YOUR PASSPORT TO THE WORLD

THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED
3 Hayesmen experience life-changing journeys.
PG 14
WELCOME

FROM THE PRESIDENT

FATHER JOSEPH P. TIERNEY
Dear fellow Hayesman,

I hope this letter finds you and your loved ones well. I would like to briefly share with you my story, in hopes that you can share in the appreciation that I have for our beloved school.

It is difficult to fathom that only five years have passed since I first entered the dimly lit halls of Cardinal Hayes High School as a transfer student in the 11th grade. Reminiscing on my first day at Cardinal Hayes, it was impossible to understand how pivotal Cardinal Hayes High School would be, and continues to be, in my life. Upon arriving at Cardinal Hayes late in the semester of my junior year, I was a young man who was battling many personal issues. After having been dismissed from my previous school and being barred from entry at many other schools, Cardinal Hayes was my only saving grace. At a time in my life where I had been so reckless and careless with my decision making, Cardinal Hayes offered me refuge and provided me with the stability and discipline that I so desperately needed. If it were not for Cardinal Hayes I am sure my future and opportunities in life would not have been the same. I was able to become a part of the graduating Class of 2013 and continue my education at Howard University.

After graduating from Howard, I returned to Cardinal Hayes and was welcomed by the same open arms that had accepted me so many years ago. In my second stint with Cardinal Hayes High School, I joined a new group of people who were unfamiliar to me during my initial Cardinal Hayes experience. The Alumni Relations and Development office would soon become my new home. Again, Cardinal Hayes was providing me with an outstanding opportunity when so many were not. After working with the team for two years, I was finally able to become Associate Director of Alumni Relations and The Annual Fund.

In my new position, it is my mission to invigorate the young alumni population of Cardinal Hayes while maintaining a high level of service to all alumni. Working with the professionals of the development office gives me a great sense of pride and enthusiasm for the school and what is yet to come. I am able to take all of my experiences, both old and new, and use them to advance the mission of the school. I am excited to create real change and bring forth new opportunities for young Hayesman like myself to reconnect with our beloved alma mater.

I feel my top priorities are these: 1) Create and cultivate the Young Professionals Board of Cardinal Hayes 2) Revitalize the Class Captain initiative 3) Establish a student call center to thank donors and keep them abreast of events at Hayes and 4) Manage the annual fund. Through those actions and with further support of the development office, we will develop new initiatives and bring new energy to the alumni of Cardinal Hayes High School.

By championing the mission of Cardinal Hayes and continuing efforts in raising awareness, conducting outreach, and supporting the school through philanthropy and volunteerism, I hope that you will continue to see Hayes as a brotherhood and support system.

So thank you! I am thankful for my position and my connection with the school as a Hayesman. With your continued support, the development team and I will continue to work tirelessly for past, present and future Hayesman alike.

Sincerely,

Jamel Wright ’13
Associate Director of Alumni Relations and The Annual Fund
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tells the story of Cardinal Hayes, an all-boys Catholic school, and how its dedicated administrators and teachers have inspired young men to improve their lives, their neighborhoods, their country and the world.

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Michael Perdomo became the third Cardinal Hayes student to be awarded the Peter M. Flanigan Scholarship

__BY JACKINA FARSHTY__

Michael Perdomo has a great deal to smile about these days. This September, he became the third Cardinal Hayes student to be awarded the Peter M. Flanigan Scholarship by the Student Sponsor Partners (SSP) program. The $40,000 scholarship will go towards his college education. According to Perdomo, he has come a long way from the introverted kid he was before Cardinal Hayes.
At first, it was really hard for me socially. I did not interact much with the other Nids until a couple of months into my freshman year. I started talking with new people and began to form friendships with really cool students.

What was most impactful about his time at Hayes was the bond that he formed with his teachers. “I did not think I gained as much as I wanted academically during middle school. When I came to Hayes, the school helped me develop my math and english skills. Ms. Colleen Walsh and Mr. Rui Guimaraes were instrumental in strenghtening my literary style. Ms. Walsh was the first teacher that stepped up my writing and Mr. Guimaraes took that to a whole new level. He was really strict. I appreciated his approach because he was preparing us for college. Mr. John Brosnan was my homeroom teacher who taught me math. I feel like he helped me understand the fundamentals of the subject.”

One other institution that played a pivotal role in his development was SSP. With the program, Perdomo found a new sense of independence. SSP partnered Perdomo with his mentor Elon Pankin. “My mentor exposed me to different cultural activities including trips to museums throughout the city.

He was very supportive and motivated me to do my best. He ocassionally offered to review some of my essay assignments.

The guidance that I received from him was invaluable.”

Jasmine Alfonesca, Senior Manager of the College and Career Success Program at SSP has seen Perdomo evolve into a confident young man in the past four years. “Michael has worked incredibly hard this school year. He has taken ownership of his journey and his own voice. Even though he was nervous before the scholarship interview, the moment he entered that room you could tell that he had done the work. He was grateful, well spoken and truly shined. It was the accumulation of everything he has done.”

