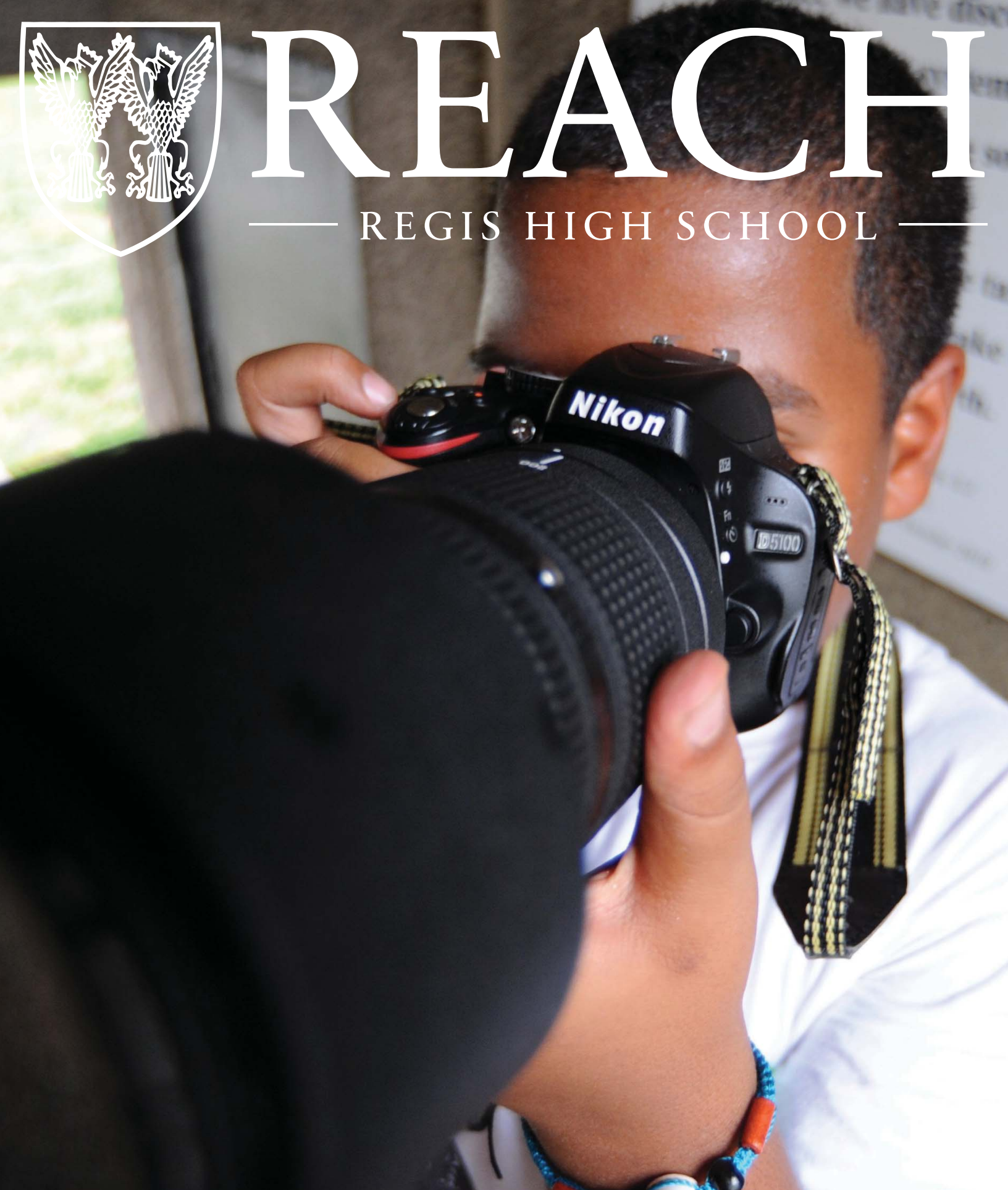




REACH

— REGIS HIGH SCHOOL —



WINTER 2014 | **2** DIRECTOR'S COLUMN | **3** 2013 SUMMER TEAM | **4** NEW MEMBERS & MENTORS
5 SUMMER AWARDS | **6** FAMILY PROFILE | **8** ALUMNUS PROFILE | **9** ALUMNUS PROFILE
10 COLLEGE PLACEMENTS | **11** ALUMNI UPDATES | **12** IMPORTANT DATES

From the Director Mission Driven

As many of you know, this year marks Regis High School's 100th anniversary. In September 1914, Regis welcomed its first freshman class. In the upcoming spring, members of REACH '14 and their mentors in Regis '14 will share the distinct honor of graduating in this centennial year.

