

CRUSADER CONNECTION

Fall 2016

Vol. 9 No. 2

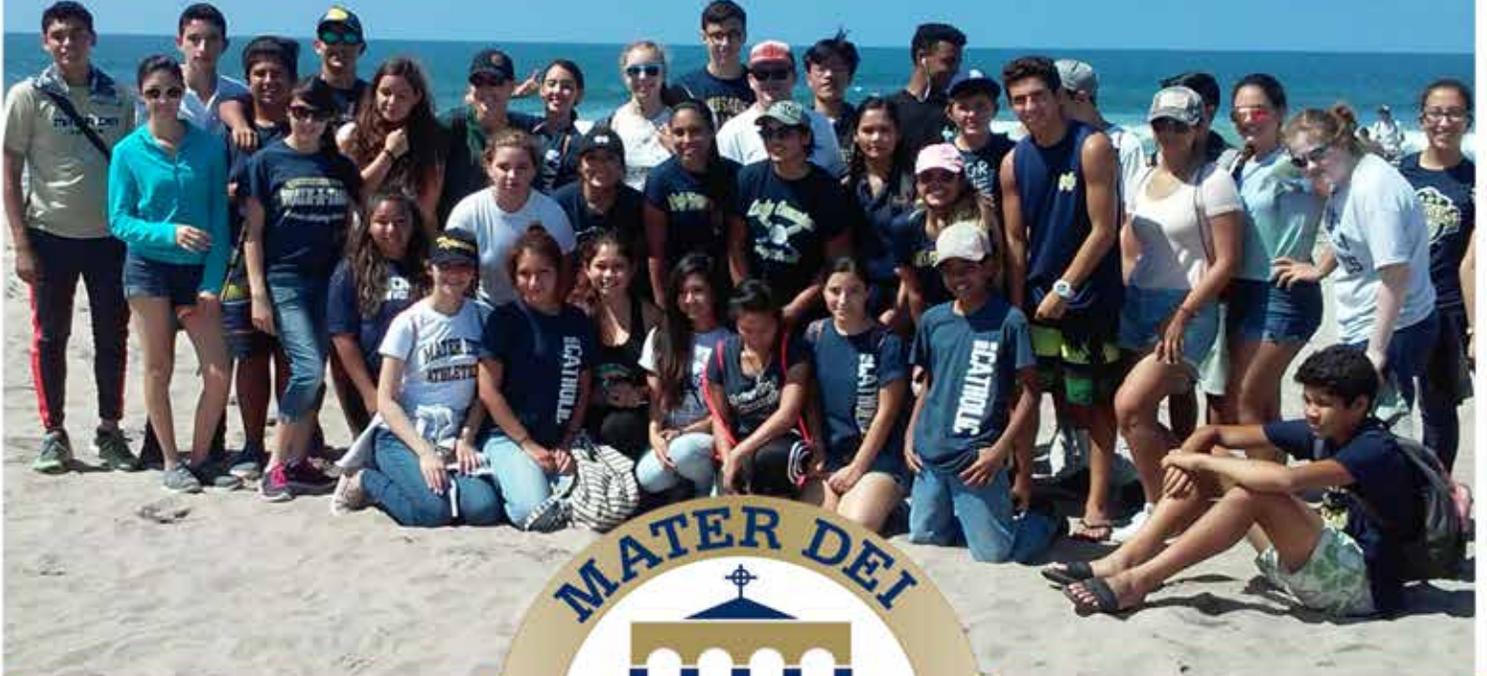
A publication dedicated to the Marian/Mater Dei Catholic High School Community

www.materdeicatholic.org



San Diego Aviation Career Education Camp at MDCHS sponsored by the Organization of Black Aerospace Professionals pp 12-13

Our students do more in a school year
than many people do in a lifetime.



THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCE AT MATER DEI STUDENTS HAVE:

- Researched and analyzed geospatial "big data" at SDSU.
- Sequenced fish DNA from egg samples, documenting biodiversity in San Diego's coastal waters.
- Hand raised and released endangered Pacific White Sea Bass
- Using robotics, conducted small molecule malaria drug screening at USCD Skaggs School of Pharmacy.
- Used sustainable engineering to build a solar powered earth bench, where students can sit and charge laptops.
- Raised a Giant Pacific Octopus
- Used a 3-D printer to create a new device to sample contaminants in San Diego Bay.
- ...and much more!

The Academy of Science at Mater Dei in Chula Vista, CA is growing! Scholarships and financial aid may be available for students. Call or visit our website to find out more.

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

2	12-13
President/Principal Message	Aviation Camp at Mater Dei
3	14
Student Highlights Fall 2016: Excellence Rewarded	Golf Tournament
4-5	15
Going Green: How Mater Dei Students and Faculty Are Committing to Sustainability	VAPA: Time and the Conways
6	16-17
Meeting Individual Student's Learning Needs	Athletics 2015-16 Pictorial
7	18
Mater Dei Counselors: Guidance and Support	Mater Dei's New APP info sheet
Having Fun is Key to a Healthy Life	19
8	20
Campus Ministry Focus: On Fire for Our Faith	Sports Spotlight: CJ Verdell and Kyle Moses
Serve Others	21
9	22-23
Congratulations Class of 2016	Annual Stewardship Report
10-11	24
Class of 2016: A Highlight of Their Varied Paths on the Road to Success	Alumni Highlights
25	25
	Calendar of Events

MATER DEI WELCOMES A NEW PRESIDENT.

We are pleased to announce that as of July 7, 2016, Mr. John Rey has succeeded Sister Lilia Barba as President of Mater Dei Catholic High School and Juan Diego Academy. Sister Lilia was elected to serve as the Provincial Superior for The Sister Servants of the Blessed Sacrament for the 2016-2021 term, which required her to step down from her position as President of Mater Dei.

Mr. Rey has been employed as an administrator and teacher at Marian/Mater Dei since 2002. He is a certified CPA and Financial Planner with a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from Binghamton University, a Master of Science in Business Administration from San Diego State University, and an Administrative Credential. His financial insight will be of great value in his role as leader of the business side of Mater Dei's school operations, and his familiarity working as both a teacher and an administrator for the school gives him a unique insight and passion for the position. We look forward to a great future with Mr. Rey leading us as President, and give him a warm welcome as he steps into his new role.

FROM THE PRESIDENT AND PRINCIPAL



On behalf of the faculty, staff and administration here at Mater Dei Catholic High School, we welcome you to the beginning of an outstanding 2016-2017 school year. We are truly honored and privileged to continue the Crusader tradition, which began in 1960 at the Marian High campus in Imperial Beach, through the collaboration of many people who worked to create our unique Catholic academic environment.

Our motto: "Mater Dei Catholic is a place for everyone," embodies our desire, our challenge, and our goal to offer every one of our students educational support, co-curricular activities, and opportunities for adventure during their time here at MDCHS. We want students to journey out of their comfort zone, in some capacity, so they might grow and become truly well rounded and full individuals who contribute to our global society.

