

Big-Hearted & Considerate with a Soft Spot for Kids

Diana Espinal

Diana Espinal's desire to teach was evident from an extremely young age. This Paterson local boasts a very fun fact, "I used to make my sister sit while I made up lesson plans and instructed her every day." It's no surprise she selected PCTI's School of Education and Human Services as her choice of study.

Within her program, Diana has earned eleven credits towards college via the Child Development Associate course with Passaic County Community College. She is both CPR and First Aid certified. As far as being involved in clubs and activities, Diana is a member of SkillsUSA, Book Club, Sign Language Club, Environmental Club, willPower for girlPower, ERASE and is a dedicated Class Representative. In conjunction with her program of study, she volunteers as a Teacher's Assistant at the La Vida II Childcare Center.

Given her stellar academic record, it's no surprise that Diana has been recognized for her grades with an honors standing. This is further reinforced by her rank in the top three percent of the Class of 2016 and a GPA of 4.12!

When asked about the education she's received at PCTI, Diana said, "I'm so thankful for the experience that I've gotten while in high school. I feel super prepared for the next step in life." Diana candidly added, that college is defi-



nitely on her agenda.

"I've already committed to Kean University where I'll be pursuing a degree in Early Childhood Education." Eventually, Diana plans on going to graduate school to become a Counselor.

Her lifelong dream is to realize a passion that began in early youth. Diana says she especially connects with children and finds great reward in being kind and helping others.

"You never know what a person is going

through, so being considerate goes a long way."

That's some fantastic advice from an incredibly caring young woman. In fact, Diana has another gem she wishes to share with her fellow Bulldogs.

"You've got to risk it to get the biscuit," she laughs, knowing how silly it sounds. Diana went on to explain that it took a lot for her to open up and get involved throughout her high school career. "My grades improved and I became a lot more outgoing. The effort was really worth it."

Congratulations on being selected as April's Student of the Month, Diana. Your big heart, passion, and drive will ensure unlimited success in the future!

HIGHLIGHTS

- Achieved stellar grades with a GPA of 4.12
- Earned a potential 11 college credits
- Consistently achieved Honor Roll status
- Class Representative, involved in SkillsUSA, Book Club, Environmental Club, willPower for girlPower, & ERASE
- Communications Officer of the Sign Language Club
- CPR and First Aid certified
- Goal: Graduate from Kean University with a degree in Early Childhood education, attend graduate school and become a School Counselor