

SUMMER 2017

# NEWS

A PUBLICATION FOR THE SAINT MARTIN COMMUNITY



**SAINT MARTIN  
DE PORRES**

CLEVELAND'S CRISTO REY HIGH SCHOOL

— EST. 2003 —



## INSIDE

**Celebrating our 10th  
Graduating Class**

**PAGE 7**

- 4** Alumni Spotlight: Monica Johnson
- 8** Winter and Spring Sports Recap
- 10** Student Spotlight: ShaiYana and Shane Cummings

- 12** Academic Signing Day
- 14** Company Profile: ABB
- 18** Alumni News



# SAINT MARTIN DE PORRES

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## MISSION

Inspired by the Gospel, Saint Martin de Porres High School is a Catholic college-preparatory high school that combines innovative academics with a unique work program preparing students of limited economic means to become men and women of faith, purpose and service.

## VISION

Saint Martin de Porres High School prepares students for post-secondary success in education and work through a mutually transformative learning experience sustained by 21st century skills (communication, collaboration, creativity and critical thinking), good work habits and a commitment to justice and peace.

# Message from the President



*Richard F. Clark*

*“Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do.” (Acts 9:6)*

Since beginning my role as the founding President of Saint Martin fourteen years ago, this scripture passage has influenced how I see our role in the community, and has helped me to reflect on our approach to the very challenging work of revolutionizing urban education in Cleveland. Having spent decades as a teacher and administrator in Jesuit high schools prior to founding Saint Martin, I will admit that it took me some time to realize that listening to people with a sense of genuine humility was somewhat outside of my comfort zone. I thought I knew how to run a school and what our students would need in order to be successful. Moreover, I thought I knew exactly what success looked like, having watched so many of my former students take a path similar to my own.

Throughout this newsletter, you will see the evidence of what my colleagues and I have learned through our work at Saint Martin over this past year and over the last thirteen years. You will read about Jaide, the first Saint Martin student admitted to an Ivy League School, and about Monica, whose lasting relationship with Saint Martin and one of our board members is still creating opportunities for her, nine years after her high school graduation. You will read about Desi, a 2016 graduate who discovered “what he wants to be when he grows up” through his Corporate Work Study job, not just in one of our classrooms.

At Saint Martin we prepare our students for and expose them to real world learning and working experiences through our Corporate Work Study Program and through our growing commitment to project-based learning, but we have learned that our students need not conform to one style of learning nor one strict definition of success. We meet our students where they are, honor their experiences and WE work to be adept enough to draw out their passion, creativity and sense of mission.

Learning to listen and discern “what we must do” has challenged and deepened my own faith, and I believe it has had a similar effect on many of our board members, as well as past and present members of our faculty and staff. It takes humility and courage to give up trying to transmit our own experiences to our students, and instead work to help them make sense of their own experiences. I am so proud of the work that we’ve done to grow in this area during the 2016-17 school year and of the exciting initiatives that are on the horizon for next year. Please keep our students, graduates, faculty, staff and administrators in your prayers over the summer.

Peace,

Rich Clark  
Founding President

## ON THE COVER

Lauren Coleman, LaShawn Farmer, Sterling Bennett, and Calvin Evans Jr. proudly pose with their diplomas on graduation day.

*Photo credit:  
Saiida Bowie-Little '15*



# Message from the Principal



Gary Sardon, Jr.

Thank you for your support, engagement and enthusiasm during our 2016-17 school year. I am so proud of the accomplishments of our teachers, staff and students. My team and I look forward to spending our summer reflecting on this past year and preparing for this upcoming school year which will include many exciting developments including a mid-year move into our

new school building. One major development I am excited to share with you at this time is the addition of two new positions in our community.

Earlier this year, during my presentation at a Board of Trustees meeting, I shared that one of our greatest academic needs is related to our students' growth in mathematics. While our students have demonstrated some growth in math, our standardized test scores have lagged behind other subjects. While we do not rely on standardized test scores to predict how well our students will perform in college, higher scores can have the following benefits:

Students...

- are eligible for more scholarship opportunities.
- are less likely to place into college remedial math courses, which add to the cost of attendance and potentially delay their graduation.
- develop an increase in skills and confidence needed in order to enter STEM fields.

With these goals in mind, we have hired a Math Curriculum Specialist who will work with our math teachers to develop and implement a Community-Based Mathematics program based on the following principles:

- Mathematics work should be authentic - every problem should have context and meaning.
- Students should interact and collaborate with their communities to identify and address issues where mathematics can be valuable.
- Students must develop their own math skills, including mathematical communication, in order to give their best work to their communities.