The opportunities provided at Mater Dei Catholic are not taken for granted by our students. This is reflected in our nearly perfect graduation rate, by the acceptances our students have gained to the most prestigious universities nationally and abroad, through the

athletic prowess of our CIF State Championship teams, and by the many service projects our students dedicate their time to in our mission to serve those in need.

We have certainly been blessed at Mater Dei Catholic. Our beautiful and safe campus, our diverse student population, our family atmosphere, and our ability to express and foster our Catholic faith are to be cherished. As always, we look forward to this school year and we thank our parents and guardians for allowing us the privilege to assist in your son or daughter's journey to grow educationally, spiritually, athletically and socially.

As President and Principal of this wonderful school, we have the privilege of leading and working with our students, parents, faculty and staff in day-to-day operations. All of us working together for the same goal allow wondrous results to occur!

Yours in Catholic education,

John Rey
President

George Milke '72
Principal

STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS FALL 2016: EXCELLENCE REWARDED



FRESHMAN GOLFERS TO REPRESENT USA AND MEXICO IN JUNIORS CUP IN EVIAN, FRANCE

Ivanna Montemayor and Brianna Navarrosa will be traveling to France to participate in The Evian Championship Juniors Cup to be held in on September 20-21, 2016. Brianna will be representing Team USA, and Ivanna, who lives in Tijuana, will be representing Mexico in the same event.

Considering there are only four players being sent to the event from each country being represented (16 countries in all), it is even more impressive that Mater Dei has two students attending, and representing two countries!

The Juniors Cup is a significant opportunity for these young golfers; and is a huge milestone in their careers!



SENIOR SIGNS RECORDING CONTRACT

This year one of Mater Dei's Seniors signed with a major label. Jose Rodriguez, known as J. Roman in the music business, is currently working on his album which will be released next year. This young singer/songwriter is writing all of his own music for the album, and will have songs in English and Spanish. Stay tuned.



JUNIOR ACHIEVES THE PRESTIGIOUS RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

Junior Brandon Moore has earned the rank of Eagle Scout earning the 21 life skills merit badges required to earn the rank, plus completing an extensive self-directed service project. Brandon, who has the goal to become a surgeon, met with the Board of Review for an hour and a half, consisting of two surgeons and two anesthesiologists, all of whom had graduated from the Naval Academy, as well as the County's most senior judge, David Gill, a graduate of Stanford.

Becoming an Eagle Scout is an accomplishment of many successful men in our country from all industry sectors, including President Gerald Ford; Wal-Mart founder Sam Walton; explorer Steve Fossett; Bill Gates Sr., father to Bill Gates; MLB All-Star Shane Victorino; and actor Jon Heder, who starred in the independent film Napoleon Dynamite.





GOING GREEN: HOW MATER DEI STUDENTS AND FACULTY ARE COMMITTING TO SUSTAINABILITY

Last spring, after analyzing the Mater Dei's HVAC diagrams to estimate the cost of running AC in the classrooms, and doing a device-by-device audit to determine the energy use in every classroom at Mater Dei, the Science Academy's Student Association Valuing Energy (SAVE) team created a campaign to reduce the school's energy usage.

The "SAVE Campaign, Student Pledge" challenged other students to pledge to reduce school outlet usage for personal devices to save energy during peak hours. The group also presented their findings to the school staff and faculty, with a call for action. They also submitted their work to the San Diego School Energy Conservation Competition, with guidance from science teacher Juan Pablo Gonzalez, and, in May 2016, won Best Overall Campaign against more than 20 regional schools.

As their research was being done, plans to address these students' concerns were already being implemented by Mater Dei. By partnering with Solar City, the school has found a way to generate

electricity for the school, while cooling down the cars that use our sun-filled parking lots. With over 300 days of sun each year, our Chula Vista campus is the perfect location for generating solar electricity to power our school.

By transforming our traditional lots into covered spaces equipped with photovoltaic solar panels, the school can reduce energy costs dramatically. Our new solar carport parking structure will also help shade student and visitor vehicles on hot days, making it much more pleasant to return to one's car after being on campus for an extended period of time.

Science Academy students have also been working on a hands on project with a focus on sustainability and solar energy. The "Earth Bench" that sits in front of the Marian Chapel is a student-made seating area, made entirely of recycled or earth-friendly materials. The construction was built with plastic Gatorade bottles filled with unrecyclable trash, called bottle bricks. Students left some bottles exposed through a "Truth Window" in the back of the bench to allow the public

to see the recycled materials used to create the bench.

This type of sustainable engineering of using bottle bricks is now done in many countries throughout the world. In fact, it makes the bench structure more earthquake proof than a simple bench made of concrete. The students also had good guidance on the project with the help of mentor, James Harper, an engineer who works with the organization Engineers without Borders. Mr. Harper made sure sustainable engineering practices were used during the entire undertaking. The bench will ultimately power student laptops through solar power.

Mater Dei students, staff and faculty have a desire to reduce waste and live more sustainably, which is an objective of Mater Dei's Science Academy teaching, and a message Pope Francis has advocated for. Through our changes we have the focus in mind of doing better for our planet, as well as teaching our students to care as well.

SUPPORTING OUR STUDENTS



MEETING INDIVIDUAL STUDENT'S LEARNING NEEDS

The first thing students will notice about Learning Center instructor, Jacquelyn Ackman, is her easygoing nature. Born and raised in San Diego, and a former Catholic school student, Ackman graduated with a B.A. in English from San Diego State University, a Master's degree in Education from Point Loma Nazarene, and holds a California Special Education credential with an autism specialization.

"The Aquinas Center for Learning here at Mater Dei will support students who learn differently, so they can excel here," Ackman says of the new center she'll be heading. "The program will help students enhance their strategies for independence and learning."

While Mater Dei has always admitted students with learning needs on a case-by-

case basis, this year will be the first time that they have a dedicated resource for support. Students who have an IEP or 504 plan, or a documented learning need that hinders a student's ability to succeed in a standard learning setting, will be offered dedicated support to help them reach their goals.

The Learning Center will be in the Aquinas Center; the same building that houses the Mater Dei Library.

Many students can learn their subjects just as well as other students, once the method used to deliver the coursework has been adapted. Ackman makes her goal for the program clear. "Just as God has designed each student uniquely and individually, I hope this program will also cater to the unique qualities of each student."

SLEEP AND CELL PHONES:

WHY HIDING YOUR PHONE AT NIGHT MIGHT BE A GOOD IDEA

According to the National Sleep Foundation's "2014 Sleep In America Poll" most teens report sleeping far less than the 8.5 to 9.25 hours they need each night. It should come to no surprise that one of the biggest reasons the National Sleep Foundation found for young people not getting enough sleep is that they are using technology.

Cell phones and tablets seem to be a temptation too tough for most young people to avoid when they are headed to sleep. However just the simple act of placing one's phone, computer, or device away from the bed at night can give a student hours more sleep than they currently achieve.

