

NEWSLETTER

Madeleine Jude Brown Foundation

FALL 2020
ATLANTA, GA

MADELEINE
JUDE
BROWN
FOUNDATION



DEAR FRIENDS & FAMILY,

Dear Friends and Family,

We want to wish you the happiest of holidays and bring you up to date on the activities of the Madeleine Jude Brown Foundation. 2020 has been another busy and productive year for the Foundation. This year, a Madeleine Jude Brown Scholarship was awarded to two students from Cristo Rey Jesuit High School. Six of our scholars have graduated from college and are employed. Three scholars are living abroad and bringing Madeleine's spirit to distant shores. One scholar is married and expecting her first child!!! The seven current scholars have settled well into their fall semesters. As with the rest of the country, our students are adjusting to life during COVID 19; classes have combined virtual and in-person experiences. All of the scholars have shown tremendous dedication and perseverance and we are proud of them! We hope you will enjoy reading about these wonderful young adults and the Foundation's activities in this newsletter. We are so thankful for the love and support you have extended to us over the years. May the Peace that surpasses all understanding be upon you and your loved ones this Holiday Season.

Peace,

Mary, Reay, Veronica and Annie

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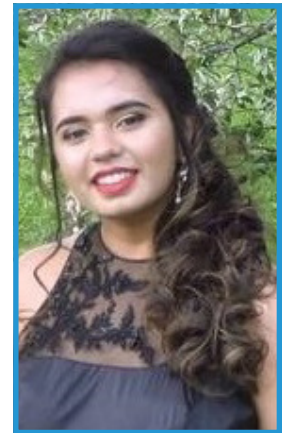
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JANKI PATEL | 2017

Janki Patel is a senior at the University of Georgia majoring in Environmental Science. Her goal is to become a Neonatal Nurse Practitioner. She has completed all prerequisites for nursing school, spent more than 100 hours of shadowing NICU nurses and did very well on the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS test) for entry into nursing school.

“I cannot thank the foundation enough. I don’t think I would be here without your help. I am so glad I got to meet all of you amazing people. I have found myself. I know who I am and what I want to be. I can see my life clearly all thanks to you. I will never lose touch with you. I look forward to finishing college strong and can’t wait to see what my future holds for me. One thing I know is that it is going to be a successful life because of each and every one of you. Love Janki!”



LISBETH VILLEGAS | 2018

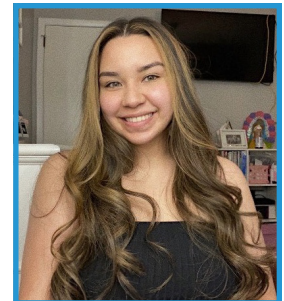
Lisbeth Villegas had a very successful sophomore year at Mercer University where she is on a dual major track of Law & Public Policy combined with Spanish. She lives with her sister, Jennifer, near campus and hopes to secure an internship in a Macon law firm once the pandemic has settled down. This past summer, Lisbeth was invited back to work at Atlanta Caster & Equipment, the company she interned with as a Cristo Rey student. Lisbeth shared with us this quote from Eleanor Roosevelt that she has found to be inspiring: “The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.”



DARIANA RUIZ | 2018

Dariana Ruiz is enrolled at Perimeter College of Georgia State University where she is pursuing a degree in Dental Hygiene. This summer she obtained certification as a Dental Assistant. “The program was amazing!” Dariana has an infectious positivity and thinks about this quote from Vivian Greene during these challenging times:

“Life is not about waiting for the storm to pass but learning to dance in the rain.”



EWNET AYISSA | 2019

Ewnet Ayissa is a sophomore at Oglethorpe University and a member of the men’s soccer team. Throughout freshman year, Ewnet juggled academics, athletics and employment, working at Whole Foods on the weekend. He is majoring in Electrical Engineering.

“The Madeleine Jude Brown Foundation has made a huge difference in my life and I am so grateful for their continuous support.”



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ANGELA VASQUEZ | 2019

Angela Vasquez is a sophomore at Georgia Tech majoring in Business Administration. She had a perfect academic record freshman year and has maintained the Zell Miller HOPE Scholarship (100% of tuition covered). Her sister also was admitted to Georgia Tech for fall 2020. They plan to move into a dorm together in the spring. Angela worked this summer for Sharecare, an online health and wellness platform started by Dr. Oz. This semester, Angela is interning remotely for RARA Club, an on-line wellness and lifestyle brand based in Los Angeles. "I am working on commerce development and content. It has been a wonderful experience experimenting with different apps and tasks".

"You cannot eat the fruit the same day you plant the seed." - Fabienne Fredrickson
Angela hopes "we continue to have the motivation to nurture and care for the fruits we aspire to have."