The Peter M. Flanigan Scholarship application process is highly competitive. Out of 279 SSP juniors, 47 students were invited to apply for the scholarship. Students must hold no less than a 90 grade point average in order to be eligible. This group represents the top ten percent of SSP juniors. After a lengthy process, a panel of judges interviewed 13 students and four students were awarded scholarships. In 1986, founder Peter Flanigan created the program to combat the dwindling graduation rates in New York City. Flanigan a former invesment banker and political advisor provided an environment where students from New York City area Catholic schools were exposed to academic and social opportunities.

Although Flanigan passed away in 2013, his legacy continues to impact students and provide them with a pathway to success. SSP offers a variety of services including college readiness workshops, mentoring and career counseling. In 2017, the SSP graduating class were awarded over $24 million in scholarships, grants and financial aid.

This fall Perdomo plans to study computer science in college. “I have always loved science as a kid and how computers function. It is very fascinating how in a couple of decades we have been able to expand technologically.” The self-proclaimed science nerd has already set his sights on working for Google after college. As he approaches the final few months of his senior year, Perdomo beams with excitement about the time he spent at Hayes and the bright future ahead. “The school helped me changed who I was. Oringally, I was too nervous to do certain things. Hayes brought a lot of change and inspired me to step outside of my comfort zone.”

Michael Perdomo ’19

“At first, it was really hard for me socially. I did not interact much with the other kids until a couple of months into my freshman year. I started talking with new people and began to form friendships with really cool students.”

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EDEL BORRERO ’87 AND FIVE OTHER LATINO ATHLETES CREATED TRILATINO TRIATHLON CLUB, INC., A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION THAT INTRODUCES ATHLETES OF COLOR TO THE COMPETITIVE SPORT.

According to a study released by USA Triathlon, only 3.2 % of triathletes are Hispanic and 0.5 % are African-American. In an effort to close the diversity gap, Edel Borrero ’87 and five other Latino athletes created TriLatino Triathlon Club, Inc., a nonprofit organization that introduces athletes of color to the competitive sport. “Every time, I would attend triathlons, I didn’t see many people of color or Latino communities well represented. I saw a need for this sport to be brought to minority athletes.” With the help of fellow alumnus and Hayes board member Hector Jimenez ’95, Borrero brought TriLatino Jr. to Hayes.

Christopher Feliciano, Danso Kuzoe-Jones, Michael Maturana, Steven Truong and Wilber Diaz Grullon took part in a six-week training process where they learned that the sport is more about mental acuity than physical endurance. Senior Michael Maturana, first learned about TriLatino in his Honors English Class. Maturana had no athletic experience prior to the program but felt compelled to try something outside of his comfort zone.

“The ability to give myself to these coaches was so hard. I watched how much I’ve learned and grown since the beginning of the program all because I gifted myself to them. They accepted and used that gift and they handled it with respect. Now I think about other aspects of my life differently. I don’t take for granted those people that I see waking up early in the morning for a jog. I had to do that. There’s so much that goes into training behind the scenes. It taught me that I must have self-respect and work for what I want.”

Danso Kuzoe-Jones joined TriLatino to improve his physical abilities. “At the beginning of my senior, year I wanted to focus on developing a fitness routine. I know that sports helps with mental sharpness. This was something that I wanted to improve.”
I was eager to have a balance of athletics and academics.” For Danso, the relationship between the trainers and his teammates was transformative. “The program has made me more independent. I learned how to balance my life and focus on time management. My mentors played a major part in getting me through this process. I also got closer to my classmates Michael and Wilbur. We were always pushing each other to do better and saying words of encouragement.”

Junior Wilbur Diaz Grullon who received first place in his age division not only conquered his fear of water but became more confident and self-assured. “I was always afraid of the water when I was growing up. My dad used to play tricks on me and throw me into the water upside down. Over the weeks of practice, I became more comfortable. Now I can hold my own in the water.”

Grullon also benefitted from the personal guidance of his trainer. “My mentor Gabriel Herrera took me under his wing. We could relate to each other because he experienced the same physical and emotional stress that I’ve gone through.” On June 17, 2018, after spending weeks of swimming, biking and running Wilbur and his teammates unleashed their inner athlete at the TriOne On Triathlon in Roslyn, Long Island.

Since its inception in 2010, TriLatino has attracted other schools in the community. Aside from Cardinal Hayes, they have partnered with Cathedral High School in Manhattan and the Bronx Academy of Letters. Their goal for the next few years is to expand the program to more schools and increase female participation.

Although they have made tremendous strides in bringing the program to communities of color, Elias Marenco ’96, President of TriLatino expressed some of the challenges in running a nonprofit. “This program is run entirely with the help of volunteers and even the board doesn’t get paid. We have no paid employees. It’s a labor of love. This year we started a committee and brought in other people including Michelle Borrero, Edel’s wife. Michelle was our operational leader and she made sure that we were on time with the logistical aspect of running the program.” Borrero has high hopes for TriLatino and wants to use this platform as a way to empower young people. “I want our students to encapsulate this experience so that they know that there is nothing that they cannot do for themselves.”