Putting away devices at night shouldn't be seen as a punishment. In fact, it is actually something that can help students in achieving his or her goals. The American Academy of Pediatrics calls the lack of sleep for young people a public health epidemic. In an in-depth 2014 study, the Academy found that teens that don't get proper rest are stressed, less motivated, and more likely to feel overwhelmed at school. Sleep deprivation is often a trigger for many mood disorders, such as anxiety, depression and bipolar disorder. For students who are predisposed to these conditions, improving sleep can help to counteract an episode.

Our tip? Find a good hiding spot for your phone at night, so you aren't tempted to check out how many people have liked your latest Instagram pic. In fact, you'll look better in the next day's photos if you don't have bags under eyes, so do yourself a favor!

TO HELP THEM SUCCEED

MATER DEI COUNSELORS: GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT



Mater Dei Students are assigned one counselor from the Counseling Department—either Mrs. Meda, Ms. Puschendorf, or Mrs. Luna (above left to right)—who they will keep until they graduate. Mapping out plans for each student from freshman to senior year is the main goal for each counselor, but the only way for them to do this well is to know their students as individuals with very different needs and goals.

Mater Dei counselors work hard to understand students' current and future goals, to advise them on possible majors, to write letters of recommendation, and seek out resources to help students match their academic goals with the ones for their careers. The career initiative is not a new initiative, however the department is expanding on the program.

“We will now have a career lab,” says counselor Andrea Puschendorf, who has been working as a counselor for Marian/Mater Dei for the past nineteen years. “Students take a

personality test and are given a list of their strengths, their blind spots, their preferred learning style, and a number of other things a student would need in order for them to be satisfied in their career.”

After this, students get a list of potential careers and majors to consider. Once they have their lists, they can further explore careers and major using their Naviance account. The system allows students to print up a list of universities that offer these potential majors. The career lab is where counselors can help students with this process, and answer any questions that they have as they seek out a potential profession.

“We are also going to have a career day where we bring in professionals to interact with our students,” says Puschendorf. “We believe that this “hands-on” experience will be a tremendous benefit and will allow students to have a better understanding of what a particular career is actually about.”

Mater Dei students are encouraged to use their relationships with their guidance counselors as a valuable resource. Mrs. Meda, Mrs. Luna and Ms. Puschendorf are willing and able to help a student cope with almost any situation, and they do this confidentially and discretely. Although they are academic counselors, they help students in much more than academics. You will often find them on campus after work—at games and performances—where they cheer on and encourage students. They want students to seek them out for one-on-one support to discuss personal issues, conflicts they are having with other students, academic struggles or any other concerns. These conversations are always confidential, except when information indicates a grave concern about a student's safety.

HAVING FUN IS KEY TO A HEALTHY LIFE

Living a well-rounded, balanced life isn't always easy, but having fun in life is a necessity, not a luxury. Sergio Pellis, professor of neuroscience at the University of Lethbridge in Alberta, Canada, has studied the importance of “play” and has found that doing activities with other people that are done just for the sake of fun, with no real “purpose” actually shapes the brain connections involved in motor, cognitive, and emotional processes.

In fact, without enough free play time there can actually be damage to the brain's prefrontal cortex in adulthood. In other words, having fun is important to human development, and

the absence of unstructured play in young people appears to be correlated with a variety of psychiatric disturbances and loss of social skills. Pellis's research also showed that playing video games on a screen, or playing organized sports did not count as “play.”

We want Mater Dei students to keep balance in their life, to know when they need to relax to manage their stress, and to recognize that fun can be just as important as other activities. In fact, ‘play’ should be a reward for all of their hard work!

CAMPUS MINISTRY: ON FIRE FOR THEIR FAITH



Every student at MDCHS will take a Theology class each year, interact with peers who are campus ministers, regularly participate in campus-wide liturgy, and have retreats with their classmates. They can also become alter servers, sing in the choir, or help with lunchtime Masses throughout the year. These opportunities to incorporate spiritual development into our students' daily routines is an irreplaceable way to keep God in their lives, which gives them a foundation for faith in their future.

"Just like our Chapel is located in the center of our campus, our faith is at the heart of what we do here," says

Chris Schnitzuis, Theology teacher and Campus Minister at Mater Dei. "So this year our goal is to get students, 'On Fire for our Faith,' an idea that was selected by senior campus ministers to be the theme for this school year."

This is a time when young people may feel overwhelmed by the things happening in our world. They are inundated by the appalling reports they see each day in the news, by comments on social media, and by many confusing contradictions between our life and our faith. For this reason there is no better time than now for us to change the dialogue from one of anxiety and fear, to one of excitement

and hope that can be sustained by understanding the teachings of Jesus. Our young men and women can be lit on fire with inspiration, and through that they can become advocates for good in the world.

"I feel like I get an opportunity to learn so much about myself as I grow in my faith," says junior, Jonas Bongulto. "Being able to do this at school is awesome because my faith is so important to me. I don't want to be just a good student, or a good athlete, but I am working on being a good person, and I can have friends here who feel the same way."



Last May, just before graduation, Mater Dei Seniors did one final service project, to collect diapers, bottles, toys, blankets, wipes, baby bags, baby clothes and other items for young mothers in need. An infant car seat and a pack-n-play were

CLASS OF 2016 HELPS YOUNG MOTHERS

also donated. With the help of their Theology teachers, Mr. Schnitzuis, Mrs. Anthony, and Ms. Ditommaso, many students also wrote heartfelt personal messages to encourage young mothers as they faced difficult times.

Collected items were donated to several non-profit organizations in San Diego County including Father Joe's Village, and alternative school programs that support young mothers as they get their high school diploma. The goal in this was for seniors to really connect with their service

to others by helping young people their age, who were facing very different futures.

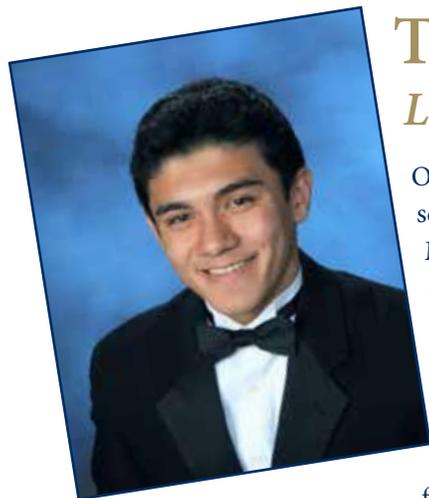
Pope Francis has encouraged young people to, "Go, do not be afraid, and serve," however, this idea of service is not to feel pity for others, but, rather, to connect with others on a human level. The greatest part of the final service project our seniors did last year, was that most of them had already fulfilled their school required service hours and instead gave to this project out of a pure desire to meet the needs of others!



Congratulations Class of 2016



CLASS OF 2016: A HIGHLIGHT OF THEIR VARIED PATHS ON THE ROAD TO SUCCESS



TRISTAN WESSON

Looking Forward to a Future as a Surgeon

Our valedictorian Tristan Wesson has started his freshman year at UCLA. Tristan was selected for the Gates Millennium Scholar program funded by a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Tristan's participation as a Gates Millennium Scholar will offer him a renewable award for maintaining satisfactory academic progress from his bachelor's to doctoral degree. In addition, he will have access to support and guidance from the program mentors.

