

Maguire Scholars News

Winter 2022

Recognition for Star Student-Athlete

Williamson College of the Trades

James M. has been named to the 2021 USCAA National Academic Team. A Machine Tool Technology student and Senior Class President, James is also a star soccer player at Williamson. The USCAA recognizes junior college student-athletes who have made a significant contribution to their team's success while achieving a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher. This award acknowledges James' achievements both on the field and in the classroom.



James attributes his success to the opportunities for growth and leadership he has found at Williamson. He says: "Williamson has been vital in the past couple years for my growth as a leader. I am very appreciative for all of the ways in which the College has given me opportunities for growth in my skills and abilities. I am proud to lead and help other students in the classrooms, the shops, and in athletics." James has been labeled as an "offensive threat" on the field and has achieved the Dean's List every semester he's been at Williamson.



Meet Bantu

*La Salle College
High School '22*

"Last summer, I worked at my high school as a summer counselor for the 7th and 8th grade enrichment program. At the end of the camp, I gathered all of the money I had earned as a summer counselor and donated all of my earnings to a charity in Uganda called Mlinza Farms and Friends Outreach.

This act of generosity made me feel very accomplished because I realized that many people in this world need necessities such as food, water, shelter, and clothes. Since this realization, I have been on a mission to help people in need in the United States and Africa."

- Bantu B. '22

St. Matthew School

Math Whiz Ranked #1 in Pennsylvania!



Anthony W. is a 6th grade Maguire Scholar at St. Matthew School. Dr. Robert Sun estimates that he has solved 200,000+ math problems since the start of this school year. Anthony says he loves math and is excited with new challenges. His teacher, Karen Elitz, gives him extra books, materials, and problems to solve. “He finishes in no time,” she reports, “and asks for more.” His sister, Theresa, is in 8th grade at St. Matthew and a younger sister is ready for Pre-K next year.



“Anthony W. deserves the highest commendation and recognition. Being ranked #1 in Pennsylvania and #3 in USA is HUGE!!! We have about 300,000 players in Pennsylvania and almost 1 million in USA.”

-Dr. Robert Sun, inventor of 24 Game and First in Math

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.

High School Maguire Scholars

Little Flower

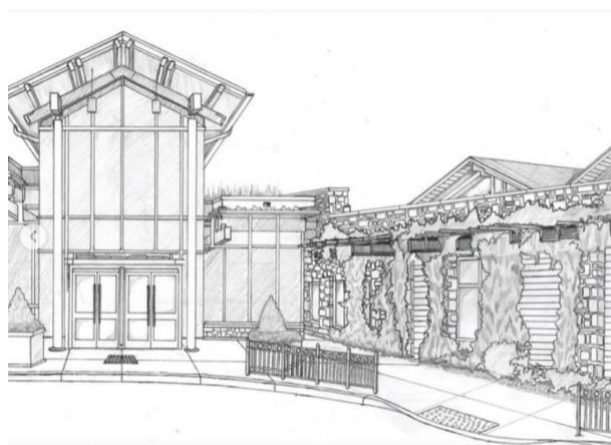
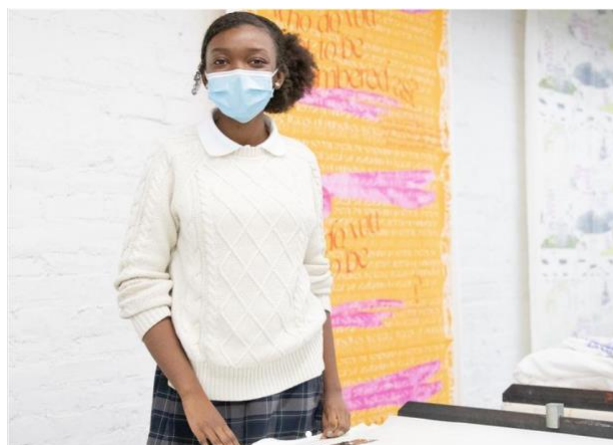
"This year, I am the Vice President of Little Flower's National Honor Society, Editor-in-Chief of the yearbook, a co-founder of a student-run environmental club, and a Co-editor-in-Chief of the Literary Garland (school newspaper). I have also been named a QuestBridge National College Match scholarship recipient, earning a full ride to the University of Pennsylvania!"