“I learned how to balance my life and focus on time management.”

DANSO KUZOE-JONES

If you would like to show your support for the TriLatino program visit TriLatino.org
"There's so much that goes into training behind the scenes. It taught me that I must have self-respect and work for what I want."
The IRA charitable rollover is a terrific way to make a tax-free gift to Cardinal Hayes. If you are 70 ½ or older, you can tell your IRA administrator to transfer your gift directly from your IRA account to Cardinal Hayes. You can make a gift of up to $100,000 to satisfy the required minimum distribution from your IRA. The gift will not be taxed as income to you. You don’t get an income tax charitable deduction for the gift, but you don’t pay taxes on your IRA withdrawal, which means the IRA charitable rollover is tax-free. We can provide sample letters of instruction to send to your IRA administrator in order to make an IRA charitable rollover.

If you think you qualify for membership in the Legacy Society, please call 718-292-6100, ext. 104 or email plannedgiving@cardinalhayes.org to inform us of your planned gift.
The Legacy Society commemorates the generosity and foresight of Hayes benefactors who have blessed the school by providing an estate gift for the purpose of ensuring an excellent Catholic education for future generations of Hayesmen.

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Meet the change-makers, risk-takers and go-getters, who created a unique path for themselves. They learned that taking risks is about developing a personal narrative that reflects a bold new vision. These moments of self-discovery helped Daniel Duval ’12, Larry Ossei-Mensah ’98 and Juan Tapia ’19 find a journey of a lifetime.
Daniel Duval ’12 has always taken the unconventional route. Even at a young age he was making decisions that would directly impact his future. At the age of 12, Duval moved from the Bronx to Bushkill, Pennsylvania. It was at the latter part his sophomore year that he felt unsatisfied with the academic structure of his high school. Before starting his junior year, he convinced his parents to leave Pennsylvania to attend Cardinal Hayes. Duval packed his bags and headed straight to the South Bronx where he lived with his grandmother.

“My mom was totally supportive about me moving back to the Bronx and finding a different school. I was only allowed to go under the condition that I attend a private school. We did some research and that was how we found Cardinal Hayes. I read about the success rate and the number of students they graduated per year. It was also nice to see the well-known actors and directors who graduated from the school.” Duval’s first year was challenging. Since he came to Hayes in his junior year, he was at a disadvantage. Many of his classmates had three years to bond and develop strong friendships.
I didn’t really have a lot of guy friends growing up because I went to a school that had primarily female students, so attending an all-boys school was a different experience. It helped me build a stronger character and develop a tougher skin.”

Duval’s relationship with his teachers played an important role in his transition at Hayes. “Mr. Rounds was my English teacher in eleventh grade. He made the class fun. Although I struggled a few times in his class, he was very supportive. He never belittled me when I was having a difficult time especially when I missed my friends and family.” Duval’s time at Hayes prepared him for the diverse environment at SUNY Brockport. In his junior year, he took a class called Protest and Public Opinion. It touched on the political, social and economic issues occurring not only in the United States but worldwide. The class had a transformational effect on his life. “It was eye-opening just to see how privileged we are living in America.

I loved the class but I walked out every day feeling so frustrated that I didn’t have the funds to go help people. I started looking up organizations where I could help after I completed university.”

He joined the Peace Corps in 2017 and moved to Sierra Leone in Africa. Although he experienced some culture shock, Duval learned to embrace the change with a sense of purpose. “We had a short three day training in Washington DC before leaving for our trip. I know for a fact that I was definitely overwhelmed but I knew I could rely on friends who were going through the same thing and I could ask them how they felt.” Duval stayed with a host family and taught English to elementary school students. Within the two years, he developed a strong bond with many of the students as evidenced by his Facebook page. The bright smiling faces helped enrich his experience and brought about a deeper appreciation for all that he had. “This trip allowed me to reflect on all the ways that I can teach and pass on the knowledge that I’ve acquired.”
Embracing the Next Chapter

As his two year assignment comes to a close, Duval is looking to join Peace Corps Response. The program allows experienced professionals to live in other countries for six months to a year. Duval’s future aspirations is deeply rooted in development.

"I could see myself working in the international development field. I envision meeting new people of different faiths and backgrounds." His parting words to our younger Hayesmen is insightful. "The most annoying phrase I hear adults saying to teenagers is... 'Go out and find yourself.' Don’t look for yourself because you are not lost. I think that the point of life is to reinvent yourself. Go out and do something because you enjoy it and make yourself a better person."

“Make the most of yourself... for that is all there is of you.”
- Ralph Waldo Emerson
Larry Ossei-Mensah’s ’98 love for the arts gave him the impetus to follow his dreams. Over the past decade, Ossei-Mensah has cultivated an impressive resume as a curator. As a result, he has proven to be a distinguished thought leader and cultural critic who has given a global platform to artists of color. Some key elements of his professional style were developed growing up in the East Tremont section of the Bronx while attending Cardinal Hayes.