Tristan interned under surgeon Dr. Steven Cohen, who does cosmetic and reconstructive procedures in San Diego, including work at Rady's Children's Hospital for children with congenital defects, and with reconstructive surgery for patients who have had cancerous tumors removed. Tristan was able to watch a surgery live and to work in Dr. Cohen's office to see the day-to-day activities of his mentor. Tristan's goal is to help change people's lives through his work as a surgeon.

GABRIELA QUEVEDO

Independent Research Pays Off

Gabriela Quevedo received a full-ride scholarship to San Diego State University, which will cover her tuition, books, room and board, supplies, and some living expenses. At University of San Diego, Gabby Sequenced fish DNA from egg samples, documenting biodiversity in San Diego's coastal waters. She interned under Dr. Nathalie Reynes, studying the dispersal of marine organisms off the coast of La Jolla.



MARY MACHNIAK

First MD Female Accepted to U.S. Naval Academy

2016 marks the 40th year of women being accepted to the U.S. Naval Academy, and Mary Machniak, is first female from Mater Dei Catholic to be accepted to the Academy. Mary focused on ocean science during her time in MDCHS's Science Academy, and interned with SSC Pacific, a program under the U.S. Navy.

With more than 4,300 women applying this year from all over the United States, and an overall acceptance rate of only 7%, it is a huge honor and recognition of Mary's talent that she is a member of the Naval Academy's class of 2020. All students who attend the Naval Academy do so on a full scholarship in return for 5 years of active duty service upon graduation. The Navy pays 100% of tuition, room and board, medical and dental care costs of Naval Academy students.



MARIA GALVEZ

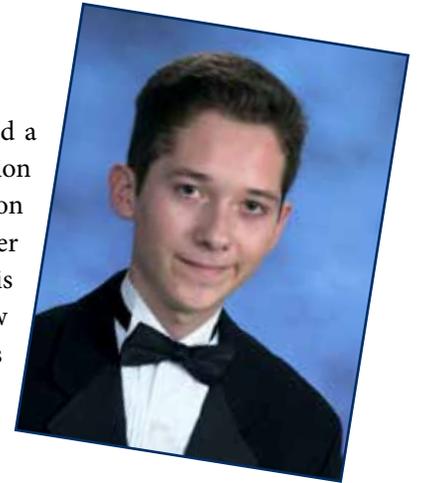
Hands-on Researcher to Study Chemical Engineering

With a full-ride scholarship to University of California, San Diego, Maria Galvez will be starting her freshman year as a chemical engineering major, and will be working with the UC San Diego Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences doing advanced chemistry research. Maria did her Science Academy internship studying organic chemistry, boronated compounds used for pharmaceutical purposes under Dr. Timothy Clark at University of San Diego.

CARLOS ALCOECER

Studying Chemistry at University of Pennsylvania

Carlos Alcocer is attending the UPenn this year. An exceptional student, Alcocer received a perfect score on an AP exam during his sophomore year, one of just 285 students out of 4 million to get a perfect score on any AP exam, and just one out of 91 students to get a perfect score on the Spanish Language and Culture exam. As a junior, he was also a part of the Christopher Daley Research Group, usually comprised of undergraduate college student researchers. This research group at USD has two distinct focuses – enzyme active-site modeling and new catalyst development. In the Summer of 2015, Alcocer joined the group for research, and his research helped him to get admitted as a chemistry major and receive scholarships.



JESSICA MANGROBANG

Golfing at Gonzaga

Jessica Mangrobang is attending Gonzaga University, a private Roman Catholic university in Spokane, Washington. Mangrobang committed to play golf at Gonzaga after visiting the school and realizing it was a perfect fit for her in both academics and athletics. The small six-member golf team will allow the former Lady Crusader golf team captain to play every match in college, and she likes the idea of continuing her education at a private Catholic university. A member of the Academy of Science, she supervised the engineering and construction of the Earth Bench. Mangrobang is both a good athlete and an outstanding student. Gonzaga offered her a full scholarship that she will use to graduate with an engineering degree, as well as advance in golf. She plans to play professionally in the future, and to later have a second career as an engineer.

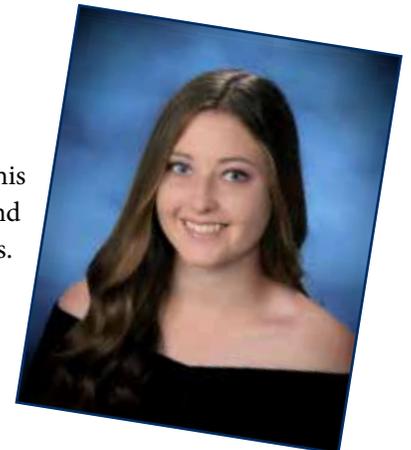


KELLIE WHITE

Softball Powerhouse Becomes an Aggie

After considering multiple offers, Kellie White is excited to play for the Utah State Aggies this fall, thanks to being awarded a scholarship for softball. White is an outstanding pitcher and all around athlete, also having played softball at the club level with the California Cruisers. Outside of softball, White was also a two-year starter on the Mater Dei soccer team.

With laser focus and command of her pitches, White's performances played a big role in the CIF and league wins Mater Dei had during her four years on the Lady Crusaders softball team. We look expect to continue to hear great things from this phenomenal athlete!





AVIATION CAMP

by Brandon Moore,

Over the summer, about twenty Mater Dei students, myself included, had the opportunity to participate in a week-long aviation camp, known as the Aviation Career Education (ACE) Academy, through a partnership between the Mater Dei Science Academy and the Organization of Black Aerospace Professionals (OBAP). Throughout the week, representatives from OBAP took us around the county to showcase different career possibilities in the field of aviation. We toured the San Diego Police Department's ABLE Base at Montgomery Field; visited the Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Miramar, where we hopped on a helicopter and saw the cockpit of a fighter jet. At the San Diego International Airport, we were taken on a special tour of the tarmac where we got an inside look at the operations in the Air Traffic Control tower. We visited Sector San Diego of the US Coast Guard, where we were able to board the USCG helicopters and even their boats, as well as get a better feel for the Coast Guard itself. A US Navy pilot came to Mater Dei





AT MATER DEI

Academy of Science

and shared his experiences in that branch of service. Finally, we toured the FAA's Southern California TRACON Center, which handles all commercial departures and arrivals for the San Diego and Los Angeles area. The TRACON tour was led by two of the OBAP leaders, who happened to work there. This all culminated, on the last day of the camp, in a flight experience at Brown Field, which parallels the US-Mexico border in the Otay Mesa area. We were taken up for a fifteen-minute ride in a two or four seat propeller plane with a volunteer pilot from the Experimental Aircraft Association. Some students even got to ride in the copilot's seat and take the controls as we were treated to views of the San Diego skyline, serving as a pleasant finish to a rewarding week. Overall, it was an informative experience—as senior Arianna Inferrera notes, “visiting MCAS Miramar and the Coast Guard base and listening to what the officers had to say has really opened my eyes to the possibility of having a career in the Armed Forces”—but, most of all, it was fun!





