

# PCTI STUDENT OF THE MONTH

November 2017

## Friendly and Determined to Make a Difference SONIA CONDE

Sonia Conde is a young woman from Passaic whose enjoyment of styling hair led her to become a member of PCTI's School of Cosmetology. "It's about helping others and making them feel good about themselves," she adds.

As a member of this fine program, Sonia has already received a Work Permit from the NJ Board of Cosmetology for achieving 600 hours of service. By the time she graduates, Sonia has the opportunity to earn the NJ State Board of Cosmetology Licensure.

At PCTI, she is involved with the ROTC, the Environmental Club, and is a Class Representative. Sonia even plays the bass drum in the marching band! Academically, she ranks in the top seven percent of her class with a GPA of 4.09. She has the potential to graduate with three college credits and has achieved Principal's Honor Roll status throughout her high school career. Sonia was even selected for induction into the World Language Honor Society.

This young woman's penchant for helping others extends far beyond her program area. In fact, after graduation, Sonia will shift her educational focus to become a Criminal Psychologist - a career that combines two of her favorite fields.

"I have a real interest in how people think and why they act



the way they do, as well as the motivations for their actions. I also want to get involved in the Criminal Justice field," she says.

Sonia's future career of choice will allow her to combine her problem-solving abilities and her desire to help others.

She seeks to attend Montclair State University where she will enroll in a program that combines receiving both a

Bachelor and Master's degree in General Psychology, a process that takes just five years. Sonia also plans to pursue a second major in Criminal Justice. Eventually, she will go on to receive her PhD in Psychology.

As the first generation in her family to go to college, Sonia aims to work while furthering her education - and that's

where all she's learned at PCTI comes in.

"I can get a job at a salon while I'm taking classes - which will be really helpful," she says.

When asked about her most valued experiences at PCTI, Sonia makes mention of the ability to try out different programs before committing to a college major.

"I know what I want to do after graduation and I'll always be thankful for the skills I learned at PCTI."

Congratulations to a young woman who is determined to make a difference in the lives of others!

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Ranks in the top 7% of her class
- Received Work Permit from NJ Board of Cosmetology, working towards Licensure
- Involved in ROTC, Environmental Club, Marching Band, is a Class Representative
- Selected for the WLHS & achieved Principal's Honor Roll throughout all four years
- Works as a secretary in an office
- Goal: Graduate from Montclair State University with a BA/MA in Psychology, a double degree in Criminal Justice, eventually receive her PhD in Psychology; become a Forensic Psychologist