

HIGH SIGHT

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highsight.org



HIGH SIGHT

HighSight's mission is to provide academic and social support to Chicago high school students. HighSight provides scholarships, tutoring, mentoring, leadership development and college readiness programs to enable its students to attend and succeed at the private high school of their choice.

FALL 2011

WELCOME CLASS OF 2015!



Simran Ali Gordon Tech



Tamera Allen De La Salle



Jalynn Calderon-Crain Holy Trinity



Cesar Carbajal De La Salle



Kayla Centenero Trinity



Shania Gaspard Gordon Tech



Gerardo Gutierrez Brother Rice



Noemi Guzman Holy Trinity



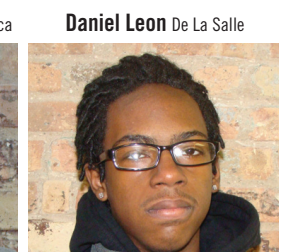
Leilani Jimenez St. Scholastica



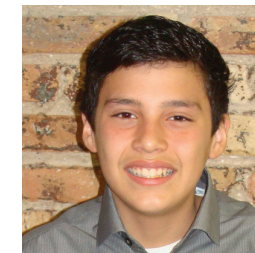
Daniel Leon De La Salle



Michelle Loyo St. Ignatius



Tajaee Miller Gordon Tech



Kevin Montes de Oca De La Salle



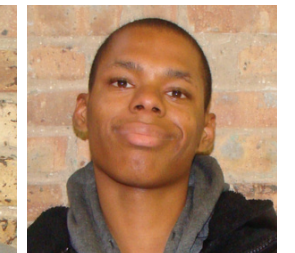
Delia Montoya Trinity



Patricia Neri Holy Trinity



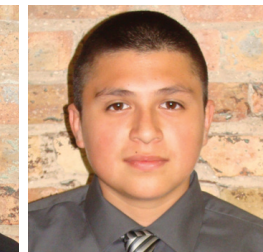
David Person Fenwick



Jameel Rice De La Salle



Winston Richards De La Salle



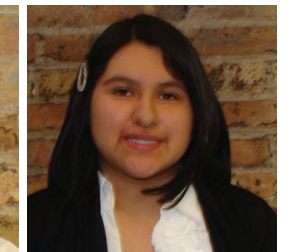
Leo Silva Holy Trinity



Hernan Telles De La Salle



Alberto Yahuaca Mount Carmel



Anabelen Zuniga Mother McAuley

230

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

40

STUDENTS & FAMILIES INTERVIEWED

22

NEW HIGHTSIGHT SCHOLARS

10

HIGH SCHOOL PARTNERS

HighSight welcomed our class of 2015 with an intense, five-week academic program that emphasized reading, math, writing, study skills, and character development. The program culminated with Freshman Week at La Lumiere School in LaPorte, Indiana, where students worked on team-building and overall high school readiness. **We would like to thank the Arthur J. Schmitt Foundation and Walter & Lois Schuessler Scholarship Foundation for funding 75% of the scholarships awarded to these students.**

One great cause. One big party. One amazing venue.

The **EVE of the EVE** takes place the night before New Year's Eve and all proceeds benefit HighSight's scholarship program. This black-tie optional event offers more than 2,000 young, hip, urban professionals the opportunity to mix and mingle, while jump-starting their New Year's celebrations. The party takes over the entire Great Hall of Union Station, where guests enjoy cocktails, heavy hors d'oeuvres, a live band and dancing. This much-anticipated event is truly one of Chicagoland's hippest extravaganzas and the premiere holiday choice for partygoers year after year.

Open Bar | Hors d'oeuvres | Silent Auction | Cash Raffle | Live Music by South of 80 | Dancing

Tickets: \$125 in advance / \$140 day of

Tickets are available at highsight.org for this charity scholarship event.

EVE OF THE EVE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2011

8:00pm – 1:00am

Chicago Union Station

500 West Jackson Boulevard



CLASS OF 2014



HighSight welcomed back 20 scholars from our class of 2014 who are beginning their sophomore years with an average GPA of 3.4. We would like to thank Invest For Kids for funding 50% of the scholarships these students are receiving.

INDEPENDENT SUMMER PROGRAMS

Through the generosity of our donors and enrichment program partners, our class of 2012 spent their summer on college campuses, at boarding schools and traveling internationally to nations around the world. When asked for ONE WORD to describe their experience, they said:

Life-changing
EYE-OPENING
Awesome
Phenomenal
Everlasting
Unbelievable

MENTOR SPOTLIGHT

» KAREN NEWBURY *It's all about relationships*

Karen Newbury is many things: a lawyer, a cook, an actress, a master tennis ball chucker for her Labrador, a reader, an interior designer, a movie fan, a football fan, a power shopper, and a HighSight mentor. She is proud of them all, but enjoys her work as a lawyer and her HighSight mentoring most of all.

Karen discovered HighSight accidentally, but certainly when the time was right, even though she initially ended up in the wrong place at the right time. A resident of the Lincoln Park area, Karen had been driving by the HighSight banner on the old St. Joseph School (HighSight's former home), day after day for years. One day, she decided to look on the internet and find out what HighSight was. She had been toying with the idea of tutoring in some way and here was the perfect opportunity. She called Patty, made an appointment for that evening, and showed up promptly at 6:30 – at the St. Joseph School. After some moments spent wondering, she called Patty, found the right building and she and HighSight have been working happily together ever since.

Meeting HighSight alumni and seeing what they have done with their lives is a big thrill. Watching the trust and affection that have developed among Patty, Mark and Maggie and the scholars is a delight.