Regis plans to celebrate its Centennial in many ways, including a release of the book *Teach Me to Be Generous: The First Century of Regis High School in New York City* written by historian and Regis faculty member Anthony Andreassi, C.O. The book reminds us that Regis's history is one of faith, generosity, opportunity, excellence, and service to the Church and world.

These commitments, of course, inform all we do in REACH. In fact, REACH alumni who come through Regis understand that they are helping to extend Regis's historical mission into the 21st century—particularly its commitment to serving sons of immigrant families in New York City—and they take great pride in their part. Andreassi takes account of this mission in the conclusion to his book:

From the time of the school's opening in 1914 through the late 1940's, Regis provided a high-quality Jesuit education to thousands of boys who, for the most part, would not have been able to attend one of the other four Jesuit high schools in New York City, all of which charged substantial tuition while only offering a few need-based scholarships each year. Providing a free Catholic education to Catholic boys who could not otherwise have afforded it was one of the goals of Mrs. Grant and Father Hearn in founding Regis... This opportunity for a free Jesuit secondary education enabled many of the school's early graduates to go on to college and the professions while also advancing up the socio-economic ladder into the middle class.

In the second half of the 20th century Regis would continue to serve high-achieving boys who could not otherwise afford a Jesuit education, but their numbers in the student body dropped significantly. Andreassi attributes this decline to the growing prosperity of established Catholic families, a migration of these Catholic families from the city to suburban communities, and the diminishment of parochial school education in the city. Consequently, the sons of wealthier and suburban Catholic families have increasingly enjoyed family resources and educational opportunities that typically put them in a stronger academic position to compete for a Regis scholarship than the sons of new immigrant families living in city neighborhoods. In the current context, it is simply more difficult for the son of a Dominican or Mexican family to win a Regis scholarship today than it was for the son of an Irish or

Italian family seventy years ago. For all of these reasons, Regis established the REACH Program in 2002.

Counting our current members and alumni, REACH is now over 400 strong! Members of REACH '05, the very first class, graduated from college last spring and are now pursuing careers in finance, music production, law, education, communications, manufacturing sales, aerospace engineering, accounting, management information systems, medicine, and others; members of the class of 2010 entered college in the fall, including our first alumni to attend Princeton, Drexel, Hobart and William Smith College, Iona College, and Rensselaer Polytechnic University; 7 members of the class of 2013 entered Regis in September, another 13 entered one of the other Jesuit high schools with very generous financial awards, and one won the first REACH scholarship at Archbishop Molloy; and 33 new members joined REACH in August, including our first students with family roots in Indonesia, Iraq, Syria, Trinidad, and Ukraine.

The generosity of Regis's founding family, the Society of Jesus, and Regis alumni have given us our first hundred years. Seeing the first donations come in from our newly-employed REACH alumni, and knowing that more than 75% of REACH families make an annual contribution to Regis, I am confident that REACH will help give us a second 100 years, in more ways than one.

God's love and grace lead us onward.



Todd Austin
REACH Director

REACH ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Mr. Todd Austin
Director

Mr. Doug Eickman
*Academic Dean for
Mathematics*

Mr. Brian Daley
*Assistant Director
Recruiting and Admissions*

Mr. Kyle Mullins
*Academic Dean for English &
Language Arts*

CONTACT INFORMATION

☎ 212-288-1100 | 📠 212-794-1221 | ✉ reach@regis.org

www.regis.org/reach

2013 Summer Team

Teachers & Administrators

Mr. Todd Austin
Mr. Brian Daley
Mr. Doug Eickman (Regis '05)
Mr. Kyle Mullins (Regis '05)
Ms. Terra Holman
Mr. Casey Quinn (Regis '08)
Mr. Brendan Coffey
Ms. Suzanna Breslin
Mr. Alex Guvarez
Mr. Ed Walsh (Regis '06)
Mr. Joe Carroll (Xavier '02)
Mr. Michal Dion
Mr. Tony Negrin (Regis '08)
Ms. Lee Chua
Mr. Ed Young (Regis '90)

