non-verbal signals and occasional grunts. Fortunately, Christian emerged from his shell and today he is one of the leaders of his class.

Persistence marks Christian's academic journey. He struggled during the early years of middle school, but given the dedication of



his teachers and his own will to succeed, Christian is reading and calculating right where he should be as an 8th grader!

On the athletic field Christian is among the most talented athletes we have ever had. Quick and strong on the soccer field, leaping for a rebound on the court, and leading Boat #1 as the power stroker are just some of his achievements. We know that St. Benedict's Prep will be glad to have him on their fields and in their classrooms for the next four years. Good luck, Christian!

**Favorite Subject - Humanities**  
**Favorite Book - Wonder**  
**Soccer - 7, 8**  
**Rowing - 7, 8**  
**Basketball - 8**  
**Clubs - Film, Fitness, Financial Literacy**



Brandon Pineda is among the most likable kids at San Miguel Academy. He's kind and polite, and he has a smile for everyone. Brandon has taken full advantage of his four years at San Miguel Academy, in the classroom, on the playing field, and in the out-of-doors. Brandon recently earned a scholarship to the Putnam/Northern Westchester BOCES New Visions Environmental Science and Sustainability Camp in Key Largo, Florida, where he swam with the dolphins along with many other marine science

experiences. Brandon has played on all of our athletic teams, dedicating himself especially to our rowing program. We are thrilled that Brandon will continue his rowing career at St. Benedict's Prep next year under the tutelage of Coach Craig White.

Brandon leaves us as a strong student, understanding that his success in the classroom will lead him to realize his goals and dreams. Brandon is supported by a loving family who continue to motivate him to be his best self each day. This fortunate young man is continuing to understand that his particular strength is in leadership. As a Grey Bee in Newark, New Jersey, Brandon will be presented with an array of opportunities to become the leader we all expect. Best wishes, Brandon!

## Brandon Pineda



**Favorite Subject - Math**  
**Soccer - 7, 8**  
**Basketball - 8**  
**Rowing - 6, 7, 8**  
**Clubs - Woodworking, Lego, Cooking, Book**  
**Favorite Book - Life Lessons**

## Aldair Rodriguez



Aldair is the youngest of four siblings, all whom have attended San Miguel Academy. Aldair is a creative boy who found expression using Imogene Drummond's Divine Sparks art curriculum while in fifth grade. Mr. Snyder clearly remembers the joy on Aldair's face the first time he caught a football during a Fitness Club workout. Aldair has played basketball and soccer for SMAN, and he daily leads calisthenics for his schoolmates. Aldair responds to our hands-on learning methods, whether it was studying the prevention of beach erosion, solar cookers, or robotics. There is no telling what Aldair is capable of achieving as long as he continues striving for his personal best.

Aldair will be attending Wallkill High School where he can further his artistic talents and academic standing. Following in the footsteps of his brothers, we expect Aldair to find success in high school and beyond. Best wishes, Aldair!



**Favorite Subject - Humanities**  
**Favorite Book - Wonder**  
**Soccer - 7, 8**  
**Clubs - LEGO, Fitness, Swimming, Film**



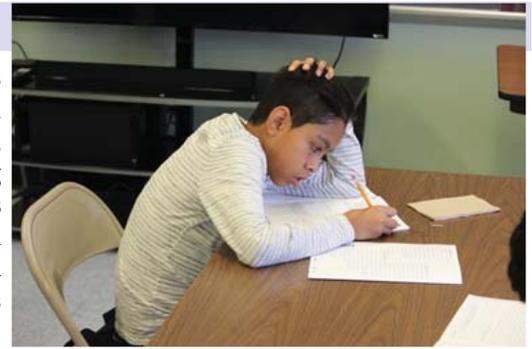
## David Salazar



Well-spoken and talkative, the consensus among his classmates is that David Salazar has reached infinity in words uttered at San Miguel Academy. Kidding aside, David is a highly talented and gifted boy. His reading scores outdo most college students, and his joie de vivre is contagious. When you put it all together this genial gentleman is one to keep your eye on. David has landed a spot in the Canterbury School Class of 2022, where he is expected to excel.