This aligns with our schoolwide pedagogical approach and offers our math teachers a world-class resource to enhance nearly every aspect of their work. Skill mastery is key, but will be developed as students observe how mathematics and numeracy are relevant to their communities, their Corporate Work Study jobs, and to their personal lives.

*We have hired a Math Curriculum Specialist who will work with our math teachers to develop and implement a Community-Based Mathematics program*

The need for our second new position has been revealed to us over the past two years as our Academic Resource Center (ARC), which serves approximately 15-20% of our student body, has really taken off. The ARC provides 1:1 or small group support to our most academically vulnerable students, offering content-specific help as well as coaching in areas like self-advocacy, time management and organization. Many students attending the ARC see positive academic outcomes within a semester. However, while the transition to high school can be difficult for many students, a number of external factors makes the transition particularly challenging for some.

*Our new Academic Counselor will work with a caseload of 15-20 students who are at greatest risk of withdrawal*

Our new Academic Counselor will work with a caseload of 15-20 students who are at greatest risk of withdrawal because of a combination of factors—not just academic challenges, and whose needs cannot be met exclusively by ARC programming. This person will act as a liaison between Counseling, the Office of Student Success, and the ARC, ensuring integration between personalized interventions both during and outside of the regular school day. This position is being funded through a grant that was provided to the Cristo Rey Network by the Howley Foundation.

We are proud to offer our students the resources they need in order to be successful, and we are keenly aware that no matter how much these resources are needed or how positive the outcomes will be, we couldn't make these investments without a broad network of dedicated support. Thank you for being a part of the community who supports Saint Martin, our students and our mission. God Bless.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'GS' with a flourish.

Gary Sardon, Jr.  
Principal

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: MONICA JOHNSON '08

# Sankofa: GO BACK A

No matter what life brings, our doors are always open for students and alumni. In many ways this philosophy best represents a word in the Akan language of Ghana, *Sankofa*. It translates as “Go back and get it” and is often associated with the proverb, “*Se wo were fi na wosankofa a yenkyi,*” meaning, “It is not wrong to go back for that which you have forgotten.” For Monica Johnson, a 2008 Saint Martin graduate, *Sankofa* truly describes her journey to re-engage with her alma mater and chart a new course for herself.

By her own account, Monica’s life was in a bit of turmoil in the years leading up to Spring 2016, and being in her mid 20’s, she thought it was time to stabilize. After graduating from Saint Martin in 2008, Monica enrolled at Baldwin-Wallace and took advantage of the SPROUT program, which supports the academic and personal success of students who are single parents. But because of her life circumstances, Monica admitted college was more difficult than she had expected and it put her in a difficult financial situation. She left school and found work at a packaging factory not far from Saint Martin. Unfortunately, Monica started witnessing layoffs and saw “the writing on the wall”. She decided to leave her position at the factory before she was laid off and move in with a friend to make ends meet. As the years went by, things seemed pretty grim. Monica said she couldn’t figure out what to do with her life and finally decided to reach out to her Saint Martin family for help. She said, “Saint Martin was like a family to

me and made me realize how blessed I was to attend. I knew I could ask for help.” However, from the perspective of Saint Martin faculty and staff, Monica wasn’t “asking for help.” She was re-engaging with us and pushing us to make good on the commitment we make to all of our students when they

graduates along the way to ensure that they realize their full potential.

So, despite the downsizing in the workforce at her factory job, Monica still wanted to work in the manufacturing field. Without delay, she combined forces with both Dr. Chris

***“Saint Martin was like a family to me and made me realize how blessed I was to attend. I knew I could ask for help.”***

first join our community: to help form them into women and men of faith, purpose and service. For some of our young people, a “purpose” is self-evident, or emerges through a smooth path from high school to college and then to career. For others, purpose emerges more slowly and bringing it to life happens along a more difficult path or a slower timeline. It is our honor and mission to accompany our students and

Tudico, Director of College Counseling and Post Secondary Success, and her mentor, Anthony Rego, a member of the Saint Martin Board of Trustees and Vice Chairman of Giant Eagle, to iron out the details of her future. Dr. Tudico was aware of a new opportunity known as the Right Skills Now CNC Operations program which evolved from a collaboration between MAGNET, Tri-C and local companies to meet the

