A Virtual Helping Hand

Online tutoring service supports virtual learning

A junior Maguire Scholar at Archbishop Ryan High School, Chantelle F., and her best friend Molly M. from Arts Academy at Benjamin Rush (whose brother is a middle school Maguire Scholar at St. Matthew’s) realized that many of their peers were struggling with virtual school. Together, they created Youth Enlightened, a free online tutoring service. "At this point, everyone is struggling," said Chantelle. "This curriculum right now is very different from what we were doing in the spring and everyone’s just getting adjusted to this."

Chantelle and Molly got their friends involved with this great idea. Both founders previously were peer tutors. The service launched in early September and already, they have seen success. "I was tutoring a student for the past few days and today she had a test on that subject, and she got a very good grade," Chantelle said.

--taken from ABC6 News Article https://6abc.com/education/northeast-high-schoolers-create-free-online-tutoring-service/6560252/

Meet Cortéa

9th Grade, AIM Academy

Cortéa M. is a new Maguire Scholar this year as a ninth grader at AIM Academy. In September, he received the David P. Montgomery Rising Freshmen Award from the Children’s Scholarship Fund of Philadelphia (CSFP). He was one of 10 students chosen out of 316 CSFP students.

Cortéa also recently achieved the rank of Eagle Scout, the Boy Scouts of America's highest rank. He has distinguished himself by attaining the Eagle rank at age 13 and by exceeding the minimum requirement of earning 21 merit badges, instead earning 121 merit badges! In addition, he has earned the Church and God Award, several other honors, and represented the Cradle of Liberty Council, BSA.

Middle School Scholars

Two Maguire Scholars from St. Rose of Lima Middle School enrolled in Merion Mercy Academy for high school this fall. Both earned significant scholarship money as well. Riayn L. was awarded a total of $18,700 from school scholarships, private scholarships, and grants. Nevaeh C. received $12,000 in scholarships.
Makayla M. Finds Confidence through Acting

Last year was cut short, which was my freshman year, sadly, but before the year had ended I can say that I had made some fond memories with new friends and great people in my corner.

Last year I was in ACTS, Archbishop Carroll Theater Society, which was a great activity to indulge in. There I made many new friends, learned how to do so many new things, and I can say that I learned from so many people who graduated last year who were in ACTS. Many people may not know me well, but I am someone with a shy personality. Joining ACTS made me become a better person who can accept themselves a little bit more which helped a lot.

Throughout my freshmen year I also had to make sure that my grades were going well too. I did my best and I can say that for my freshmen year I did an amazing job in the grades department, and my average was a 93!

Makayla M.
10th Grade, Archbishop John Carroll High School
Gesu School ’19 Maguire Scholar

A Championship for Ti’Eisha

12th Grade, West Catholic High School

Ti’Eisha W. is a Maguire Scholar and a top honors student who is very involved within the school. She was on the West Catholic girls’ team that won the PCL Basketball championship late last spring!

About Maguire Scholars

The goal of the Maguire Scholars Program is to support and enrich the leaders of tomorrow by providing an opportunity for an excellent education through partnerships and strategic alliances with middle schools, high schools, colleges, and universities. As men and women for others, we encourage our Maguire Scholars to dedicate their time and talent to community service.
Woodlynde School

- Gabriella A., 9th grade, became a member of The Pennsylvania Girlchoir in the Fall of 2019. This past summer, she completed her vocal assessment and was asked to advance to the Trouvere Ensemble. She is currently recording "Philadelphia Freedom" to perform virtually for the 99th Annual Philadelphia Award, the most prestigious award given to a Philadelphian, every year who makes a difference. This year's recipients are being recognized for their work regarding domestic violence.

- This summer, Dominic C., 11th grade, took an on-line course, Sociology of Media & Pop Culture, through Immaculata University's Jump Start Summer Program. As a final project, he viewed the original 1932 movie The Mummy and compared it with the 1999 version. Dominic earned undergraduate college credits, which he hopes to transfer to the college of his choice when he graduates.

Cristo Rey Philadelphia High School

- Enaura A. graduated this past May and is now a freshman at Penn State University and is majoring in Engineering. She received the Western Golf Association Chick Evans Scholarship, which fully covers tuition and housing for all four years.

- Malik C., 12th grade, is the Student Government President for this year. Malik and the entire Student Government team have been doing some awesome things to keep students engaged during virtual learning!

Merion Mercy

- Nancy L. was accepted to virtual college fly-ins at Dartmouth College (Dartmouth Bound), Williams College (Windows on Williams), and the University of Pennsylvania (Penn in Focus and the Penn Early Exploration Program).