“I think if you grow up in New York City, specifically the Bronx, there is a certain level of hustle to make things happen. At Cardinal Hayes, I took art class with Mr. Torres and he definitely sparked that interest. Even though I was not artistically inclined from a drawing and painting standpoint, I understood the gift of having art as a course. Hayes helped shaped my identity as a man while helping me learn the importance of being disciplined and a man of your word.”
After Hayes, Ossei-Mensah attend Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts and majored in business management. His career took him to various parts of the entertainment industry where he held positions at Cunning Communications, Uptown Magazine and adjunct professor at the School of Visual Arts. But it was his time in graduate school in Switzerland at Les Roches International School of Hotel Management that proved to be a major turning point in his life. “I would go to the museums in Europe as a graduate student because they were so accessible. I began questioning the lack of presence of people of color in the art world. For example, Spain was controlled by the Moors for over 400 years and St. Maurice was a person of color. I know that we were more present, so I began to ask questions about where are the people who look like me.

When I moved back to New York City after graduate school, a friend of mine was doing a program associated with Christie’s. He began inviting me to shows. I started to do some more self-education and through the process I really caught the bug.” It was at this critical juncture that he picked up the camera. He realized his gift was not as a photographer but as a curator and exhibit organizer.

Through his travels, he discovered a wide array of talented contemporary artists of color. “I saw the work of Rashid Johnson and Mickalene Thomas in 2008 at a show Campari organized that highlighted hot new artists of the moment. I was blown away that there were artists who were close to my contemporaries making such amazing work. Prior to seeing their work, Romare Bearden and Jacob Lawrence, the black masters, were my reference point and then to see young artist of color, black, brown, African, and Latino who are creating work about their cultural experiences was exciting.”

Although Ossei-Mensah still held his day job as an Integrated Marketer for Nickelodeon, it was becoming clear that his passion for curating was a dominant presence in his life. In 2015, under the encouragement of his boss, he decided to pursue his passion full-time.

“Art is the Soul of a People.”
- Romare Bearden
Over the past few years, Ossei-Mensah has built a strong relationship with artists. His use of modern art as a conduit to discuss the cultural and social nuances that impact people of color has helped to broaden the dialogue in the art world.

**Artnoir**

Ossei-Mensah’s prolific curatorial portfolio includes Beautiful Refuse-Material (2012), Crossing the Line: Contemporary Drawing and Artistic Prowess (2013) and Selections (2018), an exhibit at the Elizabeth Dee Gallery. Ossei-Mensah’s work has brought him to various parts of Europe. He has been invited to speak on numerous discussion panels around the world. Most recently he curated an exhibit entitled Postcards from New York—Part II (2018) in Rome, Italy. In September 2018, Ossei-Mensah was appointed the Susanne Feld Hilberry Senior Curator at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Detroit.

In an effort to nurture the artistic curiosity of communities of color, Ossei-Mensah co-founded Artnoir in 2015. “I really want Artnoir to be a platform that supports black and brown artists across the gamut in terms of the arts.

I am using my experience working in marketing to amplify the successes of people we feel are working at a high standard of excellence. Last year, we went through the process of formalizing the company, so now we are incorporated as a 501(c) (3) nonprofit.” This new designation allows him to operate in certain spaces that were not possible as an individual. Artnoir gives Ossei-Mensah the opportunity to work in partnership with such notable institutions as NYU.

For the budding artists, Ossei-Mensah encourages young people to ask key questions.

**Hear Here Event at National Sawdust**

“The first thing is to do your research on what specifically interest you. Is it painting, sculpture, or photography? Kids who live uptown have a multitude of artistic spaces in the Bronx and in Harlem such as the Bronx Museum, Caribbean Cultural Center, Bronx River Arts Center, and Longwood Art Gallery. Visit those spaces and become familiar with who are the directors, the curators and talk to them about internship opportunities. Start local and try to understand the landscape.”

Larry with Klaus Biesenbach, Director of MOCA LA

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**“The first thing is to do your research on what specifically interest you.”**

- Larry Ossei-Mensah ’98
Breathtaking vistas, pristine waterways and the rugged beauty of the outdoors as far as the eyes can see. Those are some of the awe-inspiring views that 17-year-old Juan Tapia ’19 saw when he spent three weeks at Olympic National Park in Washington State over the summer. Tapia’s journey began in the South Bronx through the Student Conservation Association (SCA), a nonprofit organization that gives city kids an opportunity to explore the great outdoors. Tapia’s journey proved to be transformational and brought about a renewed sense of self-awareness. “One big thing that I noticed after my trip was that my grades improved a lot. It cleared my mind and improved my mental health.”
Tapia is no stranger to conservationism. In the summer of 2016, he studied at the Yale School of Forestry Camp in Norfolk, Connecticut for several weeks. He shared his wonderful experience with Mr. John Finck his creative writing teacher. Finck explained his connection with SCA and offered to put Tapia in contact with John Donovan, SCA Program Director. After meeting with Donovan at an SCA informational session at Cardinal Hayes, Tapia was offered a full scholarship to Olympic National Park. Donovan was impressed with Tapia’s resilience and dedication. “Juan was such a good candidate because of his enthusiasm, drive and his eagerness. It takes a lot of patience and willingness to try new things and stay open to the experience. Juan did all of this! He even celebrated his birthday with his crew! I think his passion for the outdoors helped a lot and his drive towards new experiences and learning. He asks questions and gets engaged even if he has fears.”

