Fordham Preparatory School Summer Academy

Mission Statement and Program Goal

The Jesuit educational mission advocates that an ethnically and economically diverse student body creates a superior environment for learning and living. The Fordham Prep Summer Academy was created to address the need for continued skills development among gifted young men in the Bronx. The Academy seeks to introduce able students of modest means to Fordham Prep.

The program's curriculum calls for instruction in grammar, reading, and mathematics in the morning. Time after lunch is set aside for computer skills, theatre use, and opportunities for recreation. There are also visits to nearby cultural resources in and near the Bronx such as Yankee Stadium, the Bronx Zoo, and The Cloisters.







2013

The Fordham Prep Summer Academy Gives...

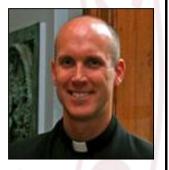
...a Special Thanks.



Fr. Boller entered the Society of Jesus in 1964 and has committed most of his five decades as a Jesuit to education. He taught mathematics at Xavier High School in Manhattan from 1969 to 1972. Next he served as principal of Canisius High School in Buffalo, and then returned to Xavier in 1986, serving as headmaster and then president until 1997. After seven years as pastor of Saint Aloysius Church in Harlem, Fr. Boller was appointed president of Fordham Prep in 2004. For 9 years, Fr. Boller has dedicated countless hours to the Prep, for which the Fordham Prep Summer Academy is thankful. We wish you the best of luck on a smooth transition and your future endeavors.

...a Special Welcome.

For the past six years, as the founding president of Christ the King Jesuit College Preparatory School, Fr. Devron helped to bring quality, affordable secondary education to a socioeconomically challenged population on Chicagos West Side. For the previous five years, Fr. Devron served at Regis High School in Manhattan as the founding director of REACH (Recruiting Excellence in Academics for Catholic High Schools), designed to make Jesuit secondary education accessible to academically gifted middle school students of modest means. Fr. Devron brings to Fordham Prep a proven educational background of academic excellence animated by the same spirit articulated in the schools Mission Statement. With such an impressive background, the Fordham Prep Summer Academy welcomes and looks forward to Fr. Devrons leadership.





The Students of the 2013 Fordham Prep Summer Academy

Juan A. Acevedo Visitation Matthew Aguilar-Lizzi St. Clare of Assisi Devin **Benavides** St. Simon Stock Castillo Brandon **Charter School of Excellence** Marc A. Cruz Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Edwin Cruz St. John Chrysostom Kevin **Daley** ICS (Gun Hill) **Icahn Charter** Armani **Damiron** St. Brendan Joachim Elegado Nelson Gonzalez St. Angela Merici Andres Gonzalez St. Benedict Robert Green St. Mary Keondre Grigg **Traphagen Elementary** Anderson Jorge **Good Sheppard** Mark Jouiad **PS 81** Travis King Sts. Phillip & James Mikel LaCruise ICS (Tuckahoe) Ares Lacugna St. Ann St. John Javier Lopez **Mejia-Peters Icahn Charter** Jahwaun Nicholas Mohan St. Simon Stock Diego Morales **Holy Family** Michael Nunez St. Athanasius Walter **Ohams** ICS (Gun Hill) Anicho Okoro Sts. Philip and James Cesar **Pinos** St. Athanasius Zionel Okoronkwo Sts. Phillip & James Albert Ramirez St. John Chrysostom Arif Rasheed St. Barnabas Roman St. Brendan Isiah Javson Sanchez Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Yash Shree St. John **Thomas** St. Angela Merici Kai Steven Vukaj Visitation

FPSA CURRICULUM

The FPSA curriculum is for students entering the 7th grade. The three main subjects are Mathematics, taught by Mr. Pedro; Reading, taught by Mr. Armstrong; and English/Language Arts, taught by Mr. DaCosta. In Math, the students begin to learn about algebraic expressions, as well as master basic mathematical concepts, such as fractions and integers, which provides the essential foundation for future learning. In Reading, the students read the novel *The Outsiders* and hold classroom discussions. In English/Language Arts, the students study vocabulary, spelling techniques, sentence structure, and complete personal and descriptive writing projects.





2013

TRIPS AROUND THE BRONX

TOUR OF ROSE HILL

BY: MARK JOUIAD, TRAVIS KING, DIEGO MORALES, AND YASH SHREE

The Summer Academy began on July 2, 2013. Our first learning experience included a tour of the Rose Hill campus, which was established in 1841. We needed to become familiar with the Fordham community and its surroundings. The principal of Fordham Prep is Mr. Robert Gomprecht. He was nice enough to show us around and share some history of Fordham University and its campus.