We Are Men and Women for Others

The Maguire Foundation is committed to improving the quality of life for people and educating the next generation of leaders. Founded by James J. and Frances M. Maguire and grounded in the teachings of St. Ignatius Loyola that we are men and women for others, the foundation invests in education, arts and humanities, and the relief of hunger and homelessness.
Mercy Career and Technical High School

- Maria G., 11th grade, has been accepted into the College Connection Program sponsored by Philadelphia Futures.

- Jeannette L. and Nateisha W., both class of 2020, passed the Cosmetology State Board Operator's exam and are now Licensed Cosmetologist.

- Maria T., class of 2020, passed the Pearson Vue exam and successfully completed all their requirements. Maria's name was placed on the Nurse Aide Registry.

Pope John Paul II High School

- Over the summer Monica C., 9th grade, contributed to the video released by the Archdiocese that summarized the hybrid learning model. This led to Monica appearing on 6ABC and being interviewed as part of their coverage of the Archdiocese press release. For the past several summers Monica was working as an assistant at the Variety Club Camp in Worcester, PA, but was unable to work at the camp this summer.

- Riley H., 10th grade, was part of a volunteer project at her former elementary school assembling plexiglass barrier walls to attach to student desks to provide extra protection from COVID-19.

- Ryan L., 12th grade, spent the summer assisting his parish. They had to cancel their annual summer festival, but Ryan was given other opportunities to volunteer. This fall Ryan was chosen to represent the senior class as a student council representative. Ryan attended PJP’s high school retreat, Kairos. At this retreat Ryan was able to establish himself as a leader among his peers and strengthened his relationship with God.

Holy Ghost Prep

Philip L., 12th grade, was recently featured in a Holy Ghost News article:

Philip truly personifies the Maguire Foundation’s “Six Steps to Success.” He is not only making an impact in the classroom and on the swim team and in several clubs, but he fully understands the importance of setting goals and then employing discipline, passion, and preparation to achieve them.

Without the Maguire Foundation, I wouldn’t be here at Holy Ghost Prep and wouldn’t have met all of the incredible people I’ve met or had the great experiences I’ve enjoyed both inside and outside of the classroom. I’ll be forever grateful to them.
Williamson College of the Trades

Both John B. and David M. have helped Williamson’s Advancement Office by writing an appeal letter for its Back to School Fundraising campaign. James M. has also helped the Advancement Office by creating a video as part of its end-of-school-year fundraising efforts.

University of Notre Dame

“Over this past summer, I did a virtual service program through Notre Dame’s Center for Social Concerns. Through this program, I did research for Bertrand Farm, an educational farm which hosts camps and education events for the local community in Niles, MI and South Bend, IN. I also became a part of the Madrasa Discourses program which is offered by the Keough School of Global Affairs. During the month of July and continuing this fall semester, I engaged in biweekly discussions via Zoom with students from South Asia about religion, modernity, and current events. I am so grateful to have the opportunity to engage in these discussions because I have developed a greater understanding of the narratives that shape our world and how we can establish greater unity despite differences. Despite the limitations posed by COVID-19, I have been surprised by the meaningful connections that I have been able to establish in the Notre Dame community and beyond with the support of the Maguire Scholarship.”

- Jennifer E.

Cabrini University

In early November, a group of Cabrini Maguire Scholars went on a field trip to Joy of Sox, in Phoenixville. While there, they sorted and packed 3,790 pairs of socks to distribute to those experiencing homelessness. The trip was a great experience and the students learned that sometimes socks are more important than food to someone experiencing homelessness.

Pictured from left to right: Patrick H., Megan Norris, Assistant, Cabrini’s Wolfington Center, Calvin R, Danielle H., Aissatou D., and Jayla G.
Cooper P., a 2017 Holy Ghost Prep graduate, will be graduating from Penn State University this upcoming spring with a B.S. in cyber security with a focus in economics. Upon graduation, Cooper has a job lined up with KPMG in Manhattan, performing cyber risk advisory. He interned with KPMG this past summer and has spent his previous summers interning with Booz Allen Hamilton and Lockheed Martin. Throughout his time in college, Cooper has been a Maguire Scholar and has been part of the Deloitte mentorship program.