Collegians

Stephen Sanchez (REACH '05, Xavier '09)
Russell Quinones (Regis '09)
Matt Stewart (Notre Dame '16
Volunteer)
Pedro Ramirez (REACH '05, Loyola '09)
John Balletta (Regis '12)
Philip Suwada (REACH '07, Regis '11)
Matt Windels (Regis '09)
Ravel Charles (REACH '07, Regis '11)
David Vargas (REACH '07, Regis '11)
Brandon Solis (REACH '08, Xavier '12)

Counselors

Greg Chin (Regis '14)
Brendan Emmons (Regis '13)
Pedro Polanco (REACH '09, Regis '13)
Warren Thimothé (REACH '10, Regis '14)
Hao Lam (REACH '09, Regis '13)
Luis Perez (REACH '09, Regis '13)
Kwadwo Agyekum (REACH '10, Regis '14)
Jesse Jarozewski (REACH '10, Loyola '14)
Dennis Muentes (REACH '10, Xavier '14)
Thao Nguyen (REACH '10, Regis '14)
Mike Sullivan (Regis '14)
Randy Balletta (Regis '14)
Luke Passanante (Regis '14)
Volunteer Counselors
Breidy Cueto (REACH '11, Regis '15)
Ariel Camilo (REACH '11, Regis '15)
Patrick Ndukwe (REACH '11, Regis '15)



New Members & Mentors

REACH '16 STUDENT

Aaron Adviento
Jacob Agbata
Elias Almary
Brendon Alvarez
Tommy Angel
Bryan Aviles-Velasco
Esteban Boada
Justin Castillo
Andy Cuzco
Dramane Doumbia
Miles Esquivel
Matthew Gomez
Elbys Gonzalez
Jefferson Guaman
John Hughes
Bernard Kramarchuk
Leonardo Mancia
Daniel Mejia
Stephen Mgbemeje
Craig Newton
Nathanael Perez
Chris Reyes
Jayver Reyes
Omar Richardson
Luis Romero
Devin Sanchez
Immanuel Sealey
Max Tjhi
Steven Tovar
Felipe Trinidad
David Vasquez-Ortega
Alexander Velez
Alan Ventura

GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs
Sacred Heart
P.S. 153
P.S. 149
P.S. 182
Our Lady of Fatima
Pope John Paul II Academy
St. John
St. Frances Cabrini
Mount Carmel-Holy Rosary
St. Michael
De La Salle Academy
Blessed Sacrament
VOICE Charter School
St. Gregory the Great
St. Brigid
St. Stephen of Hungary
St. Margaret Mary
Harriet Tubman Charter
Our Lady Queen of Martyrs
Christ the King
New Heights Academy Charter
St. Frances Cabrini
Phyl's Academy Preparatory
St. John Chrysostom
St. John Chrysostom
St. Francis of Assisi
P.S. 32
P.S. 8
St. Angela Merici
Our Lady Queen of Angels
Our Lady of Fatima
St. Frances de Chantal

REGIS '16 MENTOR

Justin Apun (REACH '12)
Joseph Woloszyn
Frank Gallina
Sean Jennings
Mike Keating
Nicholas Ortiz (REACH '12)
Owen MacDonnell
Shane O'Donoghue
Conrad Milhaupt
William Gallagher
Britton O'Daly
Max Morreale
Matthew Eilbacher
Manny Brewer
Max Maleno
Will Cronin
Blaise Haddad
Charlie Burke
Zachary Pocchia
Richard Gonzalez (REACH '12)
Hector Reyes (REACH '12)
Dillon Rice
Finn Kinsella
Cesar Diaz (REACH '12)
Brennan Lee
Jack Aiello
Nick Pitaro
Carter Owen
Brandon Santhumayor
Jeffrey Suliveres (REACH '12)
Vincenzo Guido
Federico Palacardo
Chris Hayden



2013 Summer Awards

CANDIDATES

Ignatius Loyola

Language Arts Academic:
Nathaniel Perez

Mathematics Academic:
Brendon Alvarez

General Excellence:
Dramane Doumbia

Peter Claver

Language Arts Academic:
Jefferson Guaman

Mathematics Academic:
Andy Cuzco

General Excellence:
Elbys Gonzalez

Francis Xavier

Language Arts Academic:
Bernard Kramarchuk

Mathematics Academic:

Omar Richardson

General Excellence:
Alan Ventura

Miguel Pro

Language Arts Academic:
Matthew Gomez

Mathematics Academic:
Craig Newton

General Excellence:
Elias Almary

Music:
Matthew Gomez

Latin:
Alan Ventura

Membership Award:
Jefferson Guaman

SECOND YEARS

Matteo Ricci

Language Arts Academic:
Felipe Santamaria

Mathematics Academic:
Felipe Santamaria

General Excellence:
William Hernandez

Patrick F. Healy

Language Arts Academic:
Enrique Abreu

Mathematics Academic:
Raymon Cato

General Excellence:
Franklin Ramirez

Music:
Jesus Mendez

Latin:
Moises Espinal

Leadership Award:
Antonio Martinez

3RD YEARS

Edmund Campion

Language Arts Academic:
Uziel Dominguez

Mathematics Academic:
Nathan Thimothé

General Excellence:
Roberto Hidalgo

Aloysius Gonzaga

Language Arts Academic:
Paolo Merisier

Mathematics Academic:
Enmanuel Cruz

General Excellence:
Joshua Mora

Music:
Francesco Osso

Civitas:
Giancarlo de la Rosa

MAGIS Award:
Enmanuel Cruz



REGIS HIGH SCHOOL

Founded in 1914, Regis High School offers a tuition-free Jesuit college preparatory education to Catholic young men who live in the New York City area and demonstrate superior intellectual and leadership potential. In the admissions process, special consideration is given to those who cannot otherwise afford a Catholic education.

REACH (Recruiting Excellence in Academics for Catholic High Schools), a 3-year educational and leadership program, prepares middle school boys from families with financial need to earn scholarships at Regis and other leading Catholic high schools in New York City.

Dr. Gary Tocchet, Principal
Rev. Philip G. Judge, S.J., President

Family Profile: The Mendez Family

Another of our new features will be a profile of a current REACH family. For this first one, we would like to introduce you to the Mendez family: Jesus is a second year in the program and currently attends St. Athanasius in the Bronx. He resides in the South Bronx with his parents, Jesus and Ana, both of whom are from the Dominican Republic.

To begin, what do you like most about St. Athanasius?

Mr. Mendez: It's a perfect fit for the community. We have to realize that we live in the poorest community of the Eastern United States, and St. Athanasius provides opportunities in

that community to grow. The principal of the school, Ms. Kraft, is like an engineer. She builds professionals to be useful for their society. And she also is like a sergeant. She is vigilant at her school left and right, and she knows everything about her school. So you don't see blank spaces in between; everything has been filled. And that's what I like of that school, there, that she takes care of more or less everything.

Jesus, do you remember how you found out about the REACH program?

Jesus: Ms. Rodgers, my fifth grade teacher.

Mrs. Mendez: Her son went to Regis, and now he is in Cambridge.

Jesus: And then there was this other person [at St. Athanasius] before me called Joe Nivar, I think. He came and gave me advice the last time I saw him.

Mr. Mendez: I have to add that when Ms. Rodgers nominated Jesus, Ms. Kraft was like a sparkplug behind Ms. Rodgers. She has the eye. She said, "He's the one. He has the potential."

Mrs. Mendez: "He has the potential, he's a hard worker, and I know he's going to be successful."



What did you hope to get out of the REACH program?

Jesus: To be better at school. To focus more on my subjects instead of focusing on my friends.

Mrs. Mendez: With REACH, with the video that we saw, and the information that you gave us... he's doing better in math, he's more confident in math. That's what I was looking for. For a long time I was worried about high school. When I heard about how the program pushed them to get ready for high school, I said, "This is God in front of us." I felt more comfortable now that he has an idea about everything. He's thinking about high school and everything. But, also, academically, emotionally, he's growing.

Jesus, how would you say REACH has changed you as a student?

Jesus: Focusing more on work. Before I would have been more likely to drift off on my work and not quite know where I left off, but now with REACH I'm much better at focusing all the way through my work.

How about as a leader?

Jesus: Like if I go to my school right now, they all look at me. They all look up to me. They're like "Oh, Jesus is going to get a 100 on the test." I feel like they could say anything about me, but I feel more comfortable being a leader now because they know that I'm like in the "super smart program." Just because of that, they go "Oh, watch out. He's good."

Mrs. Mendez: They ask him questions. "How do you solve this? How do you do this?" They follow him around. At his birthday last year, one of his friends wrote a note to him asking for his secret to knowing reading and math so well. And he's very helpful. Like if somebody needs help, I know he's there.

