AN AMAZING NIGHT FOR THE CLASS OF 2015

On Friday, March 27, the Senior Class of 2015 presented a spectacular show looking back over the past six decades of music to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of Style Show productions at Saint Joseph Academy. A special thanks to Mrs. Donna Barron, general chair and Mr. Tony Cantu, program director, who both worked so hard to make this event so successful.

We are all so proud of the talent and hard work that our senior class dedicated to this showcase evening. We also want to thank everyone who supported this event through sponsorships and attendance. It truly was a memorable tribute to the amazing Class of 2015 at Saint Joseph Academy.
Marist Heritage Awards

On Thursday, March 19, Saint Joseph Academy celebrated a special Mass officiated by the Bishop of the Diocese of Brownsville, the Reverend Daniel Flores. During this service, the Marist Heritage Awards were presented to members of the SJA family who exemplify the character of Marcellin Champagnat through their dedication to education and service to the youth in our community.

From the SJA Faculty, Mr. David Bonnet received the Marist Heritage Award for his dedicated and inspirational service to the students at SJA and for his model of selfless service within the Catholic Church in our community.

From the SJA student body, Maria Lawler and Ricardo Cobian were recognized as modeling the spirit of Marcellin Champagnat through their many hours of service in the neighboring communities of Brownsville and Matamoros as well as here on the SJA campus.

We are so proud of the generous spirit that each of these Marist Heritage Award recipients bring to the Saint Joseph community and the continued contribution we know they will bring to us in the future.

Congratulations to these inspirational members of our campus community. We thank you for your continued service to so many, as you go about doing good, quietly.
SJA STUDENTS IN THE NEWS

Each year, our 7th grade students enter the Daughters of the Republic of Texas (DRT) essay contest. I am very proud to announce that SJA Texans swept the contest again this year by taking 1st, 2nd and 3rd places. Here are the results:

Gilbert Sanchez III      1st Place
Austin Nguyen           2nd Place
Victoria Gonzalez        3rd Place
Victor Gonzalez          1st Honorable Mention
Rebecca Torteya          2nd Honorable Mention

A NUMBERS GAME

In early March, a number of our students competed in the Mathematical Association of America’s American Math Contest (AMC). I am pleased to share their outstanding performance with all of you:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AMC 12 Grade</th>
<th>AMC 10 Grade</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Karim Salhadar 1st Place</td>
<td>Shreya Mohanty 1st Place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cecilia Salinas 2nd Place</td>
<td>Sebastian Sampayo 2nd Place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carlos Davila 3rd Place</td>
<td>Andres Trevino 3rd Place</td>
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CHARLES KELLER AWARDED EAGLE SCOUT BADGE

In January of this year, SJA sophomore, Charles Keller, was awarded the Eagle Scout Badge. This accomplishment exemplifies a scout’s hard work and strong character. As an Eagle Scout, much will be expected of Charles in his community, in his faith, in his family and in his Scouting Life. Charles has certainly demonstrated these tendencies in his service as a member of the National Junior Honor Society and Art Honor Society. Charles has also received the Presidential Academic Award. Congratulations to Charles. We are all very proud of your hard work and dedication to excellence.
ROTARY FOUR-WAY TEST SPEECH CONTEST

The Rotary Clubs of America hold a speech competition each year for high school age students. Each student who enters the Four-Way Test Speech contest must prepare a five to seven minute speech which best represents the Rotary Four-Way Test:

Is it the TRUTH? Is it FAIR to all concerned? Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER friendship? Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

The speech is also judged on content, organization and delivery. Our SJA orators are:

Priscilla Hernandez 1st Place (Priscilla will now advance to the next level)
Markus Villanueva 2nd Place

Congratulations for a wonderful effort in this worthy competition.

MARIST ART COMPETITION

“The Montagne Year is a reminder of the importance and urgency of our mission, as relevant today as it was in Father Champagnat’s time.”
– Br Emili Turu, Superior General

To celebrate The Year of Montagne during the academic 2014-2015 school year, the Marist Brothers conducted an art competition to place the winning artwork in a prominent spot in the Esopus retreat house in Esopus, New York. Over the past two years, members of our SJA Art Honor Society have been working jointly, contributing to an amazing painting which was submitted in December 2014. Earlier this week, Mrs. Zavala, our Middle Division Art Teacher, received notification that our submission won the competition and the painting is now prominently on display at Esopus.

STANFORD LAW SCHOOL RECOGNIZES VICTORIA ZABARTE

Victoria Zabarte may be only completing her freshman year at SJA but, she is definitely well on her way to a very bright and promising career. Because of her outstanding PSAT scores, Victoria has been invited to attend the Intensive Law & Trial program being held this summer at Stanford Law School. She will stay on the Stanford University campus and learn the foundations of law from preeminent legal professionals. The program will conclude with a case presentation at the San Francisco Superior Courthouse. We are extremely proud of Victoria and eager to hear more about her experience when she returns to Saint Joe in the fall.
DR. ROBERTO ROBLES INSPIRES STUDENTS AT SJA

Dr. Roberto Robles of the Heart Institute of Brownsville generously volunteered to speak to Mrs. Gracie Touchy’s Anatomy & Physiology Class in March. The students were mesmerized by Dr. Robles’ enthusiasm and passionate presentation on the wonders of the human heart and the workings of the entire vascular system.

We are so grateful for the opportunity to give our students this first-hand experience of advanced instruction from one of the leading heart physicians in South Texas. Thank you to Dr. Robles for making this opportunity available to our students.

LEUKEMIA 5K RUN – MARCH 21

Marist Youth organized a special 5K event to bring awareness and raise funds to support the battle against Leukemia, in memory of Jhafet Ruiz, a beloved member of the SJA Class of 2015. Funds raised will support the Leukemia Research Foundation and the Vannie Cook Children’s Cancer Clinic. Through this event, we hope to help support those who are struggling with leukemia and honor those who have lost their battle to this debilitating disease. This race has a very special meaning to our school and honors the memory of Jhafet Ruiz, one of our most talented and loved students in the Senior Class of 2015.
IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER IN MARCH 2015

March 30 – April 6  Spring Break -   Easter Holidays
April  7   Classes Resume
April 10  Tuition Due without late fee
April 13-17 STUCO Officer Campaigns
April 14  Noon Dismissal & Faculty Meeting
April 15  Liturgy 9:15am   /   Athletic Booster Meeting 6:30pm UD Library
April 16  Student Art Exhibition in the Student Center
April 20-24 Grade Level STUCO Elections and Green Week
April 21  UD Book Club during lunch in UD Library
April 22  Earth Day
April 23  10th Grade Retreat / Progress Report Grades Posted
April 24  MD Athletics Recognition Ceremony during 7th Period in MD Gym
April 25  PROM
April 27  Jr. Ring Ceremony 7pm at St. Mary’s Church
April 28  Senior Portfolio Conferences
April 29  Awards Night Ceremony at 7pm in the Francis Garza Student Center
                         Financial Aid Application Process Closes

We wish you all a very blessed and Holy Easter!

- Be sure to visit the SJA website at www.sja.us for important news and information under Daily Announcements on the front page and use the Google Calendar for the most up to date information on activities at SJA.

- Is your Edline account activated and does it include your email address? You may be missing out on important news and alerts from SJA if your email address is not activated in Edline. Contact Linda De Los Santos with questions at LDeLosSantos@sja.us