# AND GET IT

**It is not wrong  
to go back  
for that which  
you have  
forgotten**

has successfully completed both the training and the internship components. “I truly enjoy my work and love the challenge.” Monica said she wishes the program would have been available to her immediately after graduation from Saint Martin as an alternative to college. Had it been established back then, Monica would have nearly 10 years of experience in the field by now. But she is incredibly grateful it came along when it did because it has made life better for her and her young son. Monica notes that she will never forget

to want to see you develop, to see your potential. This is one of his many gifts. I can’t ever thank him enough.” Anthony shares the same sentiment toward Monica as well. “Monica took an arduous route to where she is today and never gave up. She always wanted to do better for herself and her son. I admire her stick-to-itiveness and her ability to assimilate wherever she goes. I love her!” At Saint Martin, we are proud to facilitate relationships like the one that developed between Anthony and Monica and we are grateful that

demand for skilled CNC operators in Cleveland. The program combines 180 hours of training with 320 hours of paid internship to prepare individuals for a career in the manufacturing industry. Students who score 70% or better and maintain perfect attendance during training are offered an 8-week paid internship at a local company. Upon successful completion of the internship, the intern is offered a full-time position. Mr. Rego and Dr. Tudico suggested Monica give the program a try. It seemed like the answer to her prayers.

With no prior CNC experience, Monica jumped right into the training and tried to absorb everything she could about machining. “The training goes very fast if you apply yourself and before you know it, you are starting your internship. The instructors are great and very patient,” Johnson said. Monica

***“My education as a whole prepared me for so much. It taught me how to appreciate a diverse work environment. They showed me the correct way to study, and reminded me I was given opportunities I would not have been given anywhere else.”***

the support of her Saint Martin family and friends who helped her on her path to success. “My education as a whole prepared me for so much. It taught me how to appreciate a diverse work environment. They showed me the correct way to study, and reminded me I was given opportunities I would not have been given anywhere else. And I couldn’t have done it without Mr. Rego’s support. It is so in his nature

our graduates view us as a resource well into adulthood. We hope Monica’s story will inspire other graduates to “go back and get it” and re-engage with us, whichever path they are on, so that we can find success together.

# We have a new look!

Saint Martin proudly unveiled a new logo and redesigned website this spring.

Inspired by community, excellence, and trust, the Saint Martin crest incorporates core aspects of the school.

### 5 DIAMONDS

The diamond shape signifies honesty and dependability. There is one diamond for each word of the motto: Work, Study, Serve, Lead, and Pray.

### SHIELD

The shield represents strength and protection.

### CROSS

The cross reminds us of our mission, which is inspired by the gospel, and that we are called to be a caring, Catholic community.



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### “THE COPPERTOP BUILDING”

The 1909 Kausek Brothers Building is a symbol of pride within our St. Clair-Superior community. We are preserving and incorporating it into our new building, where students in Art and Music classes will enjoy ample sunlight thanks to the first floor’s large windows. Counseling and college counseling offices will be housed in the second floor of the building.

*The Kausek Brothers Department Store opened at 6202-6204 St. Clair Avenue in 1909 and sold shoes, cloaks, suits, gowns, and more.*



Visit our new website at [SaintMartinCleveland.org](http://SaintMartinCleveland.org)!

Setting up a monthly gift is easy — just click “Donate” in the top right corner.



# GRADUATION

On Sunday, June 4, the 77 members of the Class of 2017, their families, friends, and teachers filled the Slovenian National Home on St. Clair Avenue to celebrate their accomplishments.

Our tenth graduating class collectively earned **more than \$5 million in scholarships** toward their college education and will spread to college campuses far and wide in the fall. In her commencement address, Representative Stephanie Howse encouraged the graduates to have a vision for themselves and told them, "When life gets hard, push through it anyways!"



Peris Taylor



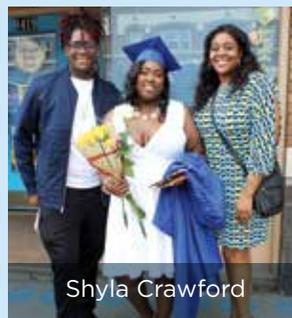
Tierra Jones-Benning



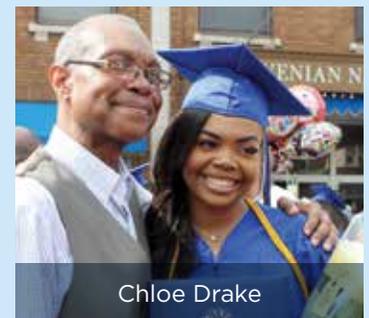
Standford Vales embraces 12th grade social studies teacher Kathleen Mearns