Mr. Mendez: The program has changed his life, from the night to the day. Jesus follows the five principles of REACH

everywhere. He likes to help people. He was like that before, but now he's more focused on what he's doing. Sometimes he makes us feel bad, like the bad guys in the movies, because he wants us to stop and help the person in need and then proceed with our lives. In the educational field, he is more focused and confident in math. He can perform better in problem solving, where he was weaker before. His ELA levels are up to its limits. He is learning all over the board. I cannot say that he is doing weak over here, and stronger over here. He's doing evenly all over. So to me, the program helps him in all the aspects that you can think of.

What has changed most about Jesus at home? What do you notice seems to be different about him?

Mrs. Mendez: Like before, there were things that he could not do, and he would leave it like that. Now, even though he thinks that things are hard, he tries. And I like that. Like I said, I do not say, "Just do three problems (on the math competition)" I say do all of them. So now he is open to that, and he can challenge himself. He says "OK, I will read it, let me see what I can do." I like that. And also he goes "Mommy let me help you. I'm going to do that. Don't do it for me; I know how to do it."

Jesus, what's been the most challenging thing about the REACH program?

Jesus: Mr. Walsh's class. At first, I didn't get much of the material, but I started to get it gradually. That's what happened during my first year. I didn't understand some things, and then I started understanding, and then I became good, but with Mr. Walsh I didn't understand at first. When I got extra help, I caught up a lot.

Ok, how about your favorite thing or memory about REACH?

Jesus: Uhhh... I have too many. This year, for my second year, I have at least three. One I can't tell you because it's

a secret. It's one of the second year traditions. The other two were going canoeing in Lackawanna State Park, and eating the ice cream at the ice cream farm. We were screaming at each other and I had so many sprinkles on mine that I couldn't finish it. But I loved that ice cream. For Lackawanna State Park, I remember we were splashing everyone, and we were rowing around, and we won the race.

Last question: complete the sentence: REACH is _____.

Jesus: Phenomenal.

Mr. Mendez: life-changing. And we are getting the benefit of that as a family, and that is the most important part. And not only us. The school is getting the benefit of that. Everything that is around Jesus is noticing the benefits of REACH. And I believe that will follow him in his heart all his life. He will remember REACH forever.

Mrs. Mendez: And one more thing, about the relationship between the kids in the program that come here. He always says "I wish the kids at school were like the kids here." He feels calm, peaceful, and everybody I doing the same thing at the same time. Everybody wants to learn. Everybody comes here for a reason, for the same purpose. He wants all of his friends to receive the same benefit that he is receiving here for our community too.

Mr. Mendez: The day that we went to Fordham Prep, I noticed how wonderfully this system works, when Mr. Austin was talking to a young teenager that was going to Fordham University. And he was educated at REACH first, and then Fordham Prep, then he goes to Fordham. And this is amazing, how you can follow a person on these stages of his life like that. And then you realize that you are on that path that leads to life, to being a professional like that, to a strong job. And I noticed that then. I explained to Jesus that I hope that you can go ahead, and that more kids can follow you in the future.

Alumnus Profile:

Prince Hunt

Although we have had some sporadic Q&A with our alums before, beginning with this issue we'd like to start a tradition of featuring a high-school-age alumnus along with a current family and a college-level alumnus of REACH. To get us started, we have Prince Hunt, a member of the REACH class of 2012 and the Regis High School class of 2016. Prince lived in Harlem during his REACH years and attended Mount Carmel Holy Rosary, also in Harlem, for grammar school. He now lives in the Pelham Bay section of the Bronx.

What years were you in REACH?

I started my candidate summer in 2009, and I finished my third year in 2012.

Do you remember how you found out about REACH?

My principal told me about REACH, and she nominated me for it. There was another program that I applied to for gifted kids, but my parents and I decided that we were going to do the REACH Program because it was longer, and my parents felt I would get more out of a long term commitment.

How has REACH played a role in your life?

A lot of things like study skills and having to come to REACH once a week for three years instilled in me



a sense of responsibility that I've developed during my time at REACH and after. Going into the REACH Program, spiritual development wasn't really something I was aware of. But the little things, like asking the saints to pray for us and going to church were things that really strengthened my spiritual bonds with God during the REACH Program. It's definitely continued to influence me since I came to Regis.