- Kristina P. '22



Agnes Irwin

Arielle B. '22 recently completed the High School Apprentice Training Program at The Fabric Workshop and Museum in Philadelphia. Over the course of twelve weeks, Arielle learned all aspects of screen printing on fabric, an art style more recently popularized by artists like Andy Warhol and Roy Lichtenstein. She collaborated with other students and created her own artwork, which was inspired by her personal passion for architecture. She was even able to incorporate a rendering of The Agnes Irwin School. Well done, Arielle!

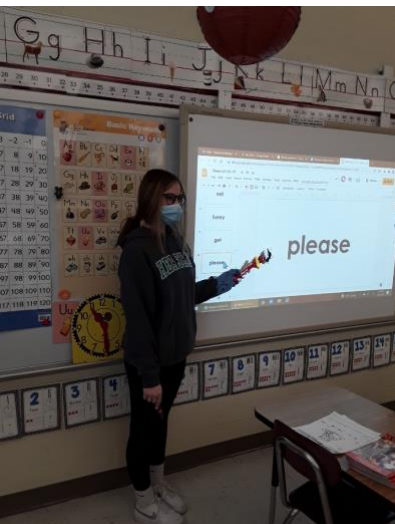


Springside Chestnut Hill Academy

RJ M. made an impression very quickly when he joined the school community four years ago. His advisor summed it up well by describing RJ as a charismatic student who brings a positive energy to school every day. It came as no surprise that RJ was elected as co-president of the Upper School student body this year. He has demonstrated his effective leadership skills by spearheading several fun new student events, including a Halloween costume contest and games at the All-School Assembly that involved mixed teams of Middle and Upper School students.

RJ works hard in the classroom and in athletics. His favorite class is English because he enjoys expressing himself creatively and likes to talk about what he reads with his grandmother who is an English professor at the Community College of Philadelphia. RJ excels in wrestling and hopes to repeat his All-American status this year. He is thrilled to be joining the wrestling team at Franklin & Marshall College next year.

“What I like about SCH is the diversity and the welcoming environment. I want to thank the Maguire Foundation because it has given me the opportunity to have a great education and better myself as a person, mentally and physically. I have been able to challenge myself at SCH more than at my old school. I love the feeling of competition I have with my peers, both in the classroom and in athletics. At SCH, I have also been able to create a lot of great goals for myself after high school. SCH has made me a more driven person.”



Mount Saint Joseph Academy

“I have always loved being with kids and I thought volunteering at a local district’s Special Education classroom would be a great way to help out my mom’s class. I taught a few lessons to the class about money and read to them. They were beyond happy that I came in and they ask every day if I can come back. I have two brothers with special needs so I am very well experienced with special needs children. I would love to be a teacher for younger kids in the future.”

- **Caroline S. ‘25**



Meet Breya

Merion Mercy Academy '22

Breya S. will graduate this spring with a cumulative G.P.A. of 4.2. Her activities include leadership roles in the Gospel Choir and Model UN Club, a member of the Asian Students in America Club, member of the Lover Club and four honor societies: Science, Spanish, Social Studies, and the National Honor Societies. Breya was accepted to Georgetown University and received a scholarship from the University of Delaware. She intends to double major in International Relations and History with a minor in Chinese.

"Merion has nurtured my interests through its dedicated Social Studies Department and hands-on service and leadership opportunities. At Merion Mercy, I have been a part of a caring and loving community. I have made friendships at Merion that will last a lifetime. Without the Maguire Scholarship, this would not have been possible, and, for that, I am eternally grateful." - **Breya S. '22**

Merion Mercy Academy

Sophomore **Jessica G.** is proud and grateful to be a Maguire Scholar. She is maintaining Distinguished Honors with a G.P.A of 4.4. Her school activities include being a member of the Basketball and Crew Teams, the Mercy Mission Corps, the History Club, and the Honor Art Society.

