



La Salle Academy **NEWSLETTER**

PHILADELPHIA

In the News...



Our Annual LSA Proud Golf Classic will take place on **Monday, September 27th, 2021** at Whitemarsh Valley Country Club and Green Valley Country Club.

Please visit La Salle Academy's newly modified website for up-to-date details, events, and LSA News at www.lasalleacademy.net

The LSA Class of 2021 will graduate on **Thursday, June 17th, 2021** in a virtual ceremony on the "La Salle Academy" YouTube channel.

LSA's Virtual event, *Your Action Our Future* was a major success as our generous Donors and Board Members helped us surpass our goal.

Letter From the Principal and the President

Dear Friends,

Our June La Salle Academy newsletter is always a time of reflection amidst the chaos. At the end of May and the beginning of June, schools are busy with many things: end of the year learning and teaching, preparing grades, helping students finish strong, keeping children on track, preparing for graduation and, for LSA, readying ourselves for our Extended Year Summer Session. This year is no different, and yet, it was a *remarkably different* year. With guidance from our La Salle Academy Board of Trustees and the Education Plus Health Program, we navigated the COVID-19 pandemic and guidelines, and we were able to witness the growth and learning within our school. Students and staff took the 2020 – 2021 School theme of "We Are One" seriously, and found new ways to learn and to work.

This year has taught us all so much.

Without knowing it, each of us has been pulled to this saying by Dr. Sukhraj S. Dhillon: "Always believe that something wonderful is about to happen." With faith in God and our mission, with the help of our Board of Trustees and with generous donations from so many, something wonderful happens at La Salle Academy almost every day. Good and wonderful things are happening in our halls.

Amidst the chaos of the spring and early summer, as we all struggle to find our footing after an unusual year, we thank you for believing in us, in our students, in the La Salle Academy mission. We thank you for helping to make something wonderful happen.

With gratitude,



Teresa Diamond
Teresa Diamond
Principal



Sister Jeanne McGowan, SSJ
Sister Jeanne McGowan, SSJ
President



The class of 2021 posing for their first picture as third graders at LSA in 2015.



Eighth graders on their first day of school in 2020 (7 students virtual).

Eighth Grade Memories

Angel Daniel Arevalo MERCY CAREER & TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL



I started at La Salle Academy after a big move. One of my favorite memories that I will always remember is ice skating with my class. We went to the Blue Cross RiverRink, and it was the first time I got to know my friends. It was the first time I have ever ice skated!

I am so grateful for the opportunities that La Salle Academy has given to me.

La Salle Academy has given me many gifts and opportunities and I am so thankful that I could go to school here. They accepted me with a different native language, and I am learning more and more each day at LSA. I am also thankful for all the teachers that are always working hard to give us a good education.

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James Brown MERCY CAREER & TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL



Attending La Salle Academy was the best decision I could have ever made. Doing so has provided me with so many memories, life lessons learned, and opportunities. One of my favorite memories was playing for the basketball team in seventh grade because I got the chance to show my skills. Even though we did not win that year, we still tried our hardest and had the most fun we could. I do wish we could have played this year.

I am so thankful for the Board Members because, without them, I would not have the opportunity to attend La Salle Academy. I would like to thank Ms. Diamond and Sister Jeanne because no matter what I am going through, they motivate me to keep pushing and not to give up. I am grateful to all of our teachers for preparing me for the next steps in my life.

Alannah Bumpars MERCY CAREER & TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL



My most memorable memory at La Salle Academy was in 5th-grade when we went to Arnold's Family Fun Center. This day was the best because on the bus trip on the way there we were singing, playing games, and some of us were asleep. We also saw deer on the way there! When we got there and went inside, I saw that there were students from other schools, and we became friends. I still talk to them and they are in high school now. LSA helped me learn that we are all more similar than we realize.

I am grateful for my family, friends, and Lasallian community because they always believe in me and never give up on me. They always push me when I want to give up, and when I believe I cannot they believe I can. La Salle Academy is a great school, and they believe in all their students. Thank you!

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Juliana Carrasquillo CRISTO REY PHILADELPHIA HIGH SCHOOL



Choosing my favorite memory at La Salle Academy is extremely hard because there are so many things that I have enjoyed during the six years I have been here. Although there are many things I have enjoyed, my favorite memory was when the Bartynski's invited us to Ocean City and we spent the day at the beach. We all had fun running in the ocean and playing games. We went to Uncle Bill's Pancake House, too! There were so many amazing memories I had with my class that I will never forget.

I am thankful to La Salle Academy for giving me so many opportunities. I grew into a smart, independent individual. I am thankful for the Board Members supporting us. I am very thankful to my teachers throughout the years for helping me every step of the way, especially Mr. Rossi for guiding us and helping with whatever he can. I am thankful for Ms. Diamond for always being there and telling us how important we are as people. I appreciate every single last one of the teachers and the rest of the staff members for their time and their love that they have for us.