Karen says, "HighSight is a wonderful experience for me! I have the joy of giving, but I always seem to get back much more than I put in. I make new friends and learn about their interests. I've met potential pediatricians, Japanese translators, dancers, engineers, graphic novel writers, lawyers, obstetricians and musicians. I've met scholars for whom life is still a wide-open book with every possibility to choose from. I don't know



▲ Karen (left) tutoring Valencia Short, a senior at St. Ignatius College Prep.

what could be more exciting. Every time I come home from HighSight, I feel uplifted and happy, and as if I can always keep part of my own life a wide-open book with plenty of room for new and different friends and experiences."

Last year and this year, Karen has worked with small groups of high school seniors, helping them through their college application process. Karen and the scholars search for and review potential colleges, write essays, get tests scheduled, transcripts sent and recommendations written. It's a very happy moment when a scholar not only gets admitted to the school she chose, but gets all the financial aid she needs as well.

Most of the time, Karen is an attorney with Schiff Hardin LLP, a large general practice law firm, with strong capabilities in most legal disciplines. Karen is a member of the Bankruptcy and Litigation Groups. One reason Karen is so happy at Schiff is that they share a passion for developing relationships and doing their utmost to serve and preserve them. They further share a joy in developing and honing new and existing knowledge, just like Karen and the mentors, scholars and staff at HighSight.

REAGAN TYSON '12 TRAVELED TO GHANA WITH AFS INTERCULTURAL PROGRAMS

Greetings from Ghana



This summer was the best summer of my entire life. This summer I spent one month in Ghana. I met so many new people and I tried so many new things. While I was in Ghana, I stayed with a host family. I had a host mom and dad, one host aunt, one host brother and four host sisters. My family was great. They were really kind and welcoming. Their welcoming spirits made things a lot easier.

In Ghana, our team volunteered at an orphanage. I fell in love with the children instantly. They were so excited to see new visitors. We were excited as well. At the orphanage we finished many projects. We painted the buildings inside and out, fixed mosquito nets, fixed bunk beds and a small group of us painted murals. We also played with the children and brought them gifts on our last day there. I got attached to the children very quickly. They were really sweet and they loved to play and have fun. It was nice to see them happy and smiling. We also cleaned the orphanage and helped sort laundry.

There were so many different things in Ghana that I had to adjust to. The biggest differences I noticed in Ghana were how apologetic the people there were, their food portions, and their transportation. I noticed that in Ghana, people apologize a lot. If you trip or sneeze they will say "I'm sorry". At first I thought it was kind of weird that every time I sneezed they said sorry, but I was told that saying sorry is their way of showing concern or just showing hospitality.

The food in Ghana is really good. The portions however are very big and sometimes it's difficult to finish the whole meal. At first I was trying to force myself to eat it all because I did not want to offend my family. But I realized that being honest with them was always the best route to go. They were very understanding. The transportation was very different. They had taxis just like the U.S, but you bargain for a price. There is also a van that provides transportation. This van is called a Tro-Tro and it is very cheap. I had to adjust to riding the Tro-Tro because I did not want to get lost, but there were many people that were willing to help me.

I learned so many things in Ghana, the most important being that just because something is different doesn't make it weird. I learned that I should not judge something before I try it. I was a bit nervous when I first went to Ghana but am really glad I did because I would not have tried some of the things I tried and would not have met the great people I met. I will bring what I learned to Chicago by not being afraid to try new things. This will help me with stepping out of my comfort zone.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT UPDATES

Claudia Gomez '06



Claudia in the Embassy of the United States, Guatemala where she received her Peace Corps Certificate from the Ambassador.

Claudia was accepted into the Peace Corps and has been in Guatemala for the past few months receiving her training and serving as a volunteer. During her first month of service she visited communities with health center educators to prioritize which ones were in higher need. After this needs assessment, she will be choosing five communities

in which she will be focusing her work. Claudia's two years of service will be in Tejutla, San Marcos, Guatemala as a Rural Home Preventive Health Worker. She'll be working for a 24-hour health center and her focus will be in the rural communities, working with families and children to have better hygiene habits.

Maureen Barradas '05



Maureen (left) at the Posse Alumni Conference in New York.

Maureen recently left her position at Teach For America's human assets team to start a two-year graduate program at Carnegie Mellon University on a full-tuition scholarship through a partnership with The Posse Foundation. She's now at the Heinz College of Public Policy and Management and will earn an MSPPM after spending one year in Pittsburgh, taking core classes, and then one year in Washington, D.C. doing an apprenticeship and taking evening classes. Upon completion, Maureen plans to pursue a career in consulting.

David Merced '00



David (second from the left) at his table at the Go Another Mile Scholarship Dinner.

David recently received his masters from DePaul University in Business and Technology. He is still with CDW looking to further his career in technology and sales. He has also been involved with HighSight's Advisory Council and has been tasked to build alumni support for HighSight. He has stated a number of times, "HighSight has given so much to me and my family it is time to give back, I want to ensure HighSight prevails to give other young people the opportunity to succeed". If you would like to contact David regarding alumni relations, please email him at davidmerced@gmail.com.

» HIGHTSIGHT CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Visit highsight.org to purchase tickets or call 312.787.9824

Thurs., November 10, 2011
Fall Fling
6:00pm - 9:00pm
Rock Bottom Brewery
1 West Grand Avenue
Tickets: \$40 for 1 / \$70 for 2

Wed., May 9, 2012
Go Another Mile Scholarship Dinner
5:30pm - 8:30pm
Symphony Center
67 East Adams Street
Tickets: \$100 per person
Tables: \$500, \$1,000 and \$2,500

Wed., June 6, 2012
Midsummer Eve of the Eve
5:30pm - 9:30pm
The Plaza at Park Grill
11 North Michigan Avenue
Tickets: \$60 in advance / \$75 day of