

## Your Family Can Afford College

### *3 tips on how to plan ahead and be ready*

The mission of the College Crusade Family Engagement team is to engage, empower, and educate all College Crusade parents. That includes financial empowerment! This year we are offering Crusade families many practical, hands-on workshops that will help you and your child prepare financially for the challenges associated with paying for college. To be ready, it's important to remember three things:

#### **Help your child participate as much as possible in College Crusade programs.**

If your Crusader is in grades 6-10 this year, he or she qualifies for our tiered scholarship program. What does this mean? It means that the more your child participates in our great college-readiness programs, the more he or she can earn in College Crusade scholarship support. Make sure your child participates in our programs as much as possible. Your family will benefit in more ways than one. Your child will earn more in Crusade scholarships – and the experience your child will have as an engaged Crusader will prepare him or her for the challenges of postsecondary education.

#### **Learn more about your child's options for financial aid.**

What is financial aid? How does it work? How do you apply for it? Our Family Engagement staff will help you gain a complete understanding of all the financial aid options that are available to your child. At our financial aid workshops, you will learn more about scholarships, grants, loans, work-study, and other types of financial aid. You will also learn why the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is so important to your child's ability to afford postsecondary education. Speakers from RISLA (Rhode Island Student Loan Authority) and the College Planning Center of RI will offer important tips about how you can be prepared for the cost of college. Check our Family Engagement calendar regularly for upcoming workshops on financial aid ([www.thecollegecrusade.org/familyworkshops](http://www.thecollegecrusade.org/familyworkshops)).

#### **Attend our financial literacy workshops for families.**

Get equipped! Our financial literacy workshops for families will help you get your personal finances under control as you learn new ways of managing your resources. Topics include goal setting, budgeting, best practices for building good credit, and actions steps to help manage debt.

*At right, Rhode Island General Treasurer Gina Raimondo gathered with College Crusade families at a financial literacy workshop run by the Capital Good Fund in September.*



**Inspire.**  
**Support.**  
**Believe.**

#### **Thank You:**

We are grateful to Amgen, Nellie Mae Education Foundation, and TG for their generous support. We are also very thankful to these sponsors of our 2013 Believe Breakfast:

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#### **Inside:**

Photos from our summer programs!





### A message from the President

Dear Crusaders,

Welcome to the new school year! We hope you have started school with fresh energy and the determination to keep up with all your academic responsibilities. This is a good time to develop strong work habits and to be disciplined about your school-year routine. Always be on time for class. Complete all your assignments and do your best on them. Remember these three words: **STAY WITH IT**. If you feel yourself falling behind in any of your subjects, ask for help right away. Don't be afraid to go to your teachers with questions.

The practice of "staying with it" will help you now and for the rest of your life. It means that you make an effort to succeed at what you choose to do. Another important idea is "follow through." When you follow through on a plan or a goal, it means that you complete what you started. And when you complete what you start, it means you keep a promise to yourself. You learn the value of making commitments.

Dedicate yourself to following through. If you need help, ask for it. Talk with your Crusade Advisor, who is always ready to help. If you haven't met your Advisor yet, do it today!

Sincerely yours,

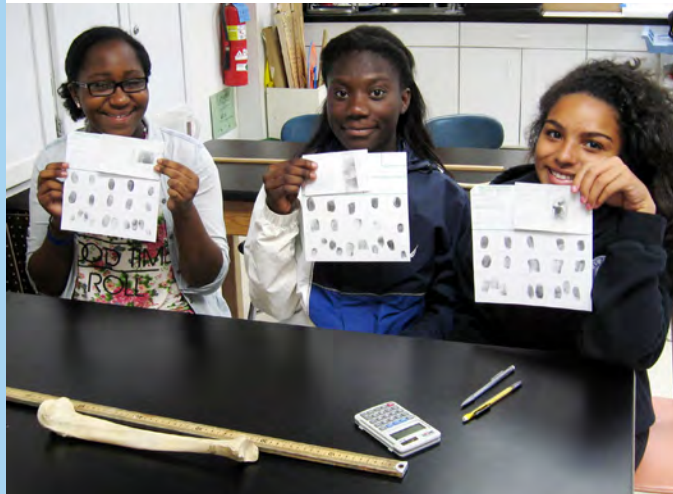
*Todd D. Floberg*  
President & CEO

### Digital Newsbytes

Get the latest Crusader news on CruBlog by visiting [www.thecollegecrusade.org/blog](http://www.thecollegecrusade.org/blog).

And like [www.facebook.com/SaturdayCruClub](http://www.facebook.com/SaturdayCruClub) to see what's up!

## Photos from our 2013 summer scrapbook...



Above, at Wheeler Summer Program, **Marlena Rodrigues, Dorbor Tarley, and Jzamillex Ramos** show their expertise in forensics fingerprinting. At top right, **Augustus Karweh and Brian Rodriguez** identify and measure human bones. At right, from left to right, are **Nathania Caouette, Jia Hui Zeng, Arondae Wilson, Melissa Ortiz, Crystal Cordenes, Carlos Diaz, Victoria Ibitoye, Headher Tejada-Fiallo, Augustus Karweh, and Brian Rodriguez**.



At left, **Lorenzo Vera, Alix Cornay, and Reyna Mercado** work with their group to create a career character to present during our **High School Transition** program for ninth-grade Crusaders. Below left, Crusaders in **2013 Summer CAAP** take a break before their next team challenge. Below, **Isaira Tavares, Jessica Andrade, and Samantha Vaz** get excited at our **2013 GEAR UP Day at the State House** event in June.