Eighth Grade Memories

Zamir Castro ROMAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

I am lucky to have been at La Salle Academy since third grade, and I have many memories even though my seventh and eighth grade years were cut short due to the pandemic. My favorite memory is my third grade year when I had to adapt to a new classroom and meet new friends and new teachers. I love all the help LSA gives me, the trips I was able to go on to places I have never been before, and talking to friends that have the same interests as me.

I am always thankful for my family and the support that they have provided me. Also, I thank all the La Salle Academy teachers and staff members for getting me ready for high school. I am grateful to the title one teacher, Mrs. Mulderig for helping me succeed in my eighth grade year. Lastly, I am thankful for my eighth grade teacher Mr. Rossi for the funny jokes and the serious work he gives us to show he cares about every one of us.

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Abraham Garcia-Soriano PUEBLA HIGH SCHOOL, MEXICO

My most memorable time at La Salle Academy was our class trip to the Jersey Shore. In sixth grade, we went to the Maginnis' house, the beach, and water tubing, which was so amazing. I was so scared, but in the end, it was one of the best moments that I have ever had at La Salle Academy. Another unforgettable time was going to the Riley family's house. They are so kind, nice, and helpful to so many students. I loved having Mr. Rossi this year! He is one of the most encouraging and helpful teachers that I ever had. He is one of the greatest things since sliced bread.

I am personally grateful for all the support from Ms. Diamond, Sister Jeanne, and Sister Margaret. I would also like to show my gratitude to all the benefactors that are so generous and kind to every student at LSA. I love how every single teacher and volunteer in this school is always there for the students and always happy. I am happy to be graduating knowing that La Salle Academy will always be a part of my life.



Skye Gerena COMMUNITY ACADEMY OF PHILADELPHIA

My favorite memory at La Salle Academy is when we went to the Riley family's house. The pool was so fun, and they had an ice cream truck! We also went on a unique art trip that was fun looking at all the different types of art and were able to see different churches, synagogues, and mosques.

I am thankful for all of the opportunities that La Salle Academy gave me and all the other students in this school. They help prepare us for high school, and through their faith and kindness, they give us things we need if we do not have it at home like food, school uniforms, and supermarket gift cards. LSA teaches us everyday to always choose kindness.

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Alaysha Gonzalez MERCY CAREER & TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

From the time I came into third grade to eighth grade, my favorite memory at La Salle Academy was when in sixth grade Mrs. Guy told us that **if** we behaved, she would bring **Michelle Obama** to the school. I was so excited! At that time, I believed her, and now when I look back at this moment, I cannot help but laugh. I do think it shows that La Salle Academy lets us dream big.

I will always remember all of Mr. Rossi's funny stories that he shares with us. I am thankful for Catapult Learning because they have provided me with wonderful teachers such as Mrs. Mulderig. I am also thankful for Mr. Rossi because he did not give up on me. He believed in me and I appreciate him and his consistent motivation.



Eighth Grade Memories

Marta Gonzalez

LITTLE FLOWER HIGH SCHOOL

My favorite memory at LaSalle Academy is when my whole class and I went to the Riley family's house. That was a huge relief from the pressure of schoolwork. It is so nice that they open their pool for us, and I loved the food and ice cream. We are lucky to have a day like that to look forward to each year.



I am thankful for the education that I got at La Salle Academy. The teachers and other students are welcoming and try to be helpful. I am thankful for the kindness and patience of the teachers. Most importantly I am thankful to the Board Members, Benefactors, Ms. Diamond, Sister Jeanne, and Sister Margaret for helping me get to this point in my life, and for that, I will forever be thankful to La Salle Academy.

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Allison Kelso

LITTLE FLOWER HIGH SCHOOL

My time here at La Salle Academy has been amazing throughout the years. It is going to be upsetting being without my classmates and not seeing all the familiar faces here. I am truly going to miss this school when I graduate. There are so many wonderful LSA memories, but if I can narrow it down to one it would be the first-ever beach trip. The Higgins family invited our entire class to their house in Avalon. We all had so much fun at the beach and we all were excited to go to Uncle Bill's Pancake House. We ate delicious food and shared lots of smiles and laughs throughout the entire time. We played games and we were all helping each other out and cheering one another on. It was an amazing experience.



I am extremely thankful to the Board Members for allowing me to have a great education at La Salle Academy. I want to thank my parents and family for helping me out when I needed them. They helped me get to this day. I am so thankful for Sister Jeanne and Ms. Diamond. They have helped me and my family and everyone in the school in so many ways. They are so generous and kind to everyone. I will always remember the LSA teachers and staff because they always put a smile on my face.