India Henderson and Isis Graves



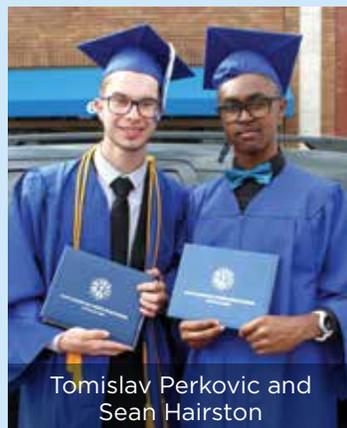
Shyla Crawford



Chloe Drake



Kaylin Bibb



Tomislav Perkovic and Sean Hairston



Kaprise Sparks

# WINTER AND SPRING SPORTS RECAP

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

The coaching staff emphasized the importance of teamwork, patience, and determination, and it paid off! The team finished above 500 with a come from behind win in their regular final season game against Perry High School, a D1 school. **Tony Hughes '17** and **Robert Gray '19** received second team honors in the Lake Effect Conference, and **Willie Coker '17** received first team honors.

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Plagued by some injuries throughout the season, our Lions did not give up! After a comeback against St. John's Ashtabula, the women's basketball team made it to the conference semi-finals, facing Andrews Osbourne Academy and lost by just 4 points in the final minute of play. **Kayla Booker '18** won second team honors in the Lake Effect Conference and **Alaysia DuPre '20** won first team honors.

### SOFTBALL

Despite the rain, this team had the most wins in school history this season! One of the most memorable wins was a victory against rival Horizon Science Academy in the bottom of the final inning. **Dymon Webb '18** received first team honors and **Crisdana Randall '18** and **Taylor Love '18** won second team honors in the Lake Effect Conference.

### BASEBALL

Spring showers didn't keep the team from improving their record from last year! They ended their season with a victory against Horizon Science Academy, thanks to a stellar offense and pitcher **Josh Ruminski '18**, who struck out 14 of 15 batters. **Matthew Holmes '18** received second team honors in the Lake Effect Conference.

### TRACK & FIELD

For the first time, our committed athletes had an indoor track to use for conditioning and training. **Michal McFall '20** placed 7th in the district finals in the 100m hurdles.



# Humans of Saint Martin

Inspired by the storytelling of Brandon Stanton's "Humans of New York," our Campus Ministry department designed a small group activity during Catholic Schools Week to echo the theme of the day: We Are Community. Students of different grade levels spent time together, sharing their stories and listening to their classmates. Here are just a few of the stories shared that day:



"When I was 10 years old I started to take art seriously. I was drawing pictures of my favorite cartoon characters. I went to a chalk festival to draw and I ended up doing so well they did a news story on me. After that I went to the Painesville Art Festival to sell my art. I sold things like portraits and t-shirts and I made around \$80-\$90. Since then I have stopped drawing but I take art classes at my school."

- Tamar Person '18

## CONGRATS, MVPs!

Volleyball:  
**Delcina Robertson '17**

Baseball:  
**Matthew Holmes '18**

Cross Country-Boys:  
**Justus Harris '17**

Softball:  
**Dymon Webb '18**

Cross Country-Girls:  
**Nautica Jefferson '17**

Track & Field-Boys:  
**Justus Harris '17**

Soccer:  
**Ivan Tello '18**

Track & Field-Girls:  
**ShaiYana Cummings '17**  
**Michal McFall '20**

Boys Basketball-Most Valuable Teammates:  
**Tony Hughes Jr. '17**  
**Willie Coker '17**  
**Jalen Thomas '17**

HighStepping:  
**DeLauren Jones '17**

Step Team:  
**Makayla Latimer '20**

JV Boys Basketball:  
**Ronald Rucker '18**

Cheerleading:  
**Caresse Savage '17**

Girls Basketball:  
**Kaylah Booker '18**



"Growing up I used to go to church every Sunday with my Grandma. But then I started to go less and less until I barely went at all. My grandma would always invite me to her church, but I would always be busy or have stuff to do. It wasn't that I lost my faith or anything like that. One Sunday I got up and surprised my grandma at her church. She was so happy. You're never too busy to go to church."

- Nikayla Myles '18



"If you know me then you know I'm very childish and I laugh a lot. As I began working at Sherwin Williams I developed a friendship with my coworker, Tracey. She taught me how to be thoughtful and think about others' well-being."