What about your family? How would you say the program affected them?

My parents definitely trust me with a lot of things and do believe that I'm responsible. They're also more willing to go to church every Sunday. Before REACH, they didn't really go to church every Sunday, but now they do. I think that's a good thing.

Would you mind sharing a favorite memory of yours from REACH?

There's a lot. (laughs) Probably the CORE program as a whole, because I was really used to doing things on my own, but CORE really taught me about teamwork and communication. There was never a time where I wasn't excited for CORE.

Did you win the ballista competition your second year?

(laughs) I don't remember. I don't think so.

Is there anything you want to say to any of the current REACH students?

Yeah. This is for the candidates. It may seem like a lot of hard work, even in an excessive sense, but it does all pay off in the end. It may seem a little cheesy, but all those hours you log—they matter in the end.

Alumni Profile:

LoVel James

The first of our older alumni that we are featuring here is LoVel James, a member of the founding class of REACH, which graduated the program in 2005. Originally from Harlem, LoVel attended the Mott Hall School through eighth grade, the High School for Math, Science, and Engineering for high school, and St. John's University for College. He currently works in the music industry and had his song, "Everybody's a Kid at Christmas," featured in the recent movie The Best Man Holiday.

If you can remember, please tell us how you first heard about the REACH Program.

Well, my brother, LeVon, went to Regis High School and Fr. Christopher Devron was a member of my church. I had two different outlets.

How did the REACH Program positive affect your grammar school career? High school? College?

In the full spectrum of things REACH taught me that patience and hard work can get you anything. Despite as cliché as it may sound, I learned that I had to perfect what I loved to do and the opportunities will come. I also learned that life in itself is and always will be a blessing. I thank God for every day.

What are you doing now?

I currently work as a vocal producer/ audio engineer at Deetown Entertainment. I also write and sing for them. We write music for movies, television, artists, and anything else you can think of that may need some music. I love what I do and plan to make big moves this year.

How long have you been producing your own music?

I've been producing and writing music since I was about 12 years old. I'll be 22 this year, so about 10 years.

How did you get involved with *The Best Man Holiday*?

I got involved with the Best Man through the music house that I currently work at, Deetown Entertainment.

How many albums/songs/mixtapes/ EPs, etc. have you released?

I've released one project in 2010, but it isn't available online anymore. I feel like I needed to step back, take some time to grow, and start anew.

What (if any) new projects are you working on?

I have a project that I've been working on for the past year or so that I am looking to release in the 2nd quarter of this year. I have a lot in store behind that project and I am looking forward to its release.

Where might our readers learn more about your music?

I'm actively updating my Facebook and Twitter pages with my music's progress. You can find me on Facebook by looking up "LoVel James" and look me up on Twitter (@loveljames).

Where do you hope your career will go from here?

The plan is to make amazing music and share it with the world.

One final question: what is your favorite memory from your REACH years?

There are way too many memories from REACH for me to pick one. I'd say that when I look back on the program, I remember the brotherhood and family that we were. The bond that we all shared was like no other.