# High school: Summer learners

Congratulations to these dedicated high school Crusaders for completing their summer programs with the highest levels of participation!

## Creative College Essay Writing

Monica Almonte	Francy Lora
Jason Bourdier	Marvin Ramos-Suero
Luis Carrillo	Jacqueline Sequen
Alanis Concepcion	Valentin Velasquez
Ezequiel Dorvilus	Zia Xiong
Doris Lopez	

## Crusade Summer Experience

Mecca Abdul-Hasib	Aprielle Kinard
Ernest Ahwiring	Alexa Lopez
Aldo Aldana	Doris Lopez
Kevin Almonte	Isayra Marines
Tue Banto	Ezequiel Martinez
Erin Batista	Jeffrey Martinez
Vianka Brito	Erica Matos
Dallas Bullard	Jessica McMaugh
Luis Carrillo	Gina Mendoza
Genesis Castaneda	Alvaro Morales
Yoselin Chajal	Briana Morel
Rene Colato	Jenny Navas
Andy Cruz	Esther Olugbusi
Margareth Cruz	Katherine Pena
Mercy Cruz	Passion Pereira
Djovan Davega	Cristoffer Perez
Arianna Davey	David Pierre
Anthony DeJesus	Damien Plessinger
Keren DeLaCruz	Steve Poueriet
Giselle DeLaNuez	Daniel Ramirez
Kaylee DeLeon	Kassielle Ramos
Cindy Estrada	Christian Recinos
Keila Estrada	Arabelis Reyes
Dennys Fernandez	Antonio Rocha
Roxanna Francisco	Miguel Rodriguez
Tiffany Funes	Jeffrey Rosario-Arriaga
David Garcia	Cynthia Ruiz
Jazmine Garcia	Varsana Schobel
Kayla Garcia	Darelle Speaks
Rute Gidey	Tempestt Spivey
Jerry Guzman	Amado Tate
Kendal Hall	Jose Torres
Kasandra Henriques	Tatiana Torres
Gerald Jean-Louis	Rosina Turner
Franklin Jette	Brianna Vega
Naya Jenkins	Brian Villafuerte
Richard Keach	Sebastian Zuleta
Zar-Tashiya Khan	



Award-winning high school Crusaders display their certificates with Governor Lincoln Chafee at our GEAR UP Day at the State House event.

## Camp College New England

Christian Acarapi	Leslie Nunez
Tue Banto	Katherine Pena
Marydjina Barionnette	Parrys Perez
Francelly Brito	Claribel Serrano
Melvin Caraballo	Raphael Serrano
Lyset Gonzalez	Glendy Valle
Charina Herrera	Brianna Vega
Alicia Holloway	

## High School Transition Program

Amaury Almonte	Brandon Hernandez
Jack Arrieta	Enshell Koilor
Marvin Benitez	Brandon Lindo
Nancy Benitez	Evelyn Lopez
Waldo Aldana	Reyna Mercado
Roberto Cabrera	Helena Miranda
Rodney Capellan	Jennifer Ortega
Charlie Chaca	Jeripher Pascual
Alix Cornay	Carlos Pena
Tiara DeBritto	Albert Pujols
Dasmia Feliz	Gerardo Rodriguez
Luis Florentino	Elaine Rosario
Luis Flores	Chant Smith
Christopher Garcia	Gisselle Torres
Brian Guzman	

## Roger Williams University Summer Intensive

Mathew Bedoya	Nicaury Nunez
Estefania Clavijo	Passion Pereira
Rolando Clavijo	Argenis Placencia
Jennifer Figueroa	Ciara Santana
Alexi Flores	Etebom Samuel
Christian Hernandez	Belinda Sloan
Richard Keach	Brian Suggs
Jonathan Loaiza	Jissaura Taveras
Melissa Morales	Andrew Terrero
Casandra Nieves	Stephen Young

“At Roger Williams Summer Intensive, we had to go to classes. We had teachers and projects and homework, and I really liked that. The focus of our class was on how a business works. I worked hard on my project and used the library for research. I stayed in the dorm in a shared suite. We got to experience what college students experience!”

– **Rolando Clavijo, senior,**  
*Shea High School*

“I loved Camp College! I got so much from it and felt like it could have been longer than three days. It was pretty cool to have an opportunity to get to know different admissions officers and tell them what I am looking for in a college. I made a lot of great connections with the counselors who were there. All the workshops were good, especially the one on the Common App. I already had a draft of my application essay done, but now I have ideas for changes that will make it better. And the experience of living on campus was something I really enjoyed. It gave me a taste of what it will be like when I am living away from home and learning how to do things for myself. Camp College was very valuable for me, and I'm glad I was able to be part of it.”

– **Francelly Brito, senior,**  
*The Met*



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Providence, RI 02905

*Crusade Family Newsletter*  
*Fall 2013*

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Middle school Crusaders enjoyed a summer full of learning and fun. Above, they get ready for another day of literature, forensics, and videography at **Wheeler Summer Program**. See more photos inside!

**Please keep us notified**  
Have you changed your address or phone number, or has your Crusader changed schools? Call (401) 854-5500 or write to [info@thecollegecrusade.org](mailto:info@thecollegecrusade.org).



Thanks to our major supporters!