- Joi'e White '18

### STUDENT SPOTLIGHT:

# ShaiYana and Shane Cummings

It seems that since the beginning of time there has always been sibling pairs who stand out in the crowd because they support each other and make the other one better than they would be on their own. Everyone knows the Wright Brothers and whisper a quiet thank you when boarding an airplane. And then there are the Williams sisters who through their incredible partnership have truly changed the game of tennis. This type of strong familial bond is admirable, inspiring and exists right on our own Saint Martin campus.



ShaiYana Cummings, a senior at Saint Martin, and her younger brother, Shane, a sophomore, embody the sibling harmony demonstrated by the Wrights and the Williamses. Even Shane's birth was a gift to ShaiYana. "When I was a little girl, I was an only child. So my mom gave me a sibling." *Gave* being the operative word. Most children would not want to share a parent's attention or their toys with a new baby. Not ShaiYana. She couldn't wait for her new brother to arrive.

Growing up, the Cummings siblings have shared a love for many things. They both attended Urban Community School on the near west side and loved it. ShaiYana says she was lucky enough to be part of the first class to graduate from the new school building. She thought she might also be part of the first class to graduate from Saint Martin's new building as well but it looks like that honor will be passed to Shane. Cross Country and basketball are interests Shane and

ShaiYana share. Both siblings have run cross country throughout their high school careers. Shane has been playing basketball since the 4<sup>th</sup> grade. At Saint Martin, he played both JV and Varsity as a freshman and plays Varsity as a sophomore. ShaiYana is the team's manager. The brother and sister duo also run track where, you guessed it, they run the 200, 400 and relays.

When asked what they liked most about each other, neither sibling hesitated to answer. Shane quickly said, "She tells it like it is. If I turn the ball over, she says 'stop turning the ball over!'" ShaiYana added "Shane supports me no matter how well I am doing or how badly I am doing. He always brings me up and supports me." And Shane showed his unwavering support by escorting his sister to her April 22 Sigma Gamma Rho cotillion.

The siblings stand out for their academic performance and overall work ethic at Saint Martin. Both have

impressive grade point averages and share a fondness for their Corporate Work Study (CWSP) positions. Shane has worked for the Fedeli Group both freshman and sophomore years and feels like he is gaining valuable experience for his future. ShaiYana, who originally wanted to be an obstetrician/gynecologist but decided instead to pursue a career in sports medicine, works in the Cardiovascular Unit at the Cleveland Clinic. Her CWSP experience in high school will serve her well next year at Youngstown State University where she has earned an academic scholarship.

Just like those great sibling pairs of the past, the Cummings have a bright future ahead, no doubt with the strong support of each other. As their Athletic Director, Mary Carney, said, "They just have a lovely brother and sister bond." Lucky kids!

## Lessons Come to Life on Immersion Trip

In theology classes, we challenge students to think critically about the challenges a faith in Christ presents them with: what is their role in creating a more just world, in transforming their own communities?

With this challenge in mind, three Saint Martin students — sophomore Niyah Malone and seniors Cecilia Arteaga and Lauren Coleman — traveled with Theology teacher Erin Conway and Saint Martin Volunteer Corps member Megan McGowan to East Los Angeles in early June for a five-day immersion trip hosted by Dolores Mission Parish, a Jesuit parish located in the Boyle Heights neighborhood. Along with the opportunity to take advantage of many classic LA experiences — a hike in Griffith Park, a Dodgers game, and an afternoon at Santa Monica Beach (the first ocean visit for all three!) — the trip encouraged the young women to examine how the people of Boyle Heights were working to transform *their* community. Throughout the trip, students remarked that Boyle Heights felt different than Cleveland and many of the communities they were familiar with. Rather than feeling segmented or isolated, the community felt united in its desire to care for its members as Jesus would, especially those who were most in need.

The group was given the chance to take part in this transformative work one morning when they were invited to wake up at 3:30 AM to prepare and serve breakfast to over 50 men and women who were part of the Guadalupe Homeless Project (GHP). Created by the parish over 25 years ago, the GHP invites individuals experiencing homelessness to sleep in the church, eat two hot meals a day, and receive support as they look to transition into permanent housing and employment. Initially alarmed by the early wake-up time, all three young women embraced the challenge and marvelled at the fact that members of the community take part in this ministry day in and day out. They were particularly humbled by the number of individuals who thanked them with a smile as they left. Niyah remarked that she wished Cleveland had more programs like this one.