39th Annual Golf Tournament



Time and the Conways



The Mater Dei Spring Theater Production of *Time and the Conways*, was the touching story of a family whose hopes of youth are unfulfilled as they grow into adulthood. The show took the audience on a journey through time, starting in 1919, and jumped nineteen years into the future of the characters' lives.

Kay Conway, played by Daisy Powell, was a central character in the drama because the main scenes take place on Kay's twenty-first and fortieth birthdays. Powell's nearly flawless performance as Kay was engaging and real as she drew the audience into each scene with her delivery as both a young adult, with hopes of being a novelist, and of a forty-year-old woman, who found some success as a journalist, yet did not become the novelist she'd hoped to.

Madeline Friedrich also offered a convincing portrayal in her role as Madge Conway, whose lighthearted idealism of youth made a complete change into a future as a critical, unmarried middle-aged woman. Giovanna Ferraro Miranda gave a short, yet bubbly performance as the well-loved Carol Conway, who died by drowning some years after the first scene—and whose death lingers over the family's future.

Martina Lopez transformed into Mrs. Conway in a truthful portrayal of a youthful, yet well-to-do widow and mother of the Conway children, in the first and third scenes. Her shift into a critical, and hardened woman in the second act was even more authentic, and one got the sense Lopez relished in the opportunity to play such a thorny character. The disappointment Mrs. Conway had for her adult children was blatant, as was the preference she had for her son, Robin, played by Glenn Quiroga—over whom she dotes in each scene. Quiroga's,

performance as the failed businessman, and undependable Robin was also interestingly developed and entertaining.

Robin's wife, Joan—portrayed by Allison Malunes—is despised by his mother. Unbeknownst to her, Robin's brother, Alan, played by Luis Quiambao, admired her from afar in their youth. His missed opportunity to let her know how he felt allowed Joan to end up in a contemptible marriage to Robin. Malunes's performance as Joan shined in the scenes of youth, where the innocence of her character emerged as genuine.

Hazel Conway, noted for her beauty and enthusiasm in Scene One, was played by Alexandra Rodarte. Hazel's character was courted by many eligible men when she was young, including Gerald Thornton, to whom Madge is attracted. Ian Lutz, performed Thornton's character, a kind young man, who later becomes a successful lawyer for the Conway family.

In one of the most surprising scenes in the second act, we found that, rather than Thornton, Hazel has married Ernest Beevers; acted by Eddie Sebring. Ernest, who was poor and humble in the beginning of the play, became obviously prosperous in the second act. Some of the most well-done acting in the play was done by Sebring and Rodarte, whose portrayal showed Beevers as a now wealthy, yet cruel husband who controls the once gregarious Hazel—who is visibly afraid of him in their married years.

Directed by Rebecca Brown, the production was commendable for the maturity and realism the cast portrayed. The stage crew created an

accurate set that represented the era, which added depth to the show. Overall, the show was one of the finest performed in the Dr. Kassebaum Theater. Our hats off to the cast!

Cast:

Mrs. Conway..... *Martina Lopez*
Kay Conway *Daisy Powell*
Madge Conway.....*Madeline Friedrich*
Carol Conway.....*Giovanna Ferraro Miranda*
Joan Conway..... *Allison Malunes*
Hazel Conway.....*Alexandra Rodarte*
Alan Conway.....*Luis Quiambao*
Robin Conway..... *Glenn Quiroga*
Ernest Beevers*Eddie Sebring*
Gerald Thornton *Ian Lutz*
Host *Nicholas Caruana*
Piano *Kyle Myers, Hanna Taglinao*

Extras:

Erika Curiel, Erika Tapia, Sarah Pearson, Isabella Delgado, and Sophia Jordan

FALL DRAMA PRODUCTION: OUR LADY OF KIBEJO

Based on true events in 1981 that captured the world's attention, this play tells the story of three girls in Rwanda who say they were visited by the Virgin Mary, who gave them a message to share with the world that foretells coming wars and disasters.

Thursday, October 20, 2016 - 7:00pm
 Saturday, October 22, 2016 | 7:00pm



ATHLETICS 2015-16





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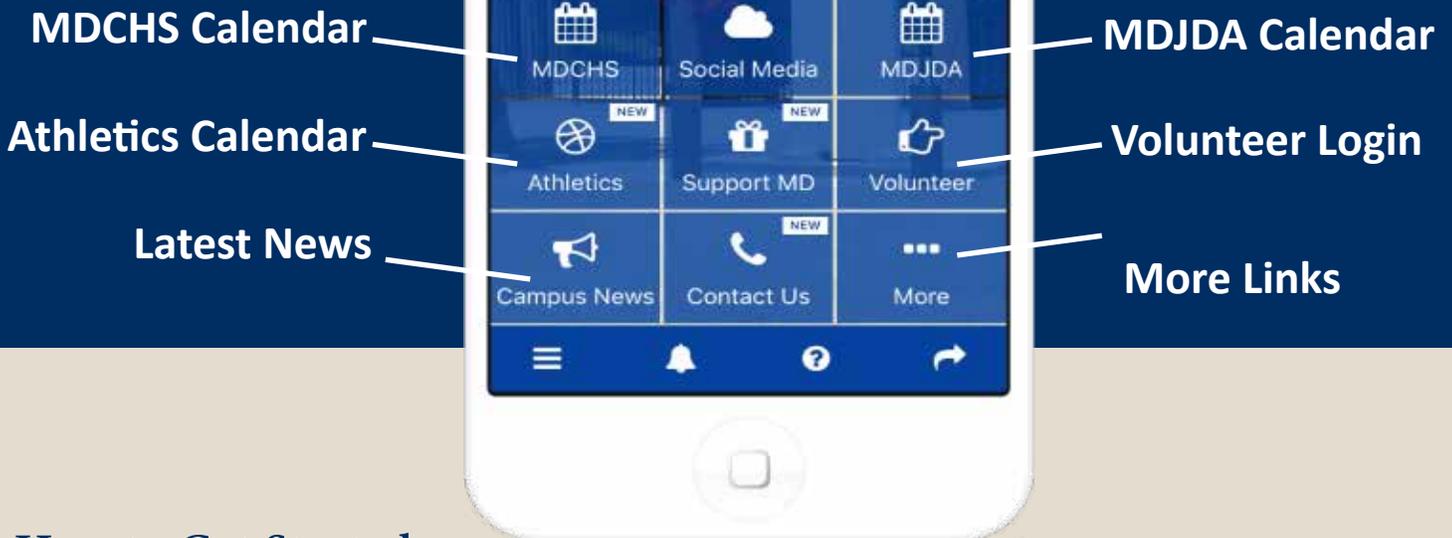
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"Mater Dei Catholic"



How to Get Started

1. Download the "Mater Dei Chula Vista" app from your phone's "App Store".
2. Click OPEN. Screen will say **"Mater Dei would like to send you Notifications"** Please make sure to click OK.
3. Screen will show items squares with options. If you swipe right, you see the list of options in menu form.
4. When you click on some items, you have the option to set Calendar Settings. Select the Check mark to be able to view a calendar list of upcoming events for that area. If you wish to get reminder notifications, click on the bell icon.
5. The bell icon at the bottom will show you recent and past notifications you have received
6. Communicate with the school by using "Contact Us".
7. All volunteer sign ups can done by using "Volunteers" and signing in at the Parent Volunteer Portal.
8. "Social Media" and "Campus News" will keep your informed on things happening at the school, and recognize great things happening with students and faculty.
9. Above are only a few highlights, explore the app fully to become familiar with all it offers.

SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

CJ VERDELL: FAITH, FAMILY, FOOTBALL

Senior, and football stand-out, C.J. Verdell, will be training next year at the University of Oregon's new Marcus Mariota Sports Performance Center, an amazing sports training center financed by Nike co-founder Phil Knight. After visiting the school and watching the Oregon Ducks play in the spring game of last year, the Mater Dei running back made a verbal commitment to play football for the college next fall.

Standing only 5-foot-9, the 195-pound Verdell is one of the most interesting players Mater Dei has ever had on the field. However, his determination, his faith in God, and his love of family keep him grounded and focused.

"After acknowledging God and talking with my family, I've decided to commit to the University of Oregon," he said in a statement about his college decision. "I would like to thank God for blessing me to be in this position and all of the



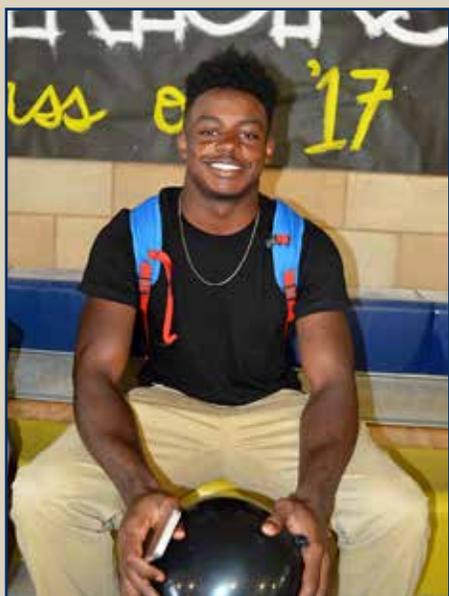
colleges/coaches that thought enough of me to offer me. To my future coaches, I'm ready to work. #WTD."

#WTD is in reference to the term "Win The Day," a term used by Oregon Duck Fans and Players that was coined by Chip Kelly, current head coach of the San Francisco 49ers and former head coach

for the University of Oregon Ducks from 2009 -2012.

Verdell had offers from universities all over the country. A major force in helping the Crusader Varsity Football team win a State Championship when he was a junior, he ran for 2,135 yards for 28 touchdowns, and an additional 278 yards and five scores receiving. With a focus on sports science, and a record of producing NFL talent, the football program at the University of Oregon is a good fit for Verdell. The new complex where he'll be training has areas for recovery, physiology and movement, all backed by the most up-to-date technology available.

The opportunity to receive a full scholarship to an outstanding university is a huge benefit for our athletes and, in Verdell's case, it is well-earned. The future is bright for this soon-to-be college student!



KYLE MOSES: ONCE A CRUSADER, ALWAYS A CRUSADER

Senior Kyle Moses has verbally committed to play football for Holy Cross, a private Roman Catholic college in Worcester, Massachusetts. Though their team name, "Crusaders" will be a familiar one for Moses, nothing else about his move to go to college in the northeast will be the same for the 5-foot-11, 180-pound cornerback.

With multiple colleges showing interest in Moses, the key for him was finding a school that was serious about academics as well as athletics, and one that had a family environment for its team. At the small 2900 person college, Moses won't get lost in the crowd, and can fulfill his dual goals of being a force both on the field and in the classroom.

ACADEMIC HONORS

First Honors - Grade Point Average of 3.8 and above

SENIORS

Carlos Alcocer
Anamaria Ancheta
Elia Astiazaran
Angel Beltran
Danielle Jessica Bongulto
Steven Bradley
Jordan Brasfield
Joseph Chiappe
Valeria Corral

Diana De La Toba
Alejandra Felix Campos
Madeline Friedrich
Maria Galvez
Olivia Guevara
Azael Lopez-Chairez
Lauren Maalouf
Mary Machniak
Jessica Mangrobang

Ana Paola Mata Zetina
Matthew Sam Mejia
Maxwell Montes
Mario Pena
Rica Isabelle Perez
Gabriela Quevedo
Fernanda Rebolgar
Jarrod Rieta
Eric Rodriguez

Nineth Rotsen Salazar
Kayla San Pedro
Karina Sarabia
Stephanie Schaffer
Marina Taitano
Manuel Velazquez de Leon
Olimpia Veytia
Ana Vildosola
Tristan Wesson
Qineng (Tim) Zeng

JUNIORS

Leonardo Aguilar-Lopez
Ana Alcantar
Micah Apatan
Ana Astiazaran
Mary Bailey
Hazel Barajas
Kristal Calilung
Ezekiel Campos
Luis Cerna-Gomez
Eduardo Charvel
David Cooper
Sergio Cuadra
Tayra Curumilla

Alexis Diaz-Garibaldi
Myles Domingo
Ruben Duran
Jorge Escasan
Cassandra Esparza-Villarreal
Ana Patricia Felix-Ibarra
Quentin Frazier
Paola Garcia-Carrera
Javier Gomez
Alberto Gomez-Flores
Miguel Guerrero-Medrano
Austin Habib
Sicheng (Elroy) He

Amorette Hernandez
Chelsie Hernandez
Zongyu (Eddie) Huang
Teresa Huynh
Roberto Jimenez
Brandon Keyes
Jenna Kruse
Ileana Lemos
Kevin Li Zhang
Yixuan (Christy) Liu
Fernanda Lutteroth
Roy Emmanuel Medina
Emily Miller

Kyle Moses
Anthony Nguyen
Malia Noble
Aaron Olmos
Sofia Papadakis
Paulina Rodriguez-Gonzalez
Andres Romero
Elijah Shelton
Steven Shoemaker
Madelyn Tassiello
Sergio Villafranco
Juan Pablo Villegas
Peyton Zizzi
Maryann Zora

SOPHOMORES

Olivia Adams
Elena Arnold
Johanna Blanco
Jonas Philip Bongulto
Aurora Cardenas
Nicholas Dell'Acqua
Amanda Esquivel-Chacon
Roman Flores
Dimitri Gianousopoulos
Carson Gorney

Kenna Gutierrez
Edward Hagerty
Pablo Hernandez
Aislin Hilgeman
Natalia Jimenez
Vanessa Leon
Cynthia Leon
Liana Malunes
Zoe Manalo
Enrique Marcilla

Emily Miranda
Brandon Moore
Rosalind Moore
Joshua Narezo
Eduardo Navarro Gomez
Oscar Prado
Johana Rachlin
Enrique Ramirez
Diego Rodriguez
Samantha Ruiz

Alessandra Salas
Manuella Sobol
Jorge Tagle
Hanna Taglinao
Elena Valdes
Jordan Wesson
Madison (O'Hara) Wickham
Luoyu (Roy) Yang