First, Mr. Gomprecht introduced important figures of Fordham Prep history in the mural located in the Hall of Honor. Immediately following our discussion, we walked outside to the Fordham University graveyard that is kept for historical purposes. Following the trip to the graveyard, we passed by the Gabelli School of Business, formerly known as Hughes Hall. Hughes Hall was built in the 1900s and renovated recently as the Gabelli School of Business.

Fordham has many sports facilities to offer which Fordham Prep sometimes uses such as tennis courts, football and baseball fields, and even a swimming pool.

Along the tour, we discovered that Fordham is home to fascinating artifacts, such as the Victory Bell and a working seismograph. The Victory Bell was presented by Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz of the US Navy from a Japanese aircraft carrier. Our last stop on the tour was the University Church which was built in the 1840s. It is used by both Fordham University and Fordham Prep.

Both Fordham University and Fordham Prep are filled with rich history which we were lucky enough to learn about.





YANKEE STADIUM

BY: ANTONIO ACEVEDO, BRANDON CASTILLO, MICHAEL NUNEZ, AHWAUN MEJIA-PETERS, AND KEONDRE GRIGG



On July 3, 2013, the Fordham Prep Summer Academy traveled to Yankee Stadium located in the South Bronx. We were met by tour guides who led the way to history, artifacts, and significant places, such as the museum, dugout, clubhouse, and Monument Park.

The first stop on the tour was the museum. There we learned about the 27 championships the Yankees have won, the most in MLB history. With each championship comes a gold championship ring, with the exception of the first championship, when the Yankees were presented with gold pocket watches. The tour guide discussed significant Yankee players and their achievements, such as Don Larsen, the only pitcher to pitch a perfect game in a World Series, and Yogi Berra, a Hall of Fame catcher who caught Don Larsen perfect game. Towards the end of the museum, the Fordham Prep Summer Academy was shown beloved Yankee catcher Thurman Munson locker. He died tragically in a plane crash at the young age of 32.



After the museum, we visited the dugout which is air-conditioned Each player is also provided with his own area for his bat and helmet. As we progressed through the dugout, we came across the clubhouse which is where the each player locker can be found. Derek Jeter locker is the first locker seen upon entering. Due to their popularity, Derek Jeter, along with Mariano Rivera, require an additional locker for all the fan mail they receive. After the clubhouse, we visited Monument Park which pays tribute to many great Yankee players. Monument Park also recognizes Jackie Robinson. Jackie Robinson was not a Yankee, but he is significant in breaking the color barrier so that people of all races can play professional baseball.

Our last stop was the gift shop. It has many Yankee-themed memorabilia, ranging from baseballs to jackets. With all its history and interesting stops, the tour of Yankee Stadium created a unique learning experience for us.





On July 11, 2013, the Fordham Prep Summer Academy traveled to the Bronx Zoo. We were excited about all the animals that we were about to see and learn about.

The first animals we saw were the sea lions. They entertained people by making noises and performing tricks. We attempted to entertain the sea lions by mimicking their noises. As time passed, we went on a Dinosaur Safari. We went back millions of years and saw different kinds of dinosaurs. Some of the dinosaurs are considered to be direct ascendants of modern animals we see today. We went through three different time periods, the Permian Period, the Jurassic Period, and the Cretaceous Period. After the tour was over, there were many activities for us to play with, such as a remote control dinosaur and archeological sand pit.

Finally, the academy split into four groups after leaving the dinosaur exhibit. Each group chose two animals to observe and on which to complete behavioral charts. The animals included polar bears, snakes, baboons, and tigers. One group went to see the

polar bears, whose scientific name is õUrsus Maritimus.ö Another group went and saw an anaconda. They learned that anacondas live in rivers and swamps. The third group studied baboons and learned that they eat grass and are related to chimps and monkeys. The last group was able to study tigers. The tigers are an endangered species with only 5,000 left in the world! The Bronx Zoo was interesting.



THE CLOISTERS

BY: MATTHEW AGUILAR, MARC CRUZ, ROBERT GREEN, ARES LACUGNA, AND ANDERSON JORGE

On July 13, 2012, the Fordham Prep Summer Academy visited The Cloisters. The Cloisters is a museum which carries art from medieval periods. The Cloisters is located in Manhattan. Collections include tapestries, stained glass, and statues of mythical beasts. Our tour guide led the way to medieval history.