Michael Gallagher, our long time Saturday Book Club leader, has attested to David's high aptitude and mature critical thinking. David has been among SMAN's most prolific readers, which of all things gives him a leg up as he accesses college in four years.

At San Miguel Academy, David is looked upon as a school leader. His example and his good nature embody what we expect of a San Miguel Man. David has recently taken his leadership to a new level as coxswain of our 8th grade Boat #1. David's poise, confidence, and willingness to serve others makes him a standout for future leadership positions. God bless, David, Canterbury's newest Saint.



**Favorite Subject - Science**  
**Favorite Book - The Martian**  
**Clubs - Santa Bread, Swimming, Book, Food, Fitness**  
**Soccer - 7, 8**  
**Rowing - 7, 8**



**Favorite Subject - Science**  
**Favorite Book - The Martian**  
**Clubs - Santa Bread, Swimming, Book, Food, Fitness**  
**Soccer - 7, 8**  
**Rowing - 7, 8**

calisthenics workout, and a quiet leader and role model for the younger boys.

With a new outlook on the role of education in his life and the fantastic opportunities coming his way at Excelsior Academy, we look forward to all of the achievements yet to come for Anthony. God bless you, Anthony!

## Anthony Tehuitzil

Anthony provided the Class of 2018 with consistency and steadiness. Unperturbed by the situations about him, Anthony keeps moving forward in a positive direction. With a supportive family, and a gentle spirit, Anthony is a friend to all. His efforts during middle school have paid off, as he reads at grade level and enjoys the benefits of technology in our modern world. We were all excited on that day that Anthony told us he had been accepted into the Excelsior Academy program here in Newburgh. Excelsior will help Anthony to reach his full potential while also positioning him for a career in computer science.

Anthony enjoys soccer, and he played a strong defensive position on our team during his seventh and eighth grade. He is diligent during our daily



## Franck Carlos Rodriguez



Carlitos is an original member of the Class of 2018. In his best interest, Carlitos was transferred to Saint Benedict's Prep in July 2017 to continue his education. Carlitos is now a Grey Bee where he is achieving both in the classroom and on the soccer field. Though he will not be attending our commencement exercises, Carlitos will go down in the annals

of SMAN history as an alumnus and member of the Class of 2018.



*Caption Jack Lynch of the Block Island Maritime Institute with our 8th graders in September 2017*



## E'mmanuel Williams



E'mmanuel has come a long way in four years. He wasn't quite convinced he wanted to be at San Miguel Academy upon his arrival in 2014, but in four years' time, he's all smiles! This exuberant young man experienced that magic moment that we desire for all of our boys – he realized that he was talented, smart, and ready to take on the world with a sound education. He ends his middle school career with a reading score that a high school senior would covet. Best of all E'mmanuel is full of optimism because he knows that God has a plan for his life.

In addition to being an above grade level student, E'mmanuel is a talented athlete, adding to our Soaring Eagles basketball season as the high point scorer. We are all expecting that he will discover even more of his talents in the high school classroom and playing field.

With a winning smile and an attitude to match, E'mmanuel leaves San Miguel Academy and is heading to Church Farm School where he will join his brother Nehemiah, SMAN '17. Good luck, E'mmanuel!



**Favorite Subject - Science**  
**Favorite Book - Harry Potter**  
**Basketball - 6, 7, 8**  
**Football - travel team**  
**Clubs - Film, Cooking, Book**

## Amageo Burks



This multi-talented and personable young man has been a bright light in our school community for four years. Amageo Burks is known for his outgoing personality and expressive mannerisms. He's never reluctant to ask a question or to make a comment in the classroom, and he's become a regular attendee at our Saturday Film Club and subsequent discussions lead by Dr. Plummer. Drawn to the performing arts, we have every reason to believe that Amageo will find his place in the entertainment

industry. One of the highlights of his middle school career was his starring role as Joe Crowell in *Our Town*, with the prestigious Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival. Amageo also participated in Zip Zap Circus Camp last summer, starring in aerial acts that kept the crowds amazed. Fearless and determined, Amageo has many achievements of which to be proud in his young life.

