

San Miguel School

PROVIDENCE

LASALLIAN EDUCATION
Transforming Lives Since 1680



San Miguel News

Fall/Winter 2014

Your impact comes full circle

A San Miguel graduate joins our staff for the first time, marking an important milestone in San Miguel's history and moving graduate involvement in a new direction for the future.



When San Miguel School's new Graduate Support Director started this summer, he did not need an orientation on the "Miguel School" model, mission or philosophy. In fact, he needed no introduction at all, as he knew first-hand the importance of San Miguel in the lives of its students, graduates, and families.

"San Miguel had a huge impact on me as a student and on the path I took in life," said Manuel Ortiz, SMS 2003, who started his role as Graduate Support Director in July. **"I'm grateful for this opportunity to come back to my community, not just as an alum but as a part of the everyday fabric of the organization. It's an opportunity to make a difference."**

A 2007 graduate of La Salle Academy and a 2011 graduate of Providence College, Manny is the first alum to return to San Miguel School as a full-time employee. As someone who himself benefitted from San Miguel's Graduate Support Program, Manny is able to bring a unique perspective to his new position.

"I went through the pipeline and made it out, and I hope the kids can look up to me as an example of what is possible," said Manny. **"Because of my experiences, I can relate to their stories, to the realities of their lives, and the situations they are going through."**

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Manny has many plans for the future of the Graduate Support Program. While the program has focused mainly on providing resources to recent graduates transitioning into high school and college, Manny hopes to extend the program's reach to families and older alumni. Manny's ability to speak fluent Spanish provides a much-needed service, facilitating communication with parents who experience language barriers. Additionally, a newly-formed Alumni Committee met for the first time in October, with a goal of empowering graduates to give back and connect with their alma mater in a meaningful, impactful way.

“We are a small school with limited resources, yet our alumni numbers are four times the number of current San Miguel students,” said Manny. **“We are at a pivotal point, and we need to organize our alumni as a unified body, engage our older alums, and look for opportunities for continued involvement at the school.”**

For Manny, working at San Miguel feels like “coming home.” He is excited to have the opportunity to give back to the school and to help his “young brothers” as a resource and guide.

“At a point when I needed it, San Miguel was there for me,” said Manny. **“Now, in my position I strive to provide the same level of support that I received; I want to give other students the same opportunities that I had.”**



Manny Ortiz, SMS 2003, as an eighth grader at San Miguel.

Ever wonder what impact you have on the lives of our boys? Just ask a graduate.

“I appreciate San Miguel's commitment to helping students reach their full potential, especially ones who might not otherwise realize what is within reach for them.”

-Allen, SMS 2000

“San Miguel was the first stepping stone in discovering who I was meant to be.”

-Joan, SMS 2004

“San Miguel is my family.

Whether you are alumni, volunteers, or teachers of past and present, we're all a part of this family that always looks out for each other and seeks the best interest of every single individual.”

-Darwin, SMS 2008



“To me, San Miguel is synonymous with ‘opportunity.’

It is kind of like the key that opens doors you never imagined you would open. That's what it means to me, and I am always grateful for that.”

-Francisco, SMS 2011

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Thank you *for our* new school bus!

Our boys “made a fuss” through a video fundraising campaign this summer, and your response was overwhelming. Now, our boys have a new school bus—thanks to you!

Our school bus appeal raised more than \$25,000, including a very generous donation from an anonymous donor. The new school bus will provide reliable transportation for our students to athletic events, field trips, community service projects, and other extra-curricular activities.

Our former school bus, which was nearly 20 years old and often in need of repair, also fell victim to vandalism in the past few years. Broken windows, stolen license plates, and trash left behind by uninvited guests were discovered numerous times this past school year, prompting an urgent need for safe, clean and reliable transportation. Our new bus also has a maximum capacity of 71 passengers, which will allow for our entire student body to travel together to events; our old bus could accommodate less than two classes.

A special thank you to A. A. Mariani & Son Funeral Home, our generous neighbors who allow us to park our bus in their parking lot when not in use. We are grateful for the generosity of all who contributed toward our new bus, ensuring that our boys will have proper transportation for many years to come.

Check out the bus appeal video, written and produced by members of our Class of 2014!



A Circle of Service

San Miguel Providence has a profound impact not only on its students, but on all those who have been a part of its mission over the past 21 years. The “ripple effect” of its impact can be seen at the newest Miguel School, which opened in Concord, California this fall. De La Salle Academy’s inaugural staff brings with it wisdom and experience from working at San Miguel Providence:

- Principal **Marilyn Paquette** served two years as a Lasallian Volunteer at San Miguel from 1999-2001;
- Teacher **Carly Myrtle** served as our most recent Lasallian Volunteer from 2012-2014;
- San Miguel’s founder and former Executive Director **Brother Lawrence** will serve as an advisor to the new school throughout its beginnings.

From the “oldest” Miguel School to the newest, San Miguel Providence’s impact comes full-circle in the continued commitment of Marilyn, Carly, and Brother Lawrence to serving young men in need.



Marilyn Paquette and Carly Myrtle, both of whom served as Lasallian Volunteers at San Miguel Providence, proudly sport their San Miguel polos as they work at De La Salle Academy in Concord, California. De La Salle Academy, the 13th Miguel School, opened this August.