"I'm now halfway through my sophomore year, and time is flying, I am truly excited about my future here—more sports seasons, higher academic achievement, and all the wonderful Merion Mercy traditions ahead. As I become more involved in school life, the spirit of Mercy has grown increasingly lively. I could not be happier with the friends I have made. I also am proud of my academic achievement as a Distinguished Honors student. The Maguire Foundation has given me an amazing opportunity. As a result, I am growing as a person and as a student. I cannot express my gratitude for enabling me to be part of this very special community and for this outstanding education."



Cristo Rey Philadelphia High School



Oyewumi O.
Class of 2024



"Oyewumi's personality alone fits the team perfectly. She's very bright, and very personable. Everyone that has worked with her so far, whether it be while shadowing or training, has had nothing but positive feedback. She asks the right questions when she needs to, and always in a professional manner."

Oyewumi O. and Amere S. were selected as the January Work Study Employees of the Month for their respective grades.

Here are quotes from their Work Study Supervisors!



Amere S.
Class of 2022



"We are thrilled to have Amere Sloan back on the Comcast team this year. Every day, Amere shows up with a positive attitude, excellent communication skills and creative ideas, which are huge assets to the Comcast Cristo Rey Team! This year, Amere has done an extraordinary job navigating a "new normal" of work-study and finding ways to collaborate with his teammates to help everyone around him succeed. Congrats Amere, on Employee of the Month! Keep up the great work!"



At the end of January, the Blue Pride chapter of the National Honor Society welcomed its new members at an induction ceremony during Honors Convocation! This achievement recognizes their work to maintain the highest standards in scholarship, leadership, service, and character. There were several Maguire scholars who were chosen: **Oyewumi O., Wanderlyn P., Aisata B., & Jefferson D.**

Fairfield University

“Since I was a little kid, I have always had an interest in helping people. Being raised in a Catholic household, I established very early on that God wants His children to put others’ lives before their own. This dedication to service and medicine has led me down the path to continue my journey at the Egan School of Nursing and Health Studies at Fairfield University. For the short time I have been at the university, I have already learned so much about caring for the whole person and the importance of supporting all patients physically, mentally and spiritually. It is an unprecedented time to be entering the nursing field. With all of the uncertainty and fear in our world today, it can oftentimes be intimidating to be entering the dominant front line against COVID-19. However, with the strength I draw from my Catholic values and beliefs, I know that as a healthcare provider, my main job is to make people feel safe, healthy, and comfortable. Even in this era of COVID-19, I know that my beliefs and education at Fairfield University will prepare me best to care for others in this everchanging world.”

- Meredith H. '25



University of Scranton

At the University of Scranton, we were fortunate to have over ten Maguire scholars participate in service projects in November and December. These in person opportunities gave us the chance to not only serve the Scranton and University community but also spend time together getting to know one another. In early November, students met to create over 300 beautiful Thanksgiving cards to be shared in holiday grocery bags distributed by a local agency, Friends of the Poor. The lower income families receiving these essential food items, loved their colorful, festive cards. In December, we gathered the scholars together again to write motivational notes to their peers as they prepared for final exams. The messages of inspiration and support were attached to smiley cookies and distributed randomly to students. Our annual, #BuildUp, “Spreading Smiles” campus wide program was a huge success!