During his time in Washington State, he backpacked and cooked meals with six other SCA crew members and two team leaders. This experience gave him the chance to get acquainted with his fellow crew but also understand the impact pollution has on our ecosystem. “Before this experience I hadn’t thought about how we use materials like plastic.

“I was brought up to believe that land is a trust and that we are all responsible for taking care of this earth.”
-Liz Putnam
SCA Founder
I learned it doesn’t breakdown easily, so I realized there are ways that we can be using our resources more efficiently.” Tapia has a greater respect for the environmentalists who labor to improve the quality of our lives. “As soon as I got back, I noticed everything. I was aware of my surroundings like litter and trash collection. This trip would not be possible without the work of the park rangers. They were doing the same clean-up work that SCA students are doing in New York. I have a huge level of respect for what they do. I am truly inspired by them.”

SCA was founded by Liz Putnam in 1957 as a way to save and protect America’s National Parks by enlisting the help of young people. The organization’s goal is to create the next generation of conservationists. In 2018, SCA crew members volunteered 1.5 million hours to help advance the cause. Thanks to John Finck’s involvement, SCA has become a mainstay at Hayes. In the past year, SCA has seen a considerable number of Hayesmen who are now dedicated members. Donovan is pleased to see the number of students grow with each passing year. “I feel like they are interested in learning new things and pushing themselves outside of their comfort zones. I also see a drive to take advantage of opportunities that are presented to them. The paycheck doesn’t hurt either!”

This fall, Tapia is heading off to college where he hopes to study organic chemistry at the SUNY School of Environmental Science and Forestry.
Charismatic and a natural leader, Bujan became actively involved with the Drumline, the school newspaper, the golf club and varsity football.

For Dennis Bujan Jr. Cardinal Hayes had been on his radar since middle school. Bujan heard about all that Hayes had to offer from Wilfredo Rodriguez ’18, a neighborhood friend. As a result of their conversation, he came to an open house and returned for a shadow day, where potential students follow a Hayesman throughout their day to get a better feel of what awaits them at CHHS.

From the moment he walked through the doors, the reaction was immediate. The welcoming atmosphere and the camaraderie among the students cemented his decision to attend Hayes. He found a common bond that was not present elsewhere. “I fell in love with Hayes because of the brotherhood. Wilfredo introduced me to the guys on the football team. I immediately felt that this was the right place for me. As an incoming student, Hayes does a great job of keeping you with the same group of students for the first eight periods of classes especially your freshman year. You are moving from class to class never feeling that you are by yourself.”

Charismatic and a natural leader, Bujan became actively involved with the Drumline, the school newspaper, the golf club and varsity football. With a full slate of activities and classes in his senior year, he added Student Body President to his resumé. In September, he and members of his cabinet were sworn in at the Mass of the Holy Spirit. Bujan credits his teachers for his success. “I was never afraid to talk to the teachers. I felt that they were always there to help me. My freshman teachers Ms. Scherer, Mr. Guimaraes and Mr. Pak were awesome. Ms. Scherer has been the best math teacher I have ever had. She is here to make sure that you go to college and that you are the best person that you can be. Mr. Guimaraes is one of the toughest teachers I have ever had. He is results-oriented. Mr. Pak is just all around amazing. The vibe that he gives out truly inspires me to do well. We built a strong bond.”

As he became more involved at Hayes, Bujan was increasingly attracted to community service activities. In his junior year, he joined the Student Activities Committee (SAC) moderated by Mr. Francis Badillo. “I have always seen Mr. Badillo
Dennis Bujan Jr. ’19

collecting cans for various food drives and shelters. It was always instilled in me by my parents to give to others.

As an active member of the Holy Name Society Church, I tried to find ways that I could be of service. I believe if I help the people at my parish then I should do it here at Hayes.”

Bujan’s accomplishments have not gone unnoticed by the Cardinal Hayes administration. Principal William Lessa hand-picked him for a summer internship at Fordham University’s WFUV radio station. In the summer of 2018, he had the opportunity to work with journalism students in different departments at the station. Bujan eventually settled on the newsroom where he took a prominent role in story development.

George Bodarky, News Director at WFUV was pleased to see Bujan’s dedication. “Dennis impressed everyone in our newsroom. He instinctively knew how to be a journalist. For someone as young as he is, he has a natural ability. When he came into our newsroom he did not shadow, he did the work. He served the role of a reporter side by side with the other reporters. He actually covered events in and around the five boroughs. Dennis also pitched stories during our editorial meetings and effectively executed the stories that he was covering.”

The budding journalist is eager to showcase his skills. “I love sports reporting but my experience at the WFUV newsroom broadened my horizons. Now it is not just sports, it is news as well. It was amazing going out into the field and getting sound bites.”

Bujan has many options for college and Fordham University is high on the list. He is grateful for his time at Hayes and is excited about what the future will bring.