The Medieval Period took place between the year 1000ô 1500. Art was extremely popular at the time. It was significant in representing peopless power, wealth, and talent. Tapestries were pieces of art that did precisely that. Tapestries were woven from many materials, such as thread, wool, rolled gold, or rolled silver. Some of the art on the tapestries displayed unicorns, dogs, and important people. A unicorn is a type of mythical creature. It is said that the unicorn has the ability to heal wounds and purify water. Another mythical creature we learned about were griffins. It is believed that Alexander the Great rode on griffins to watch over his land. Though not a mythical creature, the lion was still considered the king of all beasts, and was revered for its smartness and strength. Perhaps the most dangerous of beasts was the dragon, symbolizing evil, depicted on a fresco. Dragons would use their tails to crush am enemy without a second thought. Another form of art we saw were stained glass, which can have many designs and pictures. The stained glass we saw revealed kings, royalty, and had a horse imprinted in it. We learned that horses were helpful for farming and carrying goods.

Another important part of the Medieval Period was plants. The Cloisters have their own gardens with plants from this time period. One plant is the weld flower which is a yellow color, and the matter flower that produces a reddish color. Back then, people were able to use the color from the flowers as ink in items such as books. Another plant introduced was the mandrake, named after the belief that the plant looked like a man after being pulled out from the ground.

The art work and displays were beautiful and represent the dedication the artists put into their work. The Cloisters is a great museum and fun place to visit.











ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: KENNETH THOMAS



Kenneth Thomas became a student at the Prep after graduating from St. Simon Stock, located on Valentine Avenue in the Bronx. He attended the Prepøs Summer Academy after the sixth grade and the Higher Achievement Program after seventh grade. In the academy he was recognized for his academic achievements with the St. Ignatius Loyola Academic Achievement award.

Kenneth distinguished himself academically by receiving excellence awards all four years at the Prep and by participating as a member of the Diversity Alliance. In addition to focusing on his academics, he occupied his time and remained fit by running track for the Prep.

With his hard earned Posse Scholarship, Kenneth will be attending Trinity College located in Hartford, Connecticut in the fall.

FPSA: WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

2013 marks the 12th Fordham Prep Summer Academy class. Since its inception, the Summer Academy has seen growth in many areas, particularly with the students who have come from the Academy and moved on to fruitful careers at Fordham Prep. As those students from the Summer Academy have now graduated from high school and college, the Prep has seen these graduates achieve many awards and accomplishments. Among these achievements are admission to some of the best local and national colleges and universities. Academy alumni who have gone on to graduate from the Prep are attending or have attended the following schools of higher education:

American University, Washington, D.C.
Boston University, Boston, MA
Catholic University, Washington, D.C.
College of Mt. St. Vincent, Bronx, NY
Loyola University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD
Manhattan College, New York, NY
Morehouse College, Atlanta, GA
New York University, New York, NY

Pace University, Pleasantville, NY
Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA
Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY
SUNY at Albany, Albany, NY
SUNY at Purchase, Purchase, NY
SUNY at Oswego, Oswego, NY
Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY
Trinity College, Hartford, CT

FPSA: ACTIVITIES













I Am

I am a man who wants to be the best.

I wonder if I can be the best sometimes.

I hear the voice of my parents encouraging me.

I see the world as a big opportunity.

I want the people around to acknowledge me.

I am a man who wants to be the best.

I pretend that I am happy though I am sad.

I feel depressed when I dongt give my all.

I touch the lives of those who need help.

I worry about my future and if I will ever make it.

I cry when I disappoint those who care for me.

I am a man who wants to be the best.

I understand that in order to be the best, I must work hard.

I say I dongt care when I mostly do.

I dream of the day when I rise to the top.

I try to be the best I can be.

I hope that I will never give up.

I am a man who knows he can be the best.



I Am

I am a person that wants everyone else to feel as good as I do and

I wonder if everyone wants to be me as

I hear the cries of others that want to be in my shoes.

I see others that with help, become the best that they can be, and

I want to know and be sure that everyone can be happy

I am a person that searches for the best in others.

I pretend that I am perfect on the outside, but I am also hurt by society and

I feel as if others want the help of society too.

I touch the dirt of success and

I worry if others will be able to experience this, so

I cry for those out of my grasp who fall too far.

I am someone who wants everyone to strive for their own perfection.

I understand that some cannot so I say õat least tryö and

I dream of a world where everyone feels good about themselves.