Another highlight of the trip was the chance to visit and tour Homeboy Industries. Created as an extension of Father Greg Boyle, SJ's work with young people in Boyle Heights, Homeboy Industries is now the largest gang intervention and rehabilitation program in the world. After reading Boyle's memoir *Tattoos on the Heart* in Theology class this fall, seniors Lauren and Cecilia could hardly contain their excitement as they watched the stories and people from the book come to life before their eyes. Every day at Homeboy Industries was memorable: the tour guide at Homeboy



Bakery shared the story of his trip to the White House with Father Greg, the group watched t-shirts being printed at Homeboy Silkscreen, and during lunch at Homegirl Cafe they sat at a table next to Father Greg and Jim Carrey, the actor! Reflecting on her experiences, Lauren wrote, "This trip showed me the glances of God that have been lacking."

Seeing the way Father Greg and the people of Boyle Heights continue to transform urban Los Angeles one "homie" or homeless person at a time inspired the young women to think about their own call to transform the world. Cecilia's response best captures what we hope our students will carry with them after any Saint Martin experience: "My faith in people grew. Seeing how many people take action to help others is powerful. Just because we don't see it doesn't mean it isn't happening. [This trip] made me want to help more, not just here at home but world wide."

This trip was made possible by the support from the Notre Dame Club of Cleveland and The University of Notre Dame Class of 2017.

## STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

# ACADEMIC SIGNING DAY

Each spring, we honor seniors who have distinguished themselves as scholars during Academic Signing Day. On May 16, we honored 18 of our highest performing seniors as they signed letters of intent to enroll in the college or university of their choice.

### CECILIA ARTEAGA



For Cecilia, going to college means new opportunities and becoming the person she has wanted to be since she was a little girl. “Cecilia leads by example through her academic

curiosity, willingness, and her open-mindedness, as well as her dedication to class synergy,” notes Sarah Marcus-Donnelly, her World Literature teacher. Cecilia will study Spanish and Education at **Cleveland State University**.

***Jaide has accepted a full scholarship to Harvard and is the first Cristo Rey alumna among some 11,500 graduates in the nation to attend Harvard. She is also the first Saint Martin graduate to be accepted by an Ivy League school!***

### JAIDE TALMADGE, SALUTATORIAN



To Jaide, college represents an opportunity to grow and experience a diverse environment. Not necessarily to leave Cleveland and never come back, but to garner perspective of the world around her. This view, coupled with her compassion, makes “Jaide one of the most dedicated students I have ever taught and one of the most loving young people to ever be in my classroom,” remarks Brittany Kirby, her Chemistry teacher. This fall Jaide will attend **Harvard University** to study the Liberal Arts.

### CALVIN EVANS, JR.



After he graduates, Calvin wants to be remembered as the quiet, smart guy. “He is an intelligent and ambitious student who learns from his mistakes and is constantly seeking to improve

himself,” notes Raia Contractor, his Anatomy & Physiology teacher. Calvin will attend **Cleveland State University** to prepare for a career in medicine.

teacher. Donne’sha notes that the Kairos retreat at Saint Martin was a life-changing experience, where she found support and positive, caring connections with her peers. Donne’sha has earned a full-ride scholarship from PCC to study Nursing at **the University of Akron**.

to study Computer Engineering at **the University of Akron**.

### CHASE PEREZ, VALEDICTORIAN



“Chase demonstrates a level of maturity that is rare for students her age — she has an excellent work ethic and ability to organize and follow through with

goals,” notes Raia Contractor, her Anatomy & Physiology teacher. For Chase, attending college will mean reaching a goal for which she has been striving for many years. Chase plans to attend **Cleveland State University** to study Journalism and English.

### DONNE’SHA FOUNTAIN



“Donne’sha’s motivation is based on her wanting to be the best version of herself and to know and learn all she can,” remarks Kathleen Mearns, her Humanities

### TOMISLAV PERKOVIC



“Tomislav takes responsibility for his own learning and understanding, and also leads by example and encouragement in pushing his peers to make good choices as

students,” notes Brittany Kirby, his Chemistry teacher. Attending college will mean a lot to him and his family because he will further his education and have a better life. Tomislav has earned a full-ride scholarship from PCC



