



28 YEARS AND GROWING!

Big NEWS

A COMMUNITY PREPARATORY SCHOOL PUBLICATION

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COMMUNITY PREP GIRLS WIN PRESTIGIOUS LINCOLN SCHOOL ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

COMMUNITY PREP STUDENTS LEARN TO DREAM BIG, which usually means working towards a full scholarship to an independent school and success at a four-year college. But scholarships are hard to come by, especially in today's economy.

Lincoln School, an independent girls' school in Providence, started its Lincoln Scholars Program in 2002 to attract and keep academically gifted girls at the school. Each year, one outstanding incoming 9th grader is awarded the scholarship. To date, nine girls have won this award – four of them Community Prep graduates. Vanessa Gomez '05, Leticia Lopes '09, Christine Agbelese '10, and Tiffany Zeng '11 were each selected as the top candidate in her respective pool of applicants. "While each girl possesses different talents and interests, they all bring a commitment to academic achievement and a strong sense of community engagement that is illustrated in their involvement in student leadership, athletics and other extracurricular activities," explains Head of School Julia Eells. "We are delighted to have these girls in our community."



Christine, Tiffany and Leticia

Becoming well-rounded community members is something each girl traces back to Community Prep. Leticia: "CP brought out my full potential and developed my confidence as a minority woman, enabling me to feel truly proud in my skin at Lincoln." She loves the all-girls environment, claiming that it makes her feel empowered, something she first experienced at CP. Christine agrees, saying the small classes and strong bonds with her Lincoln School teachers are reminiscent of her experience at CP.

The girls initially felt nervous about leaving Community Prep, where they felt safe and valued, and venturing into unknown territory, with the added pressure of carrying a title they would have to justify each year. It did not take long, however, for them to embrace the honor and challenge that came with their scholarship. They quickly learned that they already possessed all the tools they would need on their continued journey towards becoming strong, independent women.

"CP developed my confidence as a minority woman."

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Exclusive sports tickets, golf, fine jewelry and much more!
Details inside and at www.communityprep.org.

Trustee Profile: Kathy Bartels

A thriving school needs more than just great teachers, students, parents and donors. It needs hands-on help from all sorts of talented professionals. Kathy Bartels, Community Prep's go-to person for all things architectural, has been behind the scenes (and behind the drawings) for years now.

When Kathy graduated from Dartmouth College, she started working in Lincoln School's admissions office and first came to Community Prep to recruit students. She was intrigued then and there, but her path followed a different route when construction projects at Lincoln School inspired her to earn a master's in architecture from Harvard's Graduate School of Design. After graduation, she and her husband, Steve Caton, collaborated on designing and building America's largest indoor climbing gym, Carabiner's Indoor Climbing, in New Bedford, which Steve owns and operates.

For the past 15 years, Kathy has been at Lerner Ladds Bartels Architects, which recently renovated a mill building in Pawtucket, moved its entire 20+ person office, and adopted a new logo and streamlined name, LLB Architects. While celebrating the firm's 75th anniversary, Kathy notes that firms need to grow and change, just like buildings do, in order to stay relevant and successful. "We are thrilled with our new space and our future."

Nancy and Steve Lerner re-introduced Kathy to Community Prep after 10 years away from education. She joined the Buildings & Grounds and Long-Range Planning Committees, where she's been making valuable contributions as the school plans for future campus expansion and addresses bathroom renovations and fire code upgrades. "I am happy to assist with all kinds of projects," says Kathy. "I know they help improve the environment for the students and help the teachers and staff do what they do best."



Kathy with partners Chris Ladds and Drayton Fair

Dan Corley Wins Brown University's Prestigious John Hope Award



The John Hope Award, co-sponsored by the Brown Alumni Association and the Swearer Center for Public Service, is named for the 1894 African-American alumnus who dedicated his life to education and community service. With this award, Brown honors a graduate whose commitment to public service exemplifies leadership, innovation, and a direct impact on the community.

As the 2011 John Hope Award Recipient, Dan, who earned his B.A. at Brown in 1975, joins the company of men and women such as the Executive Director of the National Center for Children and Families, the founder of the Providence Black Repertory Company, a Tuskegee Airman, and the president of both the Society of Black Academic Surgeons and the National Medical Association.

"Since John Hope Settlement House was the first site for Community Prep," explains Dan, "winning the John Hope Award from Brown was especially meaningful. Being seen as an alum who has had a tremendous impact on the community is wonderful."