I try to help those who havenot reached this, so I hope for the success of my

loved ones, friends, and all of those who want it and finally,

I am a kid that wants you to be the best you can be and not need to copy others.



I wonder what will happen in my journey.

I hear my family supporting me.

I see why sometimes my parents are strict.

family.

I am a person who is kind and friendly to others.

I pretend to be strong in the outside but sometimes I feel weak in the

I feel disappointed at myself when I let my family down.

I worry sometimes when I hurt someone@s feelings.

I hope Iøll be successful in life.

I am who I am.

I Am

I am a person who is determined to reach my

I want to be successful and always help my

inside.

I cry sometimes when I dongt figure out something.

I am a person who doesnot give up.

I understand why sometimes I fail and dongt get the answer.

I say to myself õI can do it.ö

I dream to always do what is right.

I try to do my best and to be a man for others.

I Am

I am who I appear to be.

I wonder about my future.

I hear words of praise and enthusiasm.

I see what I believe.

I want to grasp a beautiful life.

I am who I need to be.

I pretend that my life is heading for success.

I feel my future is going to be fantastic. I touch the sky to seek great adventures.

I worry that I will fail in life.

I cry when I push hard to do my greatest.

I understand that I have goals in life.

I say I will fight to the top. I dream of the perfect life.

I am who I have to be.

I try to achieve my dreams.

I hope to work to the best I can do.

I am who I strive to be.

Page 7 Summer 2013

SUMMER ACADEMY FACULTY AND STAFF



Director: *Wanda Piñeiro B.S. New York University M.A., P.D. Fordham University*

Born and raised in the South Bronx, Mrs. Piñeiro has been teaching at Fordham

Prep since 1979. She teaches Spanish to both lower and upperclassmen. In addition to being the Chair of the Modern Language Department at the Prep, she is moderator of the Spanish Club and is the school Director of Diversity.



Instructor:
Brian Armstrong
B.A. Johnson C. Smith University
M.S.T. Iona College

Mr. Armstrong is a Social Studies and Reading teacher at St. Mary School, where he has taught for fourteen years and served as mod-

erator of various activities including Student Council. Mr. Armstrong has taught and been a role model for the Summer Academy since its beginning.



Instructor:
Randall Pedro
B.A. College of the Holy Cross
M.A. Fordham University

A former football standout at the College of the Holy Cross, Mr. Pedro has been

teaching at Fordham Prep for twenty-three years. He teaches Religious Studies and serves as the moderator of the Kawaida Club, the African-American student organization, as well as serving as coach of the Prepøs bowling team. Mr. Pedro has also been serving as a teacher and role model in the Summer Academy since its beginning.



Instructor: Vijay DaCosta '04 B.A. Le Moyne College M.A. Fordham University

Previously, he was a campus minister and lacrosse coach at Gonzaga College High School in Washington, DC. Born and raised in the Bronx, he attended St. Mary School and Fordham Prep. This is Mr. DaCostaøs sixth year with the Summer Academy.

Created and Edited by: Steven Vazquez ÷12 Photos Provided by: Brian Armstrong





Counselor: Adrian Cacho '15

Adrian currently attends the Prep and is going into his junior year this coming September. At the Prep, he is an honor

student, does Track and Field, and is a member of both the Spanish Club and Campus Ministry Board. He attended the Summer Academy in 2009 which allowed him to understand more about the Fordham Prep community and make it possible for him to be successful at the Prep.





Counselor: Nigel Rodriquez '12

Nigel attended FPSA in 2006. He currently attends Boston University, majoring in Mechanical Engineering. At the Prep, he was an honor student who par-

ticipated in track and field.





Counselor: Kenneth Thomas'13

Kenneth attended FPSA in 2007 and has recently graduated from the Prep. Next year, he will be attending Trinity

College in Hartford, Connecticut. He is an honor student and participated in track and field and was a member of the Diversity Alliance.





Counselor: Steven Vazquez '12

Steven currently is studying Computer Engineering. At the Prep, he was an honor student and played baseball. He attended the Summer Academy program in 2006, and has returned to give

back to the program which made attending Fordham a reality.

THE FPSA WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PROGRAM:

Fordham Preparatory School
Fr. Kenneth Boller, SJ
Mr. Robert J. Gomprecht '65
Mr. Dennis M. Ahern '63
Mrs. Theresa Napoli
Mrs. Mella O'Halloran
Mr. Kevin Piggot
Jaime Rivera '09
Fr. Joseph Kamiensky SJ
Cater to You
Families of the FPSA
Teachers and Administrators of the FPSA