REACH '09 College Placements

REACH '09 STUDENT

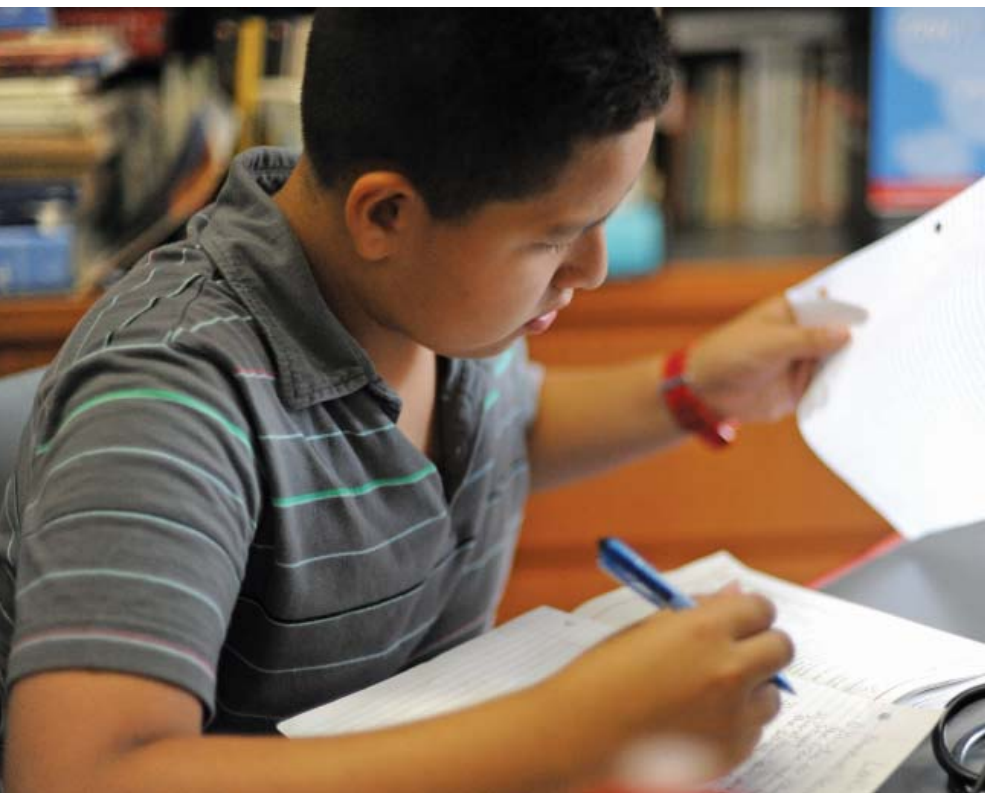
Jose Almanzar
Gustavo Caceres
Joshua Castillo
Brian Echeverry
Chris Fleurant
Brandon Garcia
Raymundo Gonzalez
Wilfred Guerron
Serdal Jasmin
Hao Lam
Jeffrey Lange
Nicholas Lange
Lyle Li
Carlos Morales
Roberto Napoleon
Joseph Nivar
Miguel Palines
Joshua Payen
Carlos Peralta
Rhyz Pereira
Luis Perez
Pedro Polanco
Justin Quirke
Kevin Reyes
Randy Rosario
Herick Silva
Brandon Singh
Justin Tacuri
Oscar Vargas
Johnny Zavala

HIGH SCHOOL

Regis High School
All Hallows High School
Dumont High School
Stuyvesant High School
Regis High School
Dumont High School
Xavier High School
Regis High School
Bishop Loughlin Memorial High School
Regis High School
Bishop Loughlin Memorial High School
Bishop Loughlin Memorial High School
Regis High School
The Loyola School
The Loyola School
Regis High School
Regis High School
Regis High School
Xavier High School
Regis High School
Regis High School
Regis High School
Fordham Preparatory School
Manhattan H.S. for Math and Science
Fordham Preparatory School
Bronx Science High School
Xavier High School
Cristo Rey High School
Brooklyn Tech High School
East-West School for International Studies

COLLEGE

The College of the Holy Cross
Iona College
Drexel University
SUNY Binghamton
New York University
Drexel University
New York University
Williams College
SUNY Binghamton
Loyola University of Maryland
SUNY Albany
SUNY Albany
New York University
Columbia University
LeMoyne College/Syracuse University
Loyola University of Maryland
Cornell University
Princeton University
Baruch College
Rensselaer Polytechnic University
The College of the Holy Cross
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
SUNY Binghamton
Syracuse University
SUNY Albany
Boston University
University of Scranton
Hobart and William Smith College
Hunter College
SUNY Albany



Make your gift to REACH today:
regis.org/REACHgift



Alumni Updates

Esteban Angeles and Monserrate De Leon (REACH '11, Regis '15) serve on the REACH Mentor Leadership Board. This is the first time two REACH alumni have been elected to these positions.

Kelman Ramirez (REACH '10, Cristo Rey '14) won the Loyola Award as Most Outstanding Junior in the school.

Danny Vilela (REACH '10, Xavier '14) has achieved the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and serves as the Regimental Executive Officer in the JROTC.

Nicholas Gangone (REACH '11, Xavier '15) recently portrayed Martini in the Xavier Dramatic Society's production of *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*. This was his fifth consecutive show with the society.

Josue Neri (REACH '10, Xavier '14) played for the Varsity soccer team this past fall.

Mark Del Quaglio (REACH '10, All Hallows '14) has been elected President of the Student Council. He also serves as a volunteer firefighter with the Briarcliff Manor FD.

Ashraful Islam (REACH '10, St. John's Prep '14) has been elected Secretary of St. John's chapter of the National Honor Society.

