

PCTI STUDENT OF THE MONTH

June 2017

A Hard Worker Seeking Opportunities SAMANTHA CARRILLO

Samantha Carrillo is a young woman from Paterson whose inquisitive nature led her to study as part of the Academy of Criminal Justice.

Her accolades include being accepted into the National Honor Society, World Language Society, and New Jersey Girl's State. As if by wonderful foreshadowing, Samantha was selected as a Foundation for Success member, an honor bestowed on the top ten ninth grade students with the highest GPAs. She was even honored with the Circle of Success distinction! It's no wonder she earned the title of Salutatorian for the Class of 2017.

Samantha boasts participation in a host of activities, including Student Council, Concert Band, FBLA, SkillsUSA, Gifted & Talented, and Mock Trial, in which she and her team won the Passaic County Championship. Samantha is also an active volunteer at the Clifton Public Library and the Juvenile Conference Center where she lends an ear to help find solutions for troubled youths.

As salutatorian, Samantha ranks in the top one percent of her class with a GPA of 4.59! She has accumulated an outstanding thirty-three potential college credits and has earned the distinction of Principal's Honor Roll throughout her entire high school career.



In addition to these academic accolades, she has been named a QuestBridge College Prep Scholar & finalist - an honor earned during her junior year which celebrated her achievements and gave her an early start in applying to colleges. She also participated in the Berkeley College Business Leadership programs and AP Physics webinars.

After graduation, Samantha looks forward to continuing her education at the Ivy League school of Harvard University where she will potentially pursue studies in Physics. When asked why this area interests her, Samantha says, "Physics has infinite applications and is always evolving. I'll never be bored."

Her time at PCTI has been

filled with life-lessons. Samantha commented on her journey of growth. "I realized that in order to achieve a dream, some opportunities will be given to me, but I have worked hard for a lot more great opportunities." She elaborated on rejection, "One has to have a little hope and keep going. In the end, I gave my best efforts and I'll always try my best."

These are wise words from a wise young woman. Congratulations Samantha, your life philosophy will ensure success!

HIGHLIGHTS

- Recognized as the Salutatorian for the Class of 2017
- Will graduate with a potential 33 college credits
- Selected for Freshmen Foundation for Success, Circle of Success, NJ Girl's State, NHS, & WLHS
- Involved in Student Council, Concert Band, FBLA, SkillsUSA, Gifted & Talented, & Mock Trial
- Volunteers at Clifton Public Library & the Juvenile Conference Center
- Goal: Graduate from Harvard University with a Physics degree