“I am going to miss the school and I do not want to leave. Hayes has provided me with countless opportunities that I could not have ever imagined.”
Dick Oths’ emotional account of his time growing up in the Bronx brought back cherished memories of his adolescence. The days of camaraderie, friendship and youthful discoveries were all centered on his time as a student at Cardinal Hayes High School. Although he followed many of his neighborhood friends to Hayes, it was ultimately a strong maternal influence that solidified his decision. As the only child of a school teacher, his mother believed that discipline was the cornerstone of a proper education. “My mother taught in the New York City Public Schools and insisted that I go to Catholic School. She was a firm believer that you need to have discipline in the classroom in order to learn. Hayes was the perfect place that reinforced those values.”
I recognize what Hayes is trying to do and what they have been doing in changing the lives of the young men by breaking the cycle of poverty through education.

“I helped to start Atlantic Health System which includes Morristown Medical Center. I was their CEO for nearly five years. I retired in July of 2000. I was fortunate enough to continue consulting for Atlantic Health System until 2015.”

As he reflects on his prolific career, Oths credits his accomplishments to the education that he received at Cardinal Hayes. “There was no question that Hayes was instrumental in steering me into pharmacy. I recognize what Hayes is trying to do and what they have been doing in changing the lives of the young men by breaking the cycle of poverty through education.” In gratitude, Oths established a Charitable Remainder Unit Trust (CRUT) to ensure that the Hayes legacy continues. “I have not been really involved with Fordham University. I’ve given the monies, the support, and strength to Cardinal Hayes. Particularly when I found out the Archdiocese reduced their contributions to Hayes in the past few years.”

One moment of pride for Oths was at the 75th Anniversary Diamond Jubilee in October of 2016. He sat at a table with two Hayes alumni and their families. “I can’t tell you how impressive it was sitting next to these two successful Hayes alumni. I was very proud to see what both these amazing young men achieved in their careers. It was one of the most powerful things that I’ve ever seen in terms of where my money has gone. Everything that Cardinal Hayes stands for is based on not only changing this generation but changing multiple generations to come. That is why I believe that every Hayesman should do whatever they can to show financial support to Cardinal Hayes.”

Dick and Eleanor Oths

Oths spent his freshman year at the Castle Hill Annex taught by the Irish Christian Brothers. He found his first year quite an adjustment, but by the time he was a junior he began to embrace the Hayes culture. Under the guidance and support of faculty, he developed an affinity for the sciences. “It was a wonderful learning experience. Hayes was an exciting place. I found my niche in the sciences especially in biology and chemistry. The wonderful teachers like Brother Leroy saw that I had a knack for the field and encouraged me. I also liked the idea of pharmacy and helping people.”

After graduation in 1951, he enlisted in the Merchant Marines Academy at Fort Schuyler for a year. He then applied to Fordham University’s Pharmacy School and graduated in June of 1956. Soon after he married his wife Eleanor and joined the Air Force. Oths was assigned to Scott Air Force Base in Belleville, Illinois as Chief Pharmacy Officer. “We stayed there for three years until my commitment was up. We came back to the New York area in the 1960s and I started working as a sales representative for E.R. Squibb and eventually became the division manager.”

At the encouragement of a dear friend and former college classmate from pharmacy school, he started working at Mount Sinai Hospital where he worked for eight and half years. While working at the hospital, he received his MBA from Baruch College in hospital management. Oths’ career led him to different parts of the country including Cincinnati, Ohio where he worked for several years at Bethesda Hospital Multiservice. In 1988, he moved to Mendham, New Jersey to start a high powered position as a hospital executive.

“I recognize what Hayes is trying to do and what they have been doing in changing the lives of the young men by breaking the cycle of poverty through education.”
There is always an irrefpressible whirlwind of activity around Assistant Principal Craig Joseph ’99. On any given day, Joseph can be seen rushing down the school corridors carrying files of papers while on his cellphone. By the time he arrives at his office, there are students standing by the door. Some are there for counsel and others just want a quick chat before going off to class. What is distinct about this daily ritual is the fact that Joseph makes quality time to address the concerns of his students regardless of his schedule.

Joseph’s easy-going approach, stoic personality, and disciplined work ethic has made him a respected administrator and a beloved coach.

Like many of the students at Hayes, he is the son of hard working immigrants. At the age of 7, Joseph and his family immigrated to America from the island of Antigua. He, along with his three siblings, settled in the Bronx. Joseph went to Community School 28 right off the Concourse.

He later attended Middle School 147 for a brief time before his father transferred him to St. Simon Stock School. When it came time to choose high schools, his top three choices were All Hallows, Cardinal Hayes and Cardinal Spellman.

Although All Hallows was the top contender, fate intervened and placed him at the perfect place to sway his decision. “I came to Hayes just to take the TACHS (Test for Admission into Catholic High Schools) exam. The first exposure to the school was when I ran into these men. They were football players wearing senior sweaters. Their presence is what really attracted me to Hayes...that was it. I realized that this is the kind of presence I wanted to have and who I wanted to be.”