FRESHMEN

Jasmine Riannah Adamos
Fernando Alcocer
Karlos Bautista
Tristan Brown
Adrian Carretero
Madeline Castillo
Natalie Chavarria
Enrique Corona
Ryan Cu

Edward De Leon
Enrique Esparza-Villarreal
John Estrada
Ryan Gapski
Jonathan Gaytan
Cesar Gomez
Jonathan Gomez
Sophia Jordan
Sophia Jorge

Edria Kabling
Spencer Kacijancic
Maria Kovaleski
Andrew Landin
Alfred Lopez
Kira Lukasik
Isabella Molina
Mikee Nacpil
Ashlin Olson

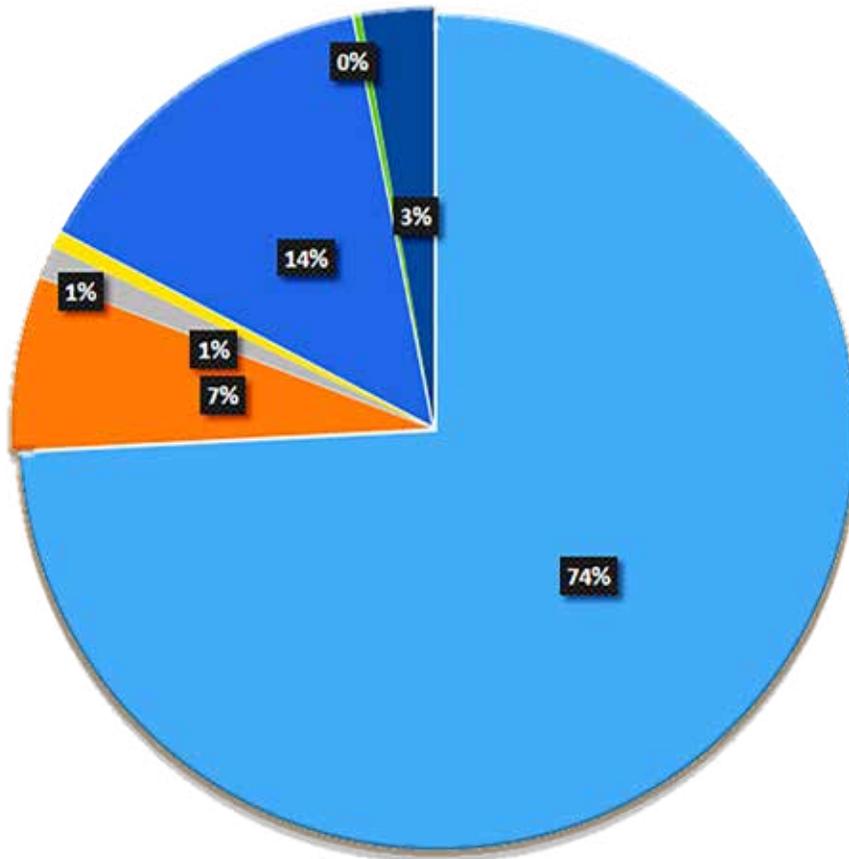
John Rodinec
Isabel Roji
Nicholas Salisbury
Jackson Salvestrini
Paul Samson
Phoebe San Pedro
Arleth Santana
Christian Silva
Mariana Solares Bolaños
Kathryn Zwick

GRANDPARENTS DAY - MAY CROWNING



ANNUAL REPORT 2015-16

REVENUE

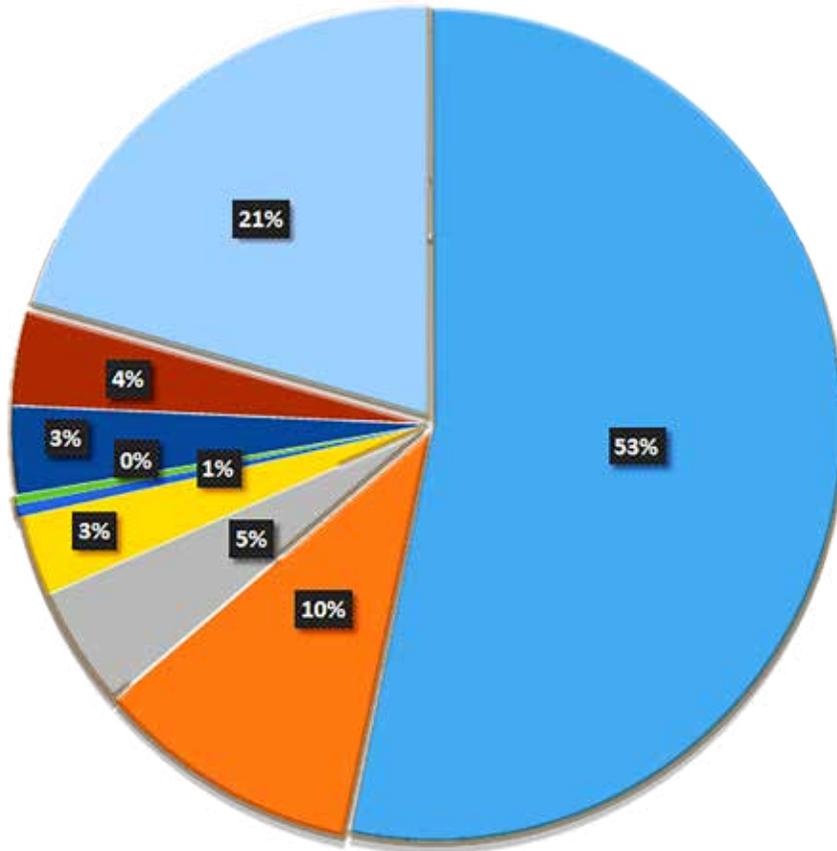


REVENUES	TOTAL	HIGH SCHOOL	ELEMENTARY
TUITION	8,792,081	8,179,854	612,227
OTHER FEES	725,489	654,818	70,671
AUXILIARY SERVICES	125,987	119,622	6,364
ATHLETICS	89,559	89,559	(0)
DEVELOPMENT & FUNDRAISING	1,668,559	1,254,947	413,612
INVESTMENTS	50,288	50,288	0
FACILITIES LEASING	448,194	448,194	-
TOTAL REVENUE	11,900,156	10,797,282	1,102,874

THE PER STUDENT GAP (@ 695 HIGH SCHOOL AND 112 ELEMENTARY)	2,155.10	634.91
THE GAP BETWEEN TUITION & FEES INCOME AND TOTAL EXPENSES	1,497,792	441,260
EXPENSES COVERED BY TUITION & FEES	85.50%	60.75%