ABRAHAM PIZANO | 2020

Abraham Pizano is the oldest of four children born to parents who emigrated from Mexico 25 years ago. He graduated from Cristo Rey with an A+ average, was named an AP Scholar, and earned a Zell Miller Hope Scholarship (100% of tuition covered). Two of his corporate work study years were spent at Georgia Tech in the College of Engineering. It was there that he realized his love for math and science and his desire to study Civil Engineering. At Cristo Rey, Abraham was active in Campus Ministry, starting out organizing campus spiritual events but ultimately assuming the position of treasurer. In that capacity, he oversaw the budget and worked closely with the finance director of the school. Abraham also spent four years working with the homeless community in Atlanta. His experiences at the Saturday morning soup kitchen had a profound impact on his heart: "We should all work to one common good... to better ourselves and our world by working together for a better tomorrow." We are looking forward to following Abraham who began his college experience this August at Georgia Tech.



TSION FITSUM | 2020

Tsion Fitsum is of Ethiopian descent and the oldest of three children living with her mother. Throughout her high school career at Cristo Rey, she assumed considerable responsibility for the family: cooking, housework and caring for the younger children. Despite these obligations, Tsion maintained an A average and was awarded a Dell Scholarship in her senior year.

Tsion's corporate work study included substantial time in the healthcare field at Emory St. Joseph's Hospital and Kaiser Permanente and has led her to consider pursuing a science-related degree. The senior class Kairos ("the right time") Retreat was a turning point for Tsion as she was grouped with unfamiliar students. The initially uncomfortable situation gradually evolved into openness and compatibility. "When encountering a situation that makes me feel hesitant, I remember the incredible outcome of what happened at Kairos... I have implemented the habit of listening more than talking... and realizing that everyone around you is different in their unique ways."

Georgia Tech has been so fortunate to have Tsion join them as a first-year student this fall!



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WHERE ARE THEY NOW

Yemi Tadesse (2009) graduated from Emory University with a major in Global Health. She is still living in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, working as a consultant, researcher and field manager for Proportion Global, a global human-centered design agency: www.proportion.global



Bea Flowers (2010) graduated from the Savannah College of Art and Design in Interactive Game Design. She lives in Seattle and is continuing her game design while working as a Technical Designer at Bungie.



Raven Osborne (2011) graduated from Kennesaw State University in Psychology. She currently is living in Nanjing, China and working for First Leap, an afterschool English program. "... Thankful, a word that I will carry with me for eternity. Grace, a love that I didn't totally feel I deserved. I'm beyond grateful, for another chance..."



Melanie McCall (2012) graduated from Georgia Tech in Computational Media and works as a software developer at The Taproom Agency that creates Shopify E-commerce marketing solutions for fast-growing businesses. In addition to excelling at work, Melanie has become a certified yoga instructor and is expecting her first child ("Luna") this December!



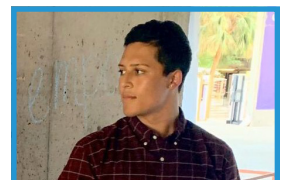
Aniya Hamilton (2013) graduated from the University of Georgia in Environmental Sciences and has been living this past year in Lomé, Togo in West Africa. She has become fluent in French, works in public health and tutors the local children. She took up volleyball again and has become integrated into the local community. Aniya has taken the Graduate Record Examinations ("GREs") and is beginning the process of applying to graduate school. She and Mary continue to FaceTime, which has been a gift to both.



Simon Chang (2015) graduated from the University of Georgia with a major in Exercise and Sports Science and a minor in Chinese Language and Literature. He accomplished this in 4 years!! After graduation, Simon worked at an orthopedic/rehabilitation clinic, studied for the GREs and applied for doctoral programs in Physical Therapy. Happily, Simon was admitted to the Doctoral Program in Physical Therapy at Augusta University (Medical College of Georgia) and began classes in May 2020.



Apoorva Thapa (2015) is from Kathmandu, Nepal and graduated from the United World College USA, Montezuma, New Mexico. He currently is a scholarship recipient at the University of Florida. Apoorva is majoring in Architecture and Urban Planning with a minor in Finance. "Every Thanksgiving I share how grateful I am for the MJB Foundation, as I am only able to achieve everything I have started achieving because of your kindness and your belief in me when I was just starting my journey 4 years ago, here in the United States."



Ferdous Abdul Qassimi (2016) is a senior at Emory University, majoring in Biology. Each year, Ferdous has taken summer classes at Georgia State and his hard work has paid off. He is on track to graduate from Emory after fall semester 2020. His plan is to apply to Osteopathy school. As he finishes up with Genetics and working in a lab, he has been prepping for the Medical College Admission Test ("MCATs").