Once at Hayes, he excelled in his freshman year achieving a 90 grade point average. By time he was a sophomore, Joseph was placed in the Honors Program (2D). He quickly learned in order to remain in high academic standing, he had to develop some serious study habits. He spent time engaging in afterschool activities such as varsity football, varsity track and volunteering with community groups.

In addition to his busy school schedule, he helped his father at the construction company he managed. What Joseph learned from his parents was the importance of dedication and hard work.

“My Dad was a traditional Island man, he was always out working. My mother would work long hours and come home late. We would have dinner as a family and on the weekends she would take us out shopping.

She educated herself and finished her associate degree and became a phlebotomist.”

Another mentor who was influential in his life was Varsity Football Coach Sterling Alves. His impact would later be instrumental in Joseph’s coaching style. “Coach Alves made me understand that life is more than football and track and field. He was upfront with me and challenged me to do more. We had talks about everything from football to life.”
After graduating from Hayes in June of 1999, he enrolled at Mercyhurst (College) University where he majored in business and minored in communications. As a college student, he realized how well Hayes prepared him for higher education. "I think that the discipline and structure at Hayes helped me strive throughout my collegiate career."

Joseph was eager to enter the job market, so he reached out to a mentor working in the financial sector. He soon realized that he wasn’t interested in pursuing a career in banking. During this time, he would attend the annual Turkey Bowl games at Hayes and Coach CJ O’Neil encouraged him to come back and coach.

In 2004, he was hired as a math teacher and freshman assistant coach. Joseph taught for two years before he was asked to become the Admissions Director.

"I was thrilled when I was offered the director position. The reason I came back to Hayes is because I was from a first generation Caribbean family. My parents were working, so they provided a home but Hayes provided everything else that was necessary to develop a young man in the South Bronx. I feel very strongly that if I didn’t have the combination of the two I don’t know if I would be where I am. There were a lot of positive male figures in the building that I could talk to and there were successful stories that you heard about that gave you something you could aspire to. There was very little room for you to fail."

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**Homecoming**

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Joseph’s years of dedication to Hayes was rewarded in the fall of 2016 when he was promoted to Assistant Principal in charge of Enrollment and Sports Management. While he was making strides administratively, he was also cultivating an impressive resume as a football and track coach. Under his leadership, the CHHS Junior Varsity Football team won the 2014 CHSFL AAA Championship.

Within the same season, he was promoted to Head Track Coach after legendary Hayes Track Coach Bill Dowling retired. Joseph had to create a new path for his team and reinvent himself.

“The track team when I first started here had a strong reputation of field events because of Coach Dowling’s expertise. I spent a lot of time learning the sport of track and field just like I spent a lot time learning the sport of football as a coach. To play and to coach are two different things. I struggled tremendously as a football coach and then I finally got it. We had two or three undefeated back to back seasons and won the AAA Championship. This was the same thing with track. It was about professional development and getting away from how I was coached and developing my own philosophy on coaching.” Joseph’s guidance and unwavering support transformed the young runners into fierce competitors. He exposed the nascent team to the big leagues and they did not disappoint. In June 2017 the 4x400 relay team broke the 48-year-old CHSAA league record and won the CHSAA Intersectional State Championship.

Joseph’s runners hit another milestone in 2018 when they were nationally ranked in the 4x200 relay. The team comprised of Aaron Banson ’17, Elijah Jones ’18, Christian Anderson ’17, Kristoph Thomas ’17 and Jose Franco ’18 became a dominant presence at track meets around the country including the Penn Relays. Joseph’s key strategy was helping his runners realize that the mental component was the key to their success. “For me it has always been getting my guys to understand that there is nothing that they can’t do. There isn’t a workout that they can’t eat up. There isn’t a person they can’t beat.”

-Craig Joseph

“For me it has always been getting my guys to understand that there is nothing that they can’t do. There isn’t a workout that they can’t eat up. There isn’t a person they can’t beat.”

-Craig Joseph
There isn’t a person they can’t beat. Now, they walk on the track with this renewed confidence and they are viewed as a sprinting powerhouse. Also, what I feel helps me tremendously with my guys is the fact that I went to Hayes. I can relate to them, so when I talk to them there is a greater level of trust which enables me to get the best out of them.”

As Joseph looks to the future, he is excited about the prospects of building a bigger team. “My vision for our track team is to expand the events that we do. We are a great sprinting program. As efficient as we are in sprinting, I want to be that efficient in the middle distance. I want to continue building our field events. I have three sprinting coaches: Rob Harris, Daquan Jay and Anthony Pena who are Hayes graduates.

These guys are going to effect change in the program. I would like to see us expand to the hurdles and the 4x800m. When you speak to the old guys they praise the eight and the mile, so I want to get a 4x800 back on the track so that our alums can look back and say… that’s it!”

“We are a great sprinting program. As efficient as we are in sprinting, I want to be that efficient in the middle distance.”
I was overjoyed when I was chosen to speak in front of all these incredible people. It was a humbling experience that will stay with me for a lifetime.