“I live by Mr. Maguire’s 6 Steps to Success and carry them close to my heart each day. I am so grateful to have been a part of the Maguire Scholars Program. With the Maguires’ inspiration, leadership and philanthropy I am forever thankful for the skills they have taught me in order to follow my dreams as a textile designer. After graduation I started working full time doing what I love, designing sustainable textiles in yoga apparel. Hemp Black is a sustainable hemp technology company, focusing on high performance textiles. With the current pandemic we started our brand launch with sustainable and antimicrobial face masks and gaiters to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. As Mr. Maguire would say, ‘To be successful, you have to stay fit physically and mentally, stay positive, stay motivated.’ This core value has really helped me reach my goals and balance my life during the Coronavirus pandemic, and it is all thanks to the Maguires inspiration and motivation they have instilled in me and it continues to inspire me.”

Regan M.
Thomas Jefferson University (M.S. in Textile Design) ’19
Philadelphia University Textile Design (B.S. in Textile Design) ’17
Chestnut Hill College

“I interned this summer at AL DIA News as a multimedia content producer: I created graphics, videos, and articles that were featured on their website, social media platforms, and YouTube page. My most notable piece of work I mainly produced by myself would have to be my mini documentary, "What About Vanessa Guillen".

I learned a lot here and met great people that showed me a lot with immense patience and passion. Not only did I get to do what I love the most, I got to do that by highlighting the best of the Latinx experience in America. Considering that I am Hispanic, I believe it was a great fit at this site because I got to serve my Hispanic people by covering Hispanic stories and giving Hispanic people a voice and platform.”

Kianni F., class of 2021
President of La Voz Latina

Montgomery County Community College

Two Maguire Scholars – Joseph M. and Alison Z. – were named to the Dean’s List. To be named to the Dean’s List, students must earn a grade point average of 3.5 or above in the semester and be in good academic standing. Joseph M. was also inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.

Villanova University

Jamiliah J., class of 2019, won a Fulbright Grant to teach English in Brazil. Fulbrights are one of the most prestigious post-baccalaureate awards in the U.S.
Mount St. Mary's University’s Maguire Scholar Program Focuses on Service, Preps Students for Life
by Rachel W.

Why would you ever want to be an EMT? Are you getting paid? What made you want to get involved with the Fire Department in the first place? In July 2020, I called up the membership chair of Vigilant Hose Company in Emmitsburg, MD, the location of my university, and asked how I could become an EMT for the Fire Department. It was only a few weeks into summer 2020, the pandemic was on the forefront of everyone's minds, and I had just been hired as a Ranger for Lake Naomi Club, where I was training to respond to emergency and non-emergency calls within the community. On my second day as a Ranger, an elderly woman had a stroke in her home, and I arrived on scene several minutes before the EMT's as a fresh-faced 19 year old, with no life experience, completely unqualified to assist her in any practical way. In fact, while attempting to help by guiding the stretcher to the back of the ambulance, I plummeted off the front porch, prompting the EMT's to jokingly question if they needed to call another ambulance for me. Embarrassed, but determined to improve at my job, I signed up for EMT-B certification through Maryland Fire and Rescue Services.

However, I could not have reached this point if my only motivation was to improve at my summer job, for the EMT course is extremely challenging, with difficult material, time-consuming homework assignments and quizzes, and up to 15 hours a week of class time, on top of other responsibilities at school. While obtaining EMT certification will be useful, and will allow me to develop important life and leadership skills, my primary motivation is a love of people, of serving others, and a desire to use the skills I have to make a difference to someone suffering. Yet some of my friends and family still do not understand why I would spend this much time and energy to gain a certification and a position that I will not even be paid for; they do not support my decision to volunteer as an EMT because of the risks associated with it, especially during the pandemic.

Fortunately, at Mount St. Mary's, I am a part of the Maguire Scholars, a community-service based group on campus encouraged to participate in service projects and internships related to our future goals and careers. Within this community, I feel supported and motivated to follow my interests to serve others. At the Mount, the Maguires follow a four-year plan beginning our first year with a passion for learning, in which I had the opportunity to meet with my advisor, attend group dinners, and connect with other scholars. Sophomore year focused on service to God and others, and I was able to serve by volunteering at FUSE Teen Center, a center created to combat the opioid and suicide crisis in Thurmont, MD. Now, as an upperclassman, we are focused on becoming ethical leaders and leading lives of significance, and taking opportunities and internships that will help direct us towards our future careers. For my internship, I will continue volunteering as an EMT, and I know that this position, and all the work I have done as a Maguire Scholar, will prepare me for the future. After I graduate, I hope to serve by volunteering for the Peace Corps and eventually taking a governmental position in diplomacy.

Have Maguire Scholar News to Share?
Send it to: Emilia Twomey Thomas, Maguire Scholars Program Coordinator
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