**CONGRATULATIONS  
TO ALL OF OUR ACADEMIC SIGNING DAY HONOREES:**

**Tammeya Asberry**

Psychology,  
University of Toledo

**Da'Veona Blair**

Business and Health Sciences,  
Youngstown State University

**Lauren Coleman**

Psychology,  
Penn State University

**Chloe Drake**

Journalism and Communications,  
Kent State University

**Mersadies Hunter**

Visual Communications,  
John Carroll University

**Niyonkuru Ines**

Health Sciences,  
Cuyahoga Community College

**Nautica Jefferson**

Hospitality Management,  
Cuyahoga Community College

**Celetre Jones**

Communications,  
Kent State University

**DeLauren Jones**

Marketing,  
Cleveland State University

**Jayda Nix**

Nursing,  
Fayetteville State University

**Destinee Reeder**

Nursing,  
Hiram College

**Kaprise Sparks**

Nursing,  
Hiram College



**PARTNER PROFILE:**

# ABB Inc.

Some of the most beneficial things in our lives happen quietly behind the scenes without fanfare. These forces simply plug away at their work of changing lives without seeking reward or credit. This is a notion Saint Ignatius brought to light through his Prayer of Generosity when he asked us to “give and not count the cost; toil and not seek for rest; labor and not ask for reward.”



ABB's spring co-ops sending Desi off to the University of Akron on a full scholarship

Saint Ignatius seemed to be speaking into the ears of both John Noell, ABB Operations Director, Corporate Work Study partner and Niyubuntu Desire (Desi), a member of the class of 2016 and past ABB job team member. It is interesting how these same words can be applicable in two very different ways. As John said recently when describing his employer, “ABB is probably one of the largest companies you have never heard of.” And he is right. ABB is an internationally renowned engineering and technology company with over 130,000

employees in more than 100 countries headquartered in Zurich, Switzerland. ABB is responsible for automating technology that helps make our lives easier, healthier and more cost efficient. Their improved automation touches us through the food and beverage industries by creating vital cables that provide flexibility and clean ability for an industry that has strict regulations for hygiene and cleanliness. ABB is a leader in energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy which in turn helps to lower our energy bills. They improve product quality in the automotive

industry and provide reliable power and distribution of electricity to utility companies. So, the next time you visit a restaurant, drive your car or turn on a light, remember ABB was working in the background to make it happen.

In addition to improving the quality of our day to day living, ABB has quietly helped change lives for some Saint Martin de Porres students. ABB has been a Corporate Work Study partner for three years and, according to John, the experience has been amazing for the students and ABB employees.



John and Desi on one of their many golf outings.

for his supervisors at work. When the corporate partnership began, John was worried that he needed to be a powerful mentor to Desi. "I tried that for about 5 minutes with Desi, and then quickly realized that I was the one who was going to learn from him. He served as a role model for me in many ways." John recounted that on his second day of work Desi called out to him. He thought, "I wonder what this kid wants from me?" John asked Desi if everything was okay and Desi simply said, "Everything is great. I just wanted to say hello and tell you to have a good day!" John said that was when he began to realize the only thing Desi really needed from anyone was an opportunity. Throughout his tenure at ABB, Desi regularly stopped by John's office to talk about personal challenges or different issues like race, peer pressure and immigration. "He frequently changed my perspective around these issues. And he always left me inspired," says John.

Students are given the opportunity to work alongside engineers and technicians in the Systems Test area doing some of the same work as the employees do. They gain valuable experience through helping assemble computer servers and even loading software onto multi-million dollar systems for customers. In return, each ABB employee plays some role in the CWSP students' experiences. They

engineering. Desi is grateful for the opportunity to learn outside of the classroom and take away valuable field experience. He is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering from the University of Akron.

But just as ABB works behind the scenes to improve the quality of our lives without fanfare, Desi did the same

Reflecting on ABB's Corporate Work Study experience, John said, "Hiring a work study student is not charity. You get productive work and all of the intangibles. To me it is the ultimate example of doing well by doing good." No fanfare. Simply giving and not counting the costs.

*ABB has been a Corporate Work Study partner for three years and, according to John, the experience has been amazing for the students and ABB employees.*

receive powerful intangibles from the students such as a greater sense of community, improved morale, and genuine camaraderie.

As mentioned before, Desi worked on the ABB job team for two years while attending Saint Martin. He believes his CWSP experience played a significant role in his education. He is certain that being a part of the ABB work environment had a positive impact on him and he felt loved and appreciated by the company. They helped improve his time management skills, develop professionalism and fuel his desire to further his education in computer



John shared his experience with the Corporate Work Study Program at the Birthday Bash in May.

# Construction Update

Campus looks different every day as the construction on our new building continues to progress. Exterior walls are nearly complete and concrete floors have been poured. Plumbers, electricians, and HVAC technicians are on site as well, moving us towards our Phase I completion goal of Winter 2017-18.