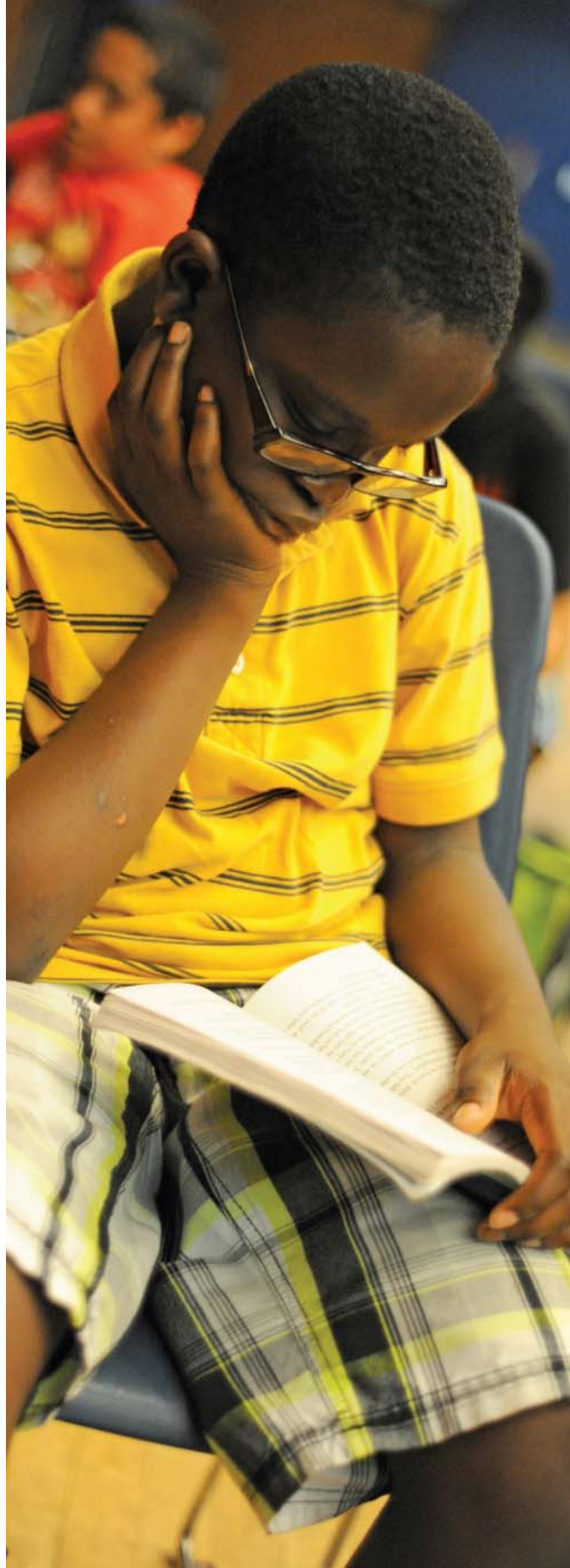
Aaron Rivera (REACH '11, Fordham Prep '15) serves as the captain of the Ultimate Frisbee team at Fordham Prep.

Miguel Palines (REACH '09, Regis '13, Cornell '17) plays on the practice squad of the football team.

Danny Echevarria (REACH '08, Regis '12, Brown '16) facilitates a program at the Rhode Island Correctional Facility through which he teaches creative writing workshops.

Chris Chavez (REACH '07, Xavier '11, Marquette '15) completed the Chicago Marathon in 2013 and was recently selected to intern with ESPN this summer.

Lyle Li (REACH '09, Regis '13, NYU '17) serves as the secretary of the NYU chapter of Alpha Phi Delta and as the editor of the Journal of International Politics.





REACH

— REGIS HIGH SCHOOL —

55 East 84th Street | New York, NY 10028

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 6698
JERSEY CITY, NJ

www.regis.org/reach

Important Dates

January 26
Read for REACH Quiz Day

February 1
Nomination Deadline

February 5
Memorial of Pedro Arrupe

February 6
Feast of St. Paul Miki

February 12
Nominee Information Night

March 1
Spring Session Begins

March 15
Applicant Exam & Application Deadline

May 10
Applicant Interviews

May 20
Spring Recognition Ceremony

June 8
New Candidate Orientation

July 5
Departure for Camp REACH