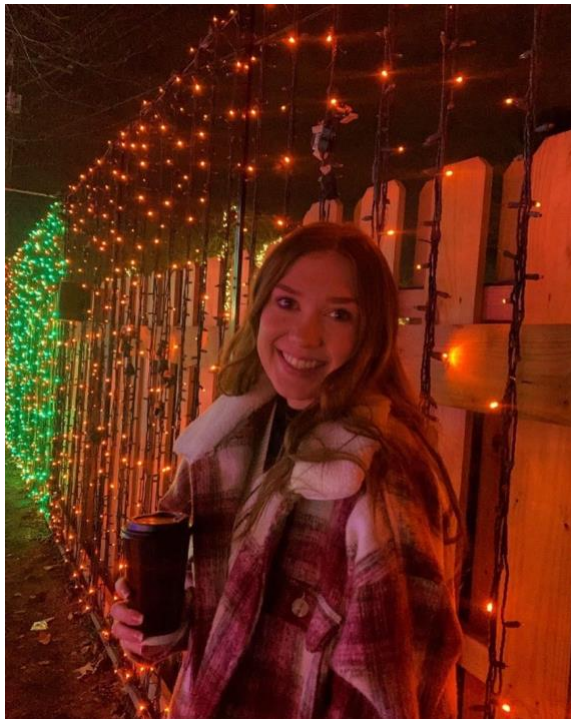


Temple University

Kyle S. '22 is the President and Assistant Captain of the Temple Hockey Team and the Director of Alumni Affairs for Gamma Iota Sigma. Kyle says, "this scholarship has allowed me to finish my degree in Risk Management and Insurance. My degree has prepared me to enter into a dynamic industry that rewards hard work and superior talent. After graduation I will be working at Marsh in New York, NY as a TRAC associate starting in the Marine brokerage sector. I hope to finish my ARM and keep taking CPCU exams."



Immaculata University



"The Maguire Foundation has gifted me with such an amazing opportunity to not only complete higher education but also grow as a student and person. Last semester, so many amazing things happened, and I attribute these memories I have to the Maguire Foundation. I was able to work as an orientation leader during the summer and the beginning of the fall semester. I also started my first official semester as an Admissions Ambassador. Due to the Maguire Foundation, I was able to connect with a professor on campus and talk about starting neuroscience research with her. I was even able to start shadowing doctors during the semester. These things will help me pursue my goal of becoming a physician myself one day. Another highlight of last semester is my club chapter, Project Sunshine, was approved. This club will allow us to volunteer and help spread happiness to pediatric patients in hospitals. Finally, I was able to find a mentor here at IU to help me with the process of writing and publishing my own book! None of this would be possible without the help of the Maguire Foundation."

- Payton C. '24

Organizations

PYO Music Institute *Tune Up Philly*

On Saturday, March 12, Tune Up Philly-Orchestral Pathways Program students from St. Barnabas participated in a field trip to the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra Music Institute's Center City rehearsal hall. Although it was a snowy afternoon, they were excited to make music together with Director Paul Smith and to observe and meet other students in the Young Musicians Debut Orchestra. They'll soon be preparing for their year-end concert at Temple University's Performing Arts Center on Saturday, May 21. We're grateful to the Maguire Foundation for supporting these beginning flute students at St. Barnabas!



Children Scholarship Fund

In 2019, Children's Scholarship Fund Philadelphia (CSFP) was honored to receive the Maguire Foundation's \$2.5 million five-year pledge to launch the Maguire Early Access Program to support scholarships for pre-K through first grade students at 34 CSFP partner schools in Philadelphia, including 14 Independence Mission Schools (IMS). The Maguire Scholars' model forges strategic alliances that offer support and enrichment to students of all educational levels. In an exciting partnership with CSFP, the Maguire Foundation is better educating tomorrow's leaders through need-based scholarships. With this gift, CSFP began providing its first-ever scholarships for pre-K students and established an early pipeline to quality education. For three years and counting, the Foundation's multi-year gift has funded three cohorts of pre-K through first grade children and invested \$1,000 per child to support a combined total of 1,200 children so far. By 2024, the Maguire Foundation will provide scholarships for a total of 2,000 children to attend our partner schools.

Families tell us again and again what their scholarship from this program means to them. One parent of a Saint Francis Cabrini Regional Catholic School pre-K student said that since her son is advanced for his age, his school was "able to keep him challenged unlike his previous school which didn't have many things to keep him busy." Another pre-K parent of a student at Saint Rose of Lima School said because of this partnership, "My child was able to attend a school that has made a huge difference in her life and welcomed her into their school family." CSFP families are grateful to the Maguire Foundation for this unwavering support to make a quality education accessible.

Have Maguire Scholar News to Share?

Send it to: Emilia Twomey Thomas, Maguire Scholars Program Coordinator
etwomey@maguirefoundation.org

Children's Crisis Treatment Center



Children's Crisis Treatment Center (CCTC) provides mental and behavioral health services to children who have experienced child abuse, neglect, traumatic events, and other challenges to early childhood development.