8th Grader Mikaela Dalton wins the ARTS Summer Scholarship 2011

The scholarship, sponsored by Textron with support from the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts and PPAC Annual Fund donors, allowed 26 talented students to pursue arts education programs this past summer. Mikaela, who has been dancing since age five, chose to enroll in Festival Ballet's four-week Senior Summer Intensive Program. The program was demanding, but that is nothing new for Mikaela, who spends some 14 hours per week in dance classes at Festival Ballet.

"My CP teachers are really understanding about my schedule, and the other kids are really supportive," says Mikaela. "It is such a difference from the school I attended before Community Prep. Dancing is what I have always done and what I've always wanted to do." Mikaela is dreaming big, too. When asked where she would love to dance when she is older, she replies. "Well, I've heard that the Bolshoi has started accepting Americans. That would be a dream come true!"



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A great time was had by all...

The "Meet Community Prep" reception at
Stone Harbour Condominiums in Bristol

The "CP Dinner Party" -- a dinner donated by renowned chef Jaime
D'Oliviera and purchased by Ellen Miller in the Spring 2011 Online Auction

The FreeLove-Clothing "Fashionraiser" at The Apartment

The Music Trivia Night at The Spot Underground

The Community Prep Fall Golf Classic at The Misquamicut Club

and

The Annual
Founders' Society Dinner

hosted by
**Fleming's Prime Steakhouse
& Wine Bar**



ALUMNI UPDATES

BUKHARI NURIDDIN, ESQ. '95 earned his B.A. from Morehouse College and J.D. from Howard University School of Law. In 2009, he founded The Law Office of Bukhari Nuriddin, representing small businesses and individual clients engaged in civil litigation. He believes that starting his own practice dedicated to helping Georgia families resolve their domestic relations



issue has allowed Bukhari to fully realize his passion for advocating for those who are unable to advocate for themselves.

Bukhari is active in a number of professional organizations, including the Young

Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia.

Bukhari says: "At a time of tremendous societal upheaval, including many aspects of our educational system, it has been my privilege to witness the positive effect that a Community Prep education has had on the lives of so many, including myself and my sisters, creating hope where perhaps none existed and most notably, for the least among us.

As I reflect on my time at Community Prep, I believe it was there that I was first exposed to the life-changing benefits of a rigorous and well-rounded academic curriculum and a diverse and creatively oriented learning environment. Indeed it was at Community Prep that I first discovered that I was capable of higher-order thinking.

Community Prep taught me the value of honesty, hard-work, sensitivity, thoughtfulness and introspection. Without those lessons, I doubt that I would have had the tools to complete my educational journey of becoming an attorney or the self-confidence to manage my own law practice.

I am truly grateful to Community Prep for those early experiences as they have helped shape me into the person that I am today."

It is with great sadness that we share the news that **ALYCIA VIERRA '00** passed away 8/14/11. Alycia is survived by her sister, Amber DeSilva '05, parents, brother, grandparents, and daughters Leyonna and Lia. Alycia was working as a Certified Nursing Assistant. Heartfelt condolences to her friends, family, and fellow alums.

Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month with Mayor Taveras

"Yo soy Argentina, Yo soy Bolivia, Yo soy Chile, Yo soy Costa Rica..." The list went on, each child proudly holding up a self-made flag representing a Spanish-speaking country. It was the opening to Community Prep's weekly town meeting, this time celebrating October as Hispanic Heritage Month.

Nearly 40% of Community Prep's students are Hispanic, and the celebration was made especially meaningful by a visit from Mayor Angel Taveras, Rhode Island's first Latino mayor. He told students that being Mayor is difficult but rewarding because he knows he is a role model for kids just like them, who may have never seen someone Hispanic in a position of power. "What I am here to show you is that you can set your sights on a goal, and if you work

"Community Prep kids learn that they can start poor but end up anywhere."

hard and dream big, you will reach it," the Mayor explained.

Following the Mayor's talk, the fourth grade presented a play on the life of Cesar Chavez, America's most famous Latino civil rights activist, who successfully organized immigrant farmers. "Si, se puede (Yes, we can)!" was his slogan, echoed by the young actors. "I'm glad we did the play," says Adrian, who played Chavez. "I'm Hispanic, so it is special to me. I learned a lot about how hard it was to be an immigrant farmer and how much Cesar Chavez helped everyone."

Their teacher, Francisco Velasquez, explains: "Doing a play like this and meeting the Mayor, who grew up just around the corner from this school, teaches our kids so much. Community Prep students learn that they can start poor but end up anywhere. We tell them 'Yes, you can!'"



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