ANNUAL REPORT 2015-16

EXPENSES



EXPENSES	TOTAL	HIGH SCHOOL	ELEMENTARY
SALARIES & BENEFITS	6,111,394	5,424,817	686,577
ADMIN/STUDENT/PTG/RECRUITING/MISC.	1,189,040	968,198	220,842
EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS & RESOURCES	533,737	528,515	5,222
ATHLETICS	357,208	357,208	-
AUXILIARY SERVICES	53,620	53,620	-
DEVELOPMENT	39,545	39,545	-
SAN JUAN DIEGO ADULT SCHOOL & MD LANGUAGE ACADEMY	389,455	389,455	-
ACADEMY OF SCIENCE	421,853	421,853	-
PLANT OPERATIONS/MAINTENANCE/OVERHEAD ALLOCATION	2,360,769	2,149,253	211,516
DEBT SERVICE	-	-	-
TOTAL EXPENSE	11,456,621	10,332,464	1,124,157

STUDENTS APPROVED FOR TUITION ASSISTANCE	336
TOTAL TUITION ASSISTANCE GRANTED	\$1,735,830
AVERAGE PER STUDENT AWARD	\$5,166

SCHOLARSHIPS RECIPIENTS	77
MATER DEI SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED	\$633,000
AVERAGE SCHOLARSHIP	\$8,221

ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS

PAOLA ODRIOZOLA: YALE UNIVERSITY DOCTORAL STUDENT



Paola Odriozola, class of 2010, and one of the first MDCHS Science Academy graduates, was accepted into the PhD program at Yale University, and is currently a first-year doctoral student in the Neuroscience track in Psychology. After Mater Dei, Paola attended UC Berkeley on a full academic scholarship and earned her Bachelor's degree in Psychology. She then worked as a research assistant at Stanford for 2 years investigating the neural basis of speech perception and social processing impairments in children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), and again as a research associate at the University of Miami in Dr. Lucina Uddin's Brain Connectivity and Cognition Lab.

Paola is currently studying how the brain supports the development of emotional behavior and cognition during the transition from childhood to adolescence, and the effects of stress on brain maturation.



NICO SIRAGUSA ON THE OUTLAND TROPHY WATCH LIST



Mater Dei Class of 2012 graduate, Nico Siragusa, is on the Outland Trophy Watch List, which honors the outstanding interior lineman. Nico is only the second San Diego State player in the school's history to ever make the Outland Trophy list! On Nov. 19 semifinalists will be announced, and on Nov. 24th they select the finalists. As a student at Mater Dei, Nico played basketball under coaches Dominic Cruz and Kenny Caesar. He started his football career with Coach John Joyner during his junior year, where with his strong 6'6" frame he started on the varsity team.

"Nico didn't go out for the team when he started at MDCHS because his mother was initially against him playing football. His father thought he showed talent, however, so during his junior year he tried out, and ended up playing varsity ball," says Coach Joyner. "Now that he's gone on to prove himself as one of the best!"



JOSE MARTINEZ REBOLLAR: 2016 OLYMPIC ATHLETE



Jose Martinez Rebollar, Class of 2011, is honored to be an athlete in the 2016 Olympic Games in Brazil as part of Mexico's Men's National Volleyball Team. Jose was born in Tijuana, and was an amazing athlete while he attended MDCHS. He was a four-year varsity starter in volleyball, a team member for the All-Metro League team, a varsity water polo under coaches Guy Souza and Kevin Smith, and a Crusader Varsity basketball player under coaches Dominic Cruz and Kenny Caesar.





MDCHS 2016-17 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUGUST

- 18 Back to School Night 6:00 pm
- 22 Fall Sports Parent Meeting 6:00 pm
- 26 Blast Off Dinner 5:00 pm

SEPTEMBER

- 15 *12th Grade Counselor Parent Night 5:30 pm
- 22 8th Grade Visitation #1 9:00 am
- 29 Parent-Teacher Conferences

OCTOBER

- 11 8th Grade Visitation #2 9:00 am
- 12 Ambassador for Christ Corps Induction 6:30 pm
- 13 Crusader Sports Hall of Fame Induction 6:30 pm
- 14 Alumni Homecoming Reunion 9:00 pm
- 15 Homecoming Dance 8:00 pm
- 18 *All Parent Meeting:
"Town Hall" with President & Principal 6:30 pm
- 20-22 Fall Drama Production 7:00 pm
- 22 Open House 10:00 am
- 27 Science Academy STEAM Night 6:00 pm

NOVEMBER

- 3 8th Grade Visitation #3 9:00 am
- 4 Dedication of football stadium = "Egger Stadium"
- 9 Verbum Dei Award Ceremony/Lunch 12:00 pm
- 10 Walkathon 8:00 am
- 20 Annual Golf Tournament 9:30 am
- 21 Winter Sports Parent Meeting 6:00 pm
- 22 Pastors Thanksgiving Mass 11:15 am

JANUARY

- 5 *Senior College Financial Aid Night 5:30 pm
- 21 HSPT Test 7:45 am - 11:15 am
- 27 Cultural Fest and Talent Show 1:30 pm

FEBRUARY

- 23 Parent-Teacher Conferences 4:00 pm
- 25 Memorial Brick Mass 5:00 pm
- 27 Spring Sports Parent Meeting 6:00 pm

MARCH

- 9 Distinguished Crusader Award 6:30 pm
- 30 National Honor Society Ceremony 6:00 pm
- 31 Spring Drama Production 7:00 pm

APRIL

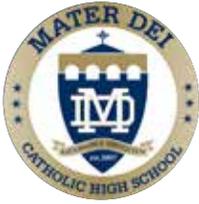
- 1 Spring Drama Production 7:00 pm
- 28 Senior Presentations 7:30 am
- 29 Prom 8:00 pm

MAY

- 3 Grandparents Day/May Crowning 10:50 am
- 11 Crusader Award Ceremony 6:00 pm
- 25 Baccalaureate Mass at USD 5:00 pm
- 26 Graduation at the Egger Stadium 10:00 am

*Spanish Interpreter Available

NOTE: The Memorial Brick Mass has been moved to Saturday, February 25, 2017. All gifts of \$400 or more from July 1, 2015 to December 31, 2016 are eligible for a memorial brick. For more information, please contact: Alejandra Saavedra at asaavedra@mdchs.net or 619-423-2121 x 116.



Mater Dei Catholic High School
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Chula Vista, CA 91913
Phone 619.423.2121
www.materdeicatholic.org

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ADMISSION DATES 2016-2017

8TH GRADE VISITATION DAY 1

Thursday, September 22, 2016
9:00 am - 12:00 am
Prospective 8th Grade Students
Begins and ends in the Lima Center
Lunch Included

8TH GRADE VISITATION DAY 2

Tuesday, October 11, 2016
9:00 am - 12:00 am
Prospective 8th Grade Students
Begins and ends in the Lima Center
Lunch Included

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, October 22, 2016
10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Prospective 8th Grade Students & Parents
Begins and ends in the Lima Center

8TH GRADE VISITATION DAY 3

Thursday, November 3, 2016
9:00 am - 12:00 am
Prospective 8th Grade Students
Begins and ends in the Lima Center
Lunch Included

HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT TEST

Saturday, January 21, 2017
7:45 am - 11:45 am
Prospective 8th Grade Students

For information or to schedule a school tour, call Mr. Roy Vasquez, Director of Admissions
at (619) 423-2121 x106 or email: rvasquez@materdeicatholic.org