The Maguire Foundation's support is helping children and families in the Philadelphia region to heal and thrive from these traumatic experiences.

**CCTC serves over
3,500 children and families
in over 105 zip codes in Philadelphia
and Montgomery Counties**

**Accommodating
8 different languages spoken
by children and families**



OF CHILDREN

CCTC serves are under the age of 10.



OF PARENTS

have seen an improvement in their child's family relationships after working with CCTC for 8 months.



OF CHILDREN & PARENTS

feel that they can maintain healthy & safe boundaries after working with CCTC.



OF CHILDREN & PARENTS

feel that they have gained emotion regulation & emotion expression skills after working with CCTC.

Face to Face

Education Equity Program



Reggie dressed as MLK for Black History Month

The Maguire Foundation supports early education through their funding of the Education Equity Program at Face to Face. Through this effort, Face to Face's family liaison works with the preschool families of Mercy Neighborhood Ministries at Face to Face to scaffold them with legal, health, dining and social services while also guiding them in selecting the best kindergarten grade school for their child.

Reggie Jr., a 5-year-old, is currently attending Mercy Neighborhood Ministries Preschool at Face to Face. His father, Reggie Sr., died suddenly of a heart attack last February. Given the family's significant loss, they are dedicated to supporting Reggie Jr. The family liaison was initially contacted by his paternal grandmother, Deborah, for help with the kindergarten selection process. Reggie Jr. is her only grandson and she is deeply invested in his future. During the initial meeting, Grandma Deborah tearfully shared about the loss of her son and spent time dreaming about a life of abundance for young Reggie Jr. Since access to the web is limited at home, the family liaison assisted Grandma Deborah with registering for the Children's Scholarship Fund of Philadelphia and kindergarten applications.

Grandma and the family liaison toured several schools in person together, growing in trust and understanding, and developed an informal rubric for measuring the schools. Ultimately DePaul Catholic School was chosen because of its uniquely nurturing community and rigorous yet progressive approach to academics. Reggie's application was completed, and the family liaison remains in close contact with their head of admissions. On March 14, 2022, Deborah officially enrolled Reggie Jr. at DePaul Catholic School. The journey of partnership around Reggie Jr. has only just begun, and we are confident that his future will be a bright one.



Reggie and Grandma with a self-portrait that he painted at school

Breakthrough

Student Spotlight: Q&A with Laila A.

Q: Why did you apply to Breakthrough of Greater Philadelphia?

A: I remember Breakthrough coming to my school, and thought it sounded really interesting. I saw a program that would not only challenge me, but would bring out a side that would get me to be more social and come out of my shell. I always want to try to learn more, so when I heard you talk about the English, math, and science classes, it intrigued me.

Q: What was your favorite memory from last summer?

A: In one of my classes, Literature, we read a story called *Of Mice and Men* and it was a very interesting and compelling book. At the end of the book, we had a very important conversation about the prison system and how people may not be given the respect and justice they deserve. We learned a lot about the true meaning of justice and how it differs depending on the system -- prison, economics, stuff like that.

Q: How has Breakthrough made a difference for you as a student?

A: It made me a better student and more productive, and made me feel like I was a step ahead and more involved in the work that we're currently learning at school. In my seventh grade school year, I was all virtual and so a lot of the time I felt behind, like I couldn't catch up. It wasn't because I didn't enjoy the work, it was because I couldn't grasp fully what was being taught (virtually). When I went to Breakthrough, a lot of the information that I didn't get to comprehend was retaught to me, and I really learned to appreciate the subject more.

Q: How have you grown since joining Breakthrough?

A: I've changed a lot socially and academically. I've branched out a lot more. I'm more of an academic person, so now I'm getting to explore things like golf, which I thought was really interesting and crocheting of course, which I was looking into even before the Breakthrough summer program. If I had the opportunity to play golf outside of Breakthrough, I definitely would!

Q: Has Breakthrough made a difference in your application process and preparedness for high school?