Arianna Lipford

COMMUNITY ACADEMY OF PHILADELPHIA CS

I first started at La Salle Academy in sixth grade, so I do not have as many school memories as the other students do, but I made some great ones. I just loved the time that my class went to the beach and went tubing with the Maginnis family. I liked that trip because Mr. and Mrs. Maginnis drove us on their boat while all of us took turns tubing. We had fun on the bay and they were so nice to all of us! We ended the great day with delicious food, and they let us keep our things at their house while we went to the beach.



I am thankful for the Board Members, staff, volunteers, benefactors, and my classmates at La Salle Academy. I am also thankful for the supplies and books that La Salle Academy provided to us. I looked forward to Christmas time and to the new gym clothes and new school uniforms that Mr. Danella provided us. I also am extremely grateful to have gotten a scholarship to LSA.

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Khaliyl Range McCowan Ali

COMMONWEALTH CHARTER ACADEMY

My favorite moment at La Salle Academy was going to the Riley family's house because I had a fun time at the pool and being there made me learn how to swim in an instant. While in the pool, I was following my friends into the deeper end of the pool unbeknownst to me. At the time, I thought my friends were walking over to the other side but when we were walking, we just kept getting shorter and shorter. I did not know they were treading water the entire time. So, I accidentally walked into eight feet of water without noticing the water was getting deeper. Luckily, I remembered our other times in the pool and I just kept walking and swimming like Dory.



I am grateful that La Salle Academy helped me with the issues I was having with schoolwork and keeping me on my toes! I am thankful they gave us time to do work in school, so I could have more free time after school and on the weekends. Although COVID made us miss our eighth grade graduation trip and end-of-the-year activities, I am thankful for the fun trips they let us go on. Nevertheless, I am forever grateful for the time they took to help me in and out of school. I will try to remember "just keep swimming!"

Eighth Grade Memories

Naziya Moorman LITTLE FLOWER HIGH SCHOOL

Going to La Salle Academy I made so many memories throughout the years. Our trip to the La Salle University's Sig PhiveK run was one of my favorite experiences. I was able to run across the track and meet new people on the college campus. Our visit to USLI in the 7th-grade was another one of my favorite times here. Learning about a business while doing fun activities was so interesting.



I am thankful to my mother for bringing me to this wonderful school and always supporting me no matter what. I would like to thank all teachers, Board Members, and my peers for motivating me, supporting me, making sure I am doing my best, and always being there for me when I feel like I cannot do certain things. Lastly, I am very thankful to my friends, Mr. Rossi, and our teachers for always helping me with my work and making school a fun experience.

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Alexandra Olivencia LITTLE FLOWER HIGH SCHOOL

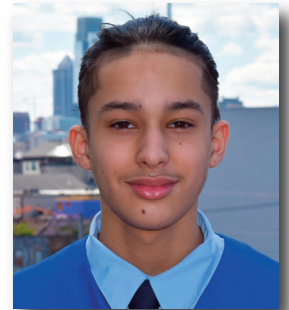
Being here at La Salle Academy these past two years has given me plenty of amazing memories. Those amazing memories have been made possible because I have met some of my closest friends. My favorite memory at La Salle Academy was the accomplishment of becoming the Student Council President. I have learned so many leadership skills as President and cannot wait to utilize them in my future.



I am so grateful for the opportunity to join the Lasallian alumni family. During my time here I have grown as a person, as a friend, and as a student. I am so thankful for my family, especially my mother because she always believes in me and is always encouraging me to do my best in all that I do. I am also so thankful for the Board Members, benefactors, staff, and my teachers. They all made LSA an amazing learning environment. Mr. Rossi made me want to come to school every day because he made learning fun and easy.

Alexandro Rosa MERCY CAREER & TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

Some of the most valued moments that I have had at La Salle Academy were on our field trips. The field trips that the school brings us to are always educational and fun. One of my favorite field trips that I have been to at LSA is the Maginniss' house. Mr. and Mrs. Maginniss took us to the beach, gave us donuts, took us on a boat trip around the bay, and they even let us honk the horn. We had a blast! I am grateful to everyone at LSA for giving us such fun school trips.



I love LSA because of its kindness and patience with every student. I love the lunches and snacks they give because they are diverse and meet all the necessary food groups. La Salle Academy is an overall great school and I am so grateful that they give me a chance to have an exciting and happy future.

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Kiany Varela ST. HUBERT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

At La Salle Academy I made so many memories throughout the years. Our trips to the Riley family's amazing house were my favorite memories. I was able to hang out with my friends and meet new people. Our visits to USLI in third, fourth, and fifth grade for Christmas celebrations were some of the best times of my life. Each time we visited, we got to see the amazing company, talk with really nice volunteers and do fun activities.