You Help *to* Make the Season Bright

Your generous support of holiday programs at San Miguel spreads love and joy to our boys and their families during the Christmas season



Thanksgiving Baskets

Many of our families struggle to provide a traditional Thanksgiving meal for their loved ones. Last year, thanks to your generosity, we were able to provide 46 of our families with Thanksgiving Baskets full of food items—plus a gift card for a turkey!

This year, 49 of our families have requested assistance through the Thanksgiving Basket program. **By contributing gift cards or putting together a basket full of “fixings,” you can give one of our families so much to be thankful for this Thanksgiving!**

Embrace-a-Family

Imagine a Christmas morning without presents under the tree. For many of our families, this situation is a reality. After putting food on the table and paying the bills, many of our parents worry that there won't be money left for Christmas gifts. Our Embrace-a-Family helps reduce this holiday stress. Individuals, families, and organizations who contribute to Embrace-a-Family are given a list of the family members in the household and information on their clothing sizes, favorite colors, and hobbies, ensuring that everyone has a present to open this Christmas!

Last year, the families of 50 current students and three graduates were “embraced” through this program. **This Christmas, 56 of our families are in need of your holiday help. You can help make Christmas morning special for our boys and their families!**



San Miguel Food Pantry

Our food pantry is open all year, available for families who need help stocking their cupboards. This past year, nearly 70% of our families benefitted from our food pantry. Contributions of non-perishable food items are appreciated at any time of the year. **Please consider holding a food drive at your workplace or asking members of your book club to bring a canned food item with them to your next meeting.** Our boys—and their families—will thank you for it!



For more information on any of our Holiday Giving Programs, please contact Tom Darnowski at (401) 467-9777 x131 or tdarnowski@sanmiguelprov.org

Wish List

- *Shin guards for soccer players*
- *Safety goggles for PE classes and athletics*
- *Grocery store gift cards and donations to our “Emergency Fund” to help families in crisis*
- *White copy paper*
- *Disposable ice packs*
- *Non-perishable food items for our food pantry*
- *Auction and raffle items for our spring gala*



Check out our 2014 Annual Report!

A complete donor listing from the 2013-2014 fiscal year can be found in our 2014 Annual Report. Gifts made during this fiscal year (after July 1, 2014) will be listed in our Spring Newsletter and our 2015 Annual Report.

Where would our boys be without you?



With rising reports of violent crime in the neighborhoods where our boys live, the risk is great for many of our families.

If San Miguel didn't exist...

...where would our boys and families turn?

...where might their paths lead?

Every child has the right to feel safe and loved.

Every child has the right to create his own path and decide his future.

Our boys need San Miguel School. Our boys need you. Your gift to the Annual Fund helps us to lead the way for our boys and families. You help us provide resources and programming to families in need, and you give opportunity to young men who couldn't otherwise afford a private education. **Yours is a gift of hope—hope for a path out of poverty, and hope for a brighter future.**

Thank you for believing in our boys.

Miracles happen every day at San Miguel—thanks to you.

For more information on making a gift to the San Miguel School, please contact:
Mark Carty, Executive Director, at (401) 467-9777 x113 or mcarty@sanmiguelprov.org -or-
Jennifer Foster, Director of Development, at (401) 467-9777 x117 or jfoster@sanmiguelprov.org

Your legacy. Their future.

By remembering San Miguel in your estate planning, you will ensure that your legacy will make a lasting impact on generations of "Miguel Men" to come. To learn more about becoming a member of the San Miguel Febres Cordero Legacy Society, please contact Jennifer Foster at (401) 467-9777 x117.

Thank you for **teeing-off** to change lives

Our 8th Annual San Miguel Golf Tournament sets a new record as our best tournament yet...thanks to you!

This year's tournament, held September 19 at Pawtucket Country Club, raised more than \$63,000 for our student sponsorship fund, enough to sponsor six boys at San Miguel School this year.

We are grateful to our golfers, raffle donors, and event sponsors for supporting this year's event. Many thanks to our Golf Tournament Committee, led by Bill Collins, Dennis Leamy, Mike Roy, and Jack Walsh, for helping to make this our most successful tournament yet!



Event Sponsors:

Founder's Team • The Cavanagh Company • Walmart • *Miguel Team* • Delta Dental of RI • QML, Inc. • *Principal's Team* • Amica Insurance • Citizens Bank • Gilbane Building Company • Heath Jones • Hinckley Allen • *Honors* • Continental Plastics & Packaging • Jeff St. Sauveur • *Teacher's Pet* • A.A. Mariani & Son Funeral Home • Norm Auger • James Baxter • Ted Coogan • Sheila Ehrens • John Nixon • Pawtucket Credit Union • Lewis Wintman • *Beverage Sponsor* • PepsiCo • *Breakfast Sponsor* • Dunkin' Donuts, Garden City

• **SAVE THE DATE** •
4.10.15

The 10th Annual San Miguel School Gala & Miguel Medal Ceremony

Join us for a night of celebration on
Friday, April 10, 2015
at

The Pawtucket Armory
172 Exchange Street, Pawtucket

More details coming soon!

For information on the gala or sponsorship opportunities,
please contact Matt Kavanagh at 401.467.9777 x118.

"Like" San Miguel School: Providence on Facebook to
receive updates on our gala and other school events.