A: I do think so. I took a writing course with Teacher Chelsea and we wrote two essays with her. It really helped me improve my writing; I received feedback and a lot of what I learned at Breakthrough connects with what I'm going to have to write in these (high school) essays, like why do I want to go to a certain school or what a trait like *excellence* means. I'll be prepared when the time comes. I've learned a lot at Breakthrough that I can carry with me for the rest of my life, past high school even. I learned about respecting other students at Breakthrough. We do daily affirmations and I think that really connects students and helps them bond more. When I get into high school, I know I won't think it's boring because of Breakthrough. If you let yourself be part of the fun, you'll definitely have a fun time.



Pennsylvania School for the Deaf

200th Anniversary Celebration



The Pennsylvania School for the Deaf (PSD) celebrated its 200th Anniversary on Saturday March 5, 2022 with a star-studded, sold-out Gala and Silent Auction at the Crystal Tea Room in Center City, Philadelphia. Thanks to the event's many sponsors, including Premier Sponsor, the Maguire Foundation, along with the support of alumni, families, and supporters. 488 attendees came together to celebrate this incredible milestone.

The evening featured remarks from Margaret L. Steele, Board Chair; Peter L. Bailey, Head of School; James J. Maguire, Founder, Maguire Foundation; City Councilmember Derek Green; Sandra Mae Frank, Deaf actress currently starring in New Amsterdam; Lauren Ridloff, Deaf Actress and star of the Walking Dead and Eternals; Beverly Caldwell, parent of a current PSD student; and Denise Brown, PSD Board of Trustees and the President of the Alumni Association. The event also featured a powerful moving video performance by PSD students, and a Silent and Live Auction with luxury gifts including vacation trips, paintings donated by well-known Deaf artists, and donated tickets to local venues.

PSD's "official" birthday is April 12, 1820, when a group of prominent Philadelphia citizens came together to create the institution, which initially began as an informal school in the home of David Seixas, a local merchant. Mr. Seixas, the first principal, took an interest in the Deaf and hard of hearing playing outside and began giving lessons in his home. In the 200 years, PSD is the third oldest deaf school, evolved into one of the most enduring, innovative, and respected schools for the Deaf. Today, PSD serves over 200 Deaf and hard of hearing students from across the Southeastern PA region, providing high-quality education and services in a bilingual (American Sign Language and English) environment steeped in cultural awareness.



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etwomey@maguirefoundation.org

Inn Dwelling

"As I write, I reminisce on every moment that led me to the person I am today. My name is Kristina P. and I grew up in Northeast Philadelphia my entire life. When I was young, my family and I lived in Lawndale, but as crime escalated in the area, my parents decided to move my brother and me to Bustleton in 2009. My parents wanted my brother and me to grow up in a neighborhood with better opportunities for us to succeed and push past our potential. They firmly believed in starting fresh, giving us a better life than the ones they had when they were kids. Proudly, I can say my parents are my greatest role models because, without them, I would not be where I am today.

I graduated from Maternity B.V.M after attending the school for eight years. After not receiving any scholarships from all the high schools I applied to, I was disappointed in myself. I thought "all the hard work I dedicated to school did not pay off." That feeling of disappointment and self-judgment lasted until I was introduced to the Inn Dwelling program. I heard about the program through a family friend whose daughter was also interested in joining. My mom and I loved what Inn Dwelling stood for: giving minorities opportunities to succeed in their futures and lives. My dad was ecstatic as I could not pass up this incredible opportunity. I met Sister Rosemarie for the first time in May of 2018. I remember her being nothing but kind and honest. I felt that I could put my trust in Sister Rosemarie because I could see that she genuinely wanted to help people be the best person they can be.

Life went up from that moment forward. I knew that Nazareth Academy High School was the high school for me, eighth grade graduation was coming up quickly, and for the first time in a while, I could finally relax. That was until the summer of my eighth-grade year. My mom sat down with my brother and me for a "family meeting." I didn't understand how it could be a "family meeting" if my dad was absent. Amidst the explanations, one word seared in my mind: cancer.

During my freshman year, my dad passed away. Despite the difficult time, I was surrounded by so much love from my friends, my related family, my Nazareth family, and my Inn Dwelling family. During my sophomore year, I was offered the Maguire scholarship. Being a Maguire Scholar showed how blessed I was to have the support and opportunity to continue my education at Nazareth Academy High School. I was given an insight into what my future upheld. I felt loved and confident that I could accomplish anything I put my mind to, even with setbacks along the way.