I am thankful to my mom and dad for sending me to this wonderful school and always giving me the support that I need. I would like to thank all my teachers for helping me and motivating me to do great things. Also, I want to thank the Board Members for making this school possible as well as providing academic field trips. I loved how every year on Christmas we received gym clothes and treats. I am very thankful to my friends, Mr. Rossi, and Ms. Mulderig for making the school a fantastic experience.

Mr. Rossi's 2021 Reflection

This year's school theme was "LSA: We Are One" and although the eighth graders were not all physically in the classroom together, they did an amazing job of living out that theme daily. The COVID-19 pandemic, and the city, state and CDC guidelines meant that the class of 2021 lost out on opportunities; yet, we made so many memories that will last a lifetime. As the school year ends, I like to take a step back and think about all the good experiences and memories that we have shared as a class.

This eighth grade class of girls and boys impressed me this year because of all the obstacles that they overcame. They had to wear masks all day long, had to stay in their classroom, and were not able to sit near or truly work with their classmates on a day-to-day basis. The school was quite different for this class and they worked as "one" to make it the best that it could be. We shared some laughs with our weekly dance classes, which were taught by Richard Simmons. The Class of 2021 now has an appreciation for "Sweating to the Oldies."

As this school year unwinds, I can honestly look back and deeply appreciate all the hard work that the students put in during this difficult time. It was not easy, but they made it seem easy, and I can appreciate that.

With the eighth grade graduates all moving on to the next chapter in their lives, I hope they truly understand how blessed they are to be part of the LSA Family. I want them to know that I honestly believe in them and I hope they have learned as much from me as I have learned from them. I also hope they continue to grow as young adults and continue to live out the five goals of La Salle Academy: to be

**Respectful****Responsible****Motivated****Consistent****Peaceful**

Good luck in the future Class of 2021. Be sure to visit!

STEAM

The La Salle Academy Extended Year Summer Session is ON for the Summer of 2021. We are so excited to make this summer academically enriching and filled with surprise academic fun! With the help of one of the federal grants for education and schools, Ms. Diamond, Sr. Jeanne and the teachers are going full STEAM ahead with learning! We will have a part time S.T.E.A.M. teacher helping our teachers teach Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Math. As we move forward, we know that our efforts to expand S.T.E.A.M. components will encourage our students to engage in experiential learning, work hard in problem solving, embrace collaboration and be creative.

LSA PROUD Golf Classic**2021 LSA Proud Golf Classic**

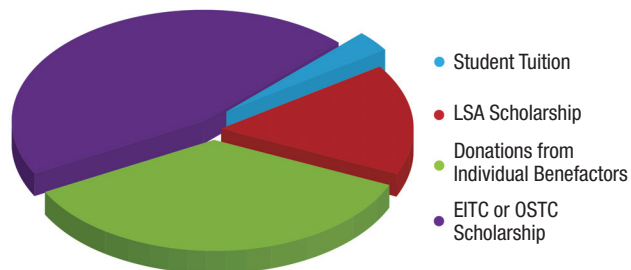
September 27, 2021



La Salle Academy is hosting our Annual LSA Proud Golf Classic on Monday, September 27, 2021. Foursomes can play either Whitmarsh Valley Country Club or Green Valley Country Club. Everyone is welcome to join us at WVCC for cocktails and light refreshments after golfing and enjoying food stations on the courses. It will be a great day to support the mission and students of La Salle Academy. Contact Megan G. Thomson with any questions or if you would like to sponsor our outing. Check out the LSA website for updated information.

Thank You for Supporting La Salle Academy With Your Tax Dollars

Our La Salle Academy Community thanks every business, business leader and individual who made a donation to La Salle Academy through the PA EITC or OSTC programs. We are grateful for your support and for this critical funding. The scholarships you help to create through the EITC and OSTC programs allow our students and families to experience critical change. The EITC and OSTC programs create scholarships that allow our students and families to attend La Salle Academy, to experience our unique enrichment opportunities and educational extras.

Your generous support is needed.

Please renew your commitment. We hope that in this coming school year, we can again invite you to visit La Salle Academy. There have been some amazing changes and upgrades that nurture our students' minds, that enrich their learning and that inspire them to be the best they can be. Scholarships from the EITC and OSTC programs make it possible.

Your Action, Our Future Virtual Event

On April 29, 2021 La Salle Academy held its first virtual fundraiser benefiting five unique categories that make up our school: **Fine Arts & Enrichment, Graduate Support, Education Plus Health, Science & STEAM**, and our **Sponsor a Student** program. With much help from our teachers, faculty, staff, Board Members, and donors we surpassed our goal by nearly \$15,000 raising approximately \$40,000. We would also like to thank Dominic Episcopo Ltd. and The Sports Fan Base Network for communicating our mission through their creativity.





La Salle Academy

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