He shared his love for the organization and mentioned how it was his older brother, a fellow scout who inspired him to join. He went on to describe how the organization allowed him to participate in many activities such as camping, hiking, and swimming.

In addition to his adventures, he held positions as an Assistant Patrol Leader, instructor and Order of the Arrow Representative. While he stood proudly in his uniform decorated with pins reflecting his achievements, Okoro’s Assistant Scoutmaster Kenrick Sifontes sat in the audience beaming with excitement and pride. A nine-year veteran of the Boy Scouts, Sifontes has seen Okoro’s leadership and mentoring skills flourish. “Anicho was very cool and well spoken. He hit specific points that the audience identified with. He has been involved and has participated in every activity that you can think about in our troop and in boy scouting. He has been a part of the Honor Guard of Greater New York Council and he has been Senior Patrol Leader, instructor and a mentor. He lives the scout motto and the scout laws. He is always available to teach scouting skills and is the first person to volunteer for a service activity. In February of 2018, he led a delegation on behalf of the Boy Scouts of America. He was the senior most member of the Boy Scouts representing the organization where he met with state senators.” Sifontes also pointed out that the Citigroup

He has been a part of the Honor Guard of Greater New York Council.

Seventeen-year-old Anicho Okoro ’19 is a soft spoken young man with many accolades to his name. As he describes his time as a decorated boy scout, you get the impression that he would rather be helping others than sharing his noteworthy accomplishments. At the age of eight, Okoro joined Troop 185 in the Bronx and dedicated his time to learning the Boys Scouts’ code of conduct and upholding its creed. It was not a surprise when the Greater New York Councils Boy Scouts of America selected him to address the 2018 Banking Industry “Good Scout” Award Luncheon in October of 2018. Okoro presented the award to Mark Mason, incoming Chief Financial Officer at Citigroup Worldwide.

Okoro’s speech impressed a room full of business executives and high ranking members of the Boy Scouts community.
CFO was so impressed with Okoro’s performance he offered to write the young scout a college recommendation.

For Okoro, the Boy Scouts mirrored the same structure that he experienced at Cardinal Hayes. Both organizations share the value system of brotherhood, service to others, leadership and respect for your fellow man. “It didn’t feel like a change for me coming to Hayes in 2015. The transition was seamless because so much of what I learned at Hayes was very much like the Boy Scouts. My first year at Hayes I joined indoor and outdoor track. I got to know my classmates throughout the four years and we remained close friends. I had people who I could count on if I needed any help.”

Like Assistant Scoutmaster Kenrick Sifontes, Okoro found a mentor in Rui Guimaraes his Honors English teacher. “Mr. Guimaraes always tells us to improve ourselves. He pushed us in the right direction and taught us different strategies we should use on the SATs to better our education.”

As Okoro heads off to college in the next few months, Sifontes has some words of wisdom for the stellar scout. “What I usually suggest to all young men is develop a circle of influence. A circle of people that you can reach out to for advice and help you build your career. Don’t be afraid to ask questions. Don’t be afraid let people know who you and what your skill sets are.”
Every purchase made through The Hayesman Shoppe results in the direct support of Cardinal Hayes Athletics programs. As the official retailer of Cardinal Hayes High School, The Hayesman Shoppe returns a great portion of each sale to the school. We consider it a privilege to be able to work together with the athletic department to meet the financial challenges associated with modern high school athletics. When you purchase from The Hayesman Shoppe, not only are you assured of the highest-quality official merchandise, but you also have the satisfaction of knowing that you have truly helped support the programs that make you proud to be a Hayesman!

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WILLIAM J. MEEHAN '61
I met Thomas Cassidy '67 in Windham, New York this summer. He has just published a detective thriller—“Damage Control” with several references to Hayes and Father Principe. All worth reading.

DENNIS O’CONNOR '71
I was blessed to have Father Tierney baptize my twin granddaughters this past May. Hayes is fortunate to have such a great man as the school President.

RALPH A. MANENTE '71
September 1967–June 1971 greatest four years of my life. Forty seven years ago seems like yesterday.

JACK CONCEICAO '73
Over 40 plus years senior editor at 1010 Wins Radio. Greetings to Fiume, Fleming, Duarte, Cruz and Craig.

JOSEPH V. DERUVO '62

IN MEMORIAM
CLASS OF 1944
John B. McManus
Michael P. Fitzgerald

CLASS OF 1945
John J. O’Brien

CLASS OF 1947
Joseph Buckley
Ernest A. Scinto
John Joseph Costello
Joseph F. Burns

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Arthur T. Leone
William Farrell
Nicholas F. Ambrosino
Paul Haran

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Martin J. Chambers
Joseph L. Aurichio
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Raymond McCann

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Jeremiah P. Breen

CLASS OF 1986

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BISHOP ROBERT BRUCATO ’57
Cardinal Hayes mourns the loss of Bishop Robert A. Brucato ’57. He dedicated his life to serving others through the Catholic faith. Throughout his career Bishop Brucato served many parishes including St. Anthony’s in West Harrison, New York, St. Charles Borromeo, Dover Plains, New York and Saint Ann’s, Ossining, New York.