Now, I am a senior and I feel very accomplished with my life and everything I have achieved up to this moment. Throughout my senior year, Sister Rosemarie has been very supportive of me and introduced me to new opportunities that would push me past my potential. If I had never found out about the Inn Dwelling program in eighth grade, I would have never had the opportunity to say that I was awarded the Presidential Scholarship to Villanova University, a full-ride to my top school. Sister Rosemarie has changed my future for the better. I have a passion for various fields, and all of them share one core purpose: my love for helping others. My goal is to reach out to the youthful hearts in the world and help them see that their life is filled with beauty. I hope to make a difference in somebody else's life as Inn Dwelling and the Maguire Foundation have impacted mine. Inn Dwelling gave me a community of young students to talk to and made the friendships with people I already knew stronger. I feel blessed and grateful every day. I put all my thanks into the people who have helped me become the person I am today, someone who will forever continue to push past her potential."



- Kristina P. '22

Philadelphia Youth Basketball

In 2023, Philadelphia Youth Basketball will open its doors to the Alan Horwitz 'Sixth Man' Center! Located in the Nicetown neighborhood of North Philadelphia, this world-class facility will be a second home for thousands of young people and a resource for the community, transforming lives for decades to come. The Center will provide everything that PYB believes young people need to thrive academically and intellectually, socially and emotionally, & civically and vocationally. This includes:

- 7 Basketball Courts
- 5 Classrooms
- 1,200-seat Stadium Court
- 80-person Civic Dialogue Arena
- Financial Literacy Workshop
- Certified Financial Planning Services
- Youth Leadership & Multimedia Hub
- Health & Wellness Oasis
- Strength & Conditioning
- Injury Rehabilitation
- Philadelphia Basketball Hall of Fame
- Retail Store
- Boardroom and Office Space

Testimonial from Junior Coach: Dylan L.

Dylan L. is currently a Junior at Germantown Friends School, and was a Junior Coach at PYB's 2021 Lace Up & Learn Up Summer Camp Series.

"As I finished my sophomore year of high school last year, I started to look ahead at my summer and felt pressure from my parents, school counselors, and other people: I knew I had to have a productive summer. That's when I started to look for a summer job. I knew I wanted to work at a basketball camp, and after going through the PYB interview process, I was in! What attracted me most was that the 6-week program was far more than a one-time job. It was an opportunity to have a short-term impact on other people while making long-term relationships with both the youth and adults. It was far more than what a lot of people my age get out of their lifeguard or waiter jobs - not that there's anything wrong with those jobs - I just knew those weren't for me.

It was a job where I could make a real impact on Philadelphia's youth in three different ways. The first is by teaching the game of basketball that I love to these kids. I know how safe, peaceful, and calm the basketball gym can feel, and how it can offer an escape to many, including myself. Seeing how much those games meant to the kids made me just as emotional as them. The second way to make an impact is during the off-court program, probably the portion I emphasize most. Being a Junior in high school who works very hard to achieve top grades, I know how important it is to do well in school. I constantly emphasize how important the classroom is to our kids. This leads me to a different perspective of the program: not only were the kids benefiting from me, I was benefiting from the program. I was only a Junior Coach, yet I taught full academic lessons three times a day for every single day of the program, helping me build my leadership skills. I am an introvert, but when I am around the kids, I feel more comfortable, like I can just be myself. Lastly, the third opportunity for impact is by making real, genuine relationships. I made sure they knew I was always there for them throughout camp, and will always be there for them in the future. To this day I have many of them in my contacts, consistently staying in touch and making sure they are doing well. I know they put a smile on my face everyday and I hope and am pretty sure I put smiles on theirs.

I truly am grateful for finding PYB and joining the team. I want to be a part of PYB for the rest of my life. I proudly wear my PYB gear every day to school and talk about my experiences with other students and teachers. In fact, I am now a Youth Ambassador a part of their Youth Leadership Council. I truly appreciate Philly Youth Basketball and am super excited to help out in any way possible in the future."