**Students, faculty, staff, and board members signed the last beam that completed the building's steel frame.**



# 14TH ANNUAL BIRTHDAY BASH

On May 13 we celebrated Saint Martin's 14th year at our annual fundraiser and celebration of our founding, the Birthday Bash. Guests were greeted by our drumline and cheerleaders, mingled with students and student artists during cocktail hour, and witnessed showstopping performances by the drumline, cheerleaders, and Quake, our award-winning step team! The program, led by alumna Saiida Bowie-Little '15, highlighted our Corporate Work Study Program and the special, life-changing relationships that our students form with their supervisors. We are proud to share that this was a record breaking Bash—with nearly 700 in attendance and over \$661,000 raised!

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# ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWEST COLLEGE GRADUATES!

### KAYLA CHAMBERS '09

Bachelor's Degree,  
John Carroll University

### ISABEL DEROBERTS '09

Master of Urban Planning &  
Development,  
Cleveland State University

### LYLA WAKUT '09

Master of Social Work, University of  
Southern California



### LADONNA DUNCAN '10

Associate's Degree,  
Cuyahoga  
Community  
College

### CARLOS JOHNSON '10

Juris Doctorate,  
Cleveland Marshall College of Law,  
Cleveland State University



### GREG BROOKS '11

Bachelor's Degree,  
Youngstown State University



### MICHAEL MEDRANO '11

Bachelor's Degree,  
Cleveland State University



### NAJWA ABDUL KABIR '12

Bachelor's Degree,  
Eastern Michigan  
University

### JAZMINE KIRKLAND '12

Bachelor's Degree,  
Case Western Reserve University

### LAKIA KIDD '12

Bachelor's Degree,  
Miami University

### BRITTANY LEWIS '12

Associate's Degree,  
Cuyahoga Community College



### ANGILEECE WILLIAMS '12

Bachelor's Degree,  
Kent State University

### MARSHALL FREEMAN '13

Bachelor's Degree,  
Marquette University



### DARIN GOOCH '13

Bachelor's Degree,  
Central State University

**MELANIE PAPAS '13**

Bachelor's Degree,  
Loyola University of Chicago



**SHELBY VEST '13**

Bachelor's Degree,  
Walsh University



**TAE'LOR WHINDAM '13**

Bachelor's Degree,  
Mount Union College



**CONTINUING HER CRISTO REY LEGACY**



**ALEXIS JOHNSON '12** has accepted a position at Cristo Rey Atlanta Jesuit High School as their first ever Alumni Coordinator. Cristo Rey Atlanta opened its doors in the fall of 2014 and will have its first ever graduating class in the Spring of 2018. Alexis graduated from The Ohio State University in 2016 and has spent the past year as a member of the Saint Martin Volunteer Corps working in the Office of Student Success.

**CLEVELAND'S TWENTY IN THEIR 20s**



**SELINA PAGÁN '14**

was selected as one of *Crain's* Cleveland's Twenty in Their 20s! Selina is a full time student at Cleveland State University and works for both the Hispanic Business Center and Northeast Ohio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

**FIRST SAINT MARTIN ALUMNI TO BE ACCEPTED TO HARVARD**

**JAIDE TALMADGE '17** will enroll at Harvard University in the fall and will be featured in *Cleveland Magazine* later this summer.



If you would like to be featured in the Alumni News, email [slautenbach@stmdphs.org](mailto:slautenbach@stmdphs.org) or [ctudico@stmdphs.org](mailto:ctudico@stmdphs.org) with information and photos.



## SAINT MARTIN DE PORRES

CLEVELAND'S CRISTO REY HIGH SCHOOL

— EST. 2003 —

6111 Lausche Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio 44103

# Events to Attend

### AUGUST 8-11

New Student Orientation

### AUGUST 15

First Day of School

### AUGUST 18

Mass of the Holy Spirit  
9:30am

### SEPTEMBER 13

Blood Drive

### SEPTEMBER 21

Senior College Night

### OCTOBER 17

Open House

### OCTOBER 26 & 27

Fall Drama Production

### NOVEMBER 3

Feast of St. Martin de Porres

### NOVEMBER 8 & 9

Corporate Work Study Partner  
Appreciation Luncheon

### NOVEMBER 12

Open House

### DECEMBER 14

Christmas Family Night and  
Concert

Saint Martin proudly partners with the Cleveland Foodbank to distribute fresh produce to our neighbors on the third Saturday of each month.

We invite you to spend a Saturday morning with us!

For more information about these events, call 216-881-1689

FOLLOW US ONLINE AT [SAINTMARTINCLEVELAND.ORG](http://SAINTMARTINCLEVELAND.ORG)