We're also proud that Amageo took full advantage of our online reading program. Today Amageo can boast of a competency in reading that will make him highly successful in high school. Amageo's family relocated to Georgia, just before he would begin 8th grade at SMAN. His mom wisely gave him the choice to remain in Newburgh with his grandmother or to transfer to another school in Georgia. Amageo made his decision, and he doubled down on making the most of his last year at San Miguel Academy. The results has paid off! Amageo will be attending Friendship Christian Academy in Swannee, Georgia, this August. Good luck, Amageo!



**Favorite Subject - Science**  
**Favorite Book - Esparanda**  
**Soccer - 8**  
**Football - Pop Warner**  
**Favorite Movie - Crooklyn**  
**Clubs - Film, Financial Literacy, Cooking**

## Shea



A posthumous honor has been bestowed on our beloved school dog, Shea, an English Setter born in 2005. Shea spent her entire life in service to the boys of San Miguel Academy, enjoying multiple pettings each day as she lay on her pillow near the entrance to the school. For this reason, Shea has been welcomed as an honorary member into the Class of 2018!

Though not officially designated a therapy dog, Shea's gentle disposition served to soothe the sullen student who just needed a few minutes of unconditional love. If that were not enough, Shea also took on pest control when she cornered a woodchuck in our school playground and tossed it around as surprised students looked out their classroom windows at the shocking event.

Shea died peacefully in the place she loved most, San Miguel Academy, on May 11, 2018. She brought so much beauty to our school, and we are grateful for her service.





8th graders with the Rye High School Boys Lacrosse Team

## Class of 2018 Receiving High Schools

Kenny Aguilar - The Harvey School, Katonah, NY

Angel Arizpe - Excelsior Academy, Newburgh, NY

Amageo Burks - Friendship Christian Academy, Suwanee, GA

Kevin Gutierrez - The Woodhall School, Bethlehem, CT

Axel Juarez - Marvelwood School, Kent, CT

Cristian Lucero - St. Benedict's Prep, Newark, NJ

Jack Minano - Fordham Prep, Bronx, NY

Christian Nuñez - St. Benedict's Prep, Newark, NJ

Brandon Pineda - St. Benedict's Prep, Newark, NJ

Aldair Rodriguez - Wallkill Sr. High School, Wallkill, NY

Franck Carlos Rodriguez - St. Benedict's Prep, Newark, NJ

David Salazar - Canterbury School, New Milford, CT

Anthony Tehuitzil - Excelsior Academy, Newburgh, NY

E'mmanuel Williams - Church Farm School, Exton, PA



# The Magliocco Family Scholarship

*in memory of*

## Jay Andretta

Through the generosity of Pat and John Magliocco, certain members of the Class of 2018 will earn tuition gap assistance to attend a private high school based on scholarship, citizenship, and character.

*The following students have been chosen as our first Magliocco Scholars:*

- Kenny Aguilar
- Kevin Gutierrez
- Axel Juarez
- Cristian Lucero
- Christian Nunez
- Brandon Pineda
- Franck Carlos Rodriguez
- David Salazar

We continue to be grateful to all of the Empire Merchants, particularly the generosity shown to us by Carlos Ferrandiz, VP Sales and Marketing, and his colleagues at Empire Merchants North.

# SAVE THE DATE

## 13th Annual Benefit Gala

### Thursday, October 25

### 6:30 p.m.

### Westchester Country Club

## Impact Awardees

- Mount Saint Mary College
- Saint Benedict's Prep
- James F. McCarthy



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