

E A R L Y S U M M E R 2 0 1 6

Leave Your Mark

Announcements, Creativity and News from the Landmark Community

Sports at Landmark: An update on Softball this season

**Who are the geniuses behind Landmark?
Liz Rivera, Melinda Marx & More**



**What
makes
Landmark
so
amazing?
Read in
this issue
to find out!**

Recipes for a chill summer by Shania

Save the Date!

Senior Prom

June 8th

Seniors celebrate with their friends and teachers at Terrace on the Park

Trip to Bear Mountain

June 13th

Please invite your parents to this awesome trip!

Graduation

June 24th

Senior commencement ceremony at NYU

Let's Reflect on this YEAR!

It's the end of the year and it's an exciting time to be at Landmark High School. Students are working hard to finish last minute assignments and graduation PBATS. Summer is almost here. Students hold your horses - just a few days left, then we will be off to our summer plans. With our last issue of the 2015-2016 school year we wish you a successful last days, a happy summer and seniors - Congratulations on completing your last year of high school and starting your first year of real life!

With love,

The Editors
@ Leave Your Mark



College Now: the ability to experience college in HS by Sophia Alvarez

Imagine you're on a college campus, inside a college classroom. It's a wide rectangular room with lecture-style seating, facing a professor standing forward, observing everyone. There's a professor presenting a lecture with a PowerPoint. Is this college? You would expect it to be - but this is high school! It's a program called College Now.

"You're only a sophomore, junior or senior taking college classes in an actual college with real college professors. On top, you're there for free at no cost." This short yet inspiring quote is from by our college advisor, Karina, as she was emphasizing the importance of joining a College Now class.

College Now is a program offered by CUNY schools where students take free college classes on a college campus. This program is a great opportunity to gain a college experience at no cost.

"It's a lot more work than we're used to in school but I noticed it's worth it because I have to the chance at a head start to college," says junior student Eternity Richardson. Eternity is currently enrolled in Intro to Psychology at BMCC. She says it has inspired her to want to go to college and study psychology. Her reaction is a similar response that many students have. Many who entered the program don't knowing what to expect or what it will be like. In the words of Camille Sosa, "Get started don't wait until it's too late to start earning free college credits!"

What makes Landmark so amazing? *Our editors write about their favorite parts of our community through engaging writing pieces, interviews and perspectives.*

Landmark is a family by Jenifer Castillo

You're a freshman. You enter a building thinking it's Landmark high school, but really inside are 6 different schools. One of the schools is Landmark high school but you don't know which one. You have to find the one that seems more like a family and only then will you be in the right place. You hear students calling teachers by their first name. Some students feel like some teachers are like an aunt or uncle to them. Kids talking to teachers as if they were friends, students calling teachers school-mother or school-father. One big family full of different types of ethnicities, cultures, beliefs, and personalities. Some teachers at Landmark are a source of motivation for their students, making them kind of like a parent inside school. For example, Elvia, 11th grade English teacher says, "I tell my students to always have really good work ethic, you don't have to be a genius, you just have to work hard and never give up - you can accomplish anything that you want." According to Assistant Principal Deborah Bryant, "Sometimes we are our own worst enemies. Our little voices in our head tell us that we can't do things and make us feel like 'I can't I won't.' But we can. If you have enough confidence in yourself, you really can do anything. Take all the 'I can'ts' and replace it with 'I can do this.' Take a deep breath and try again."

We all deserve to be inspired by the great people in this place. The teachers, administrators and students make Landmark the family that it is.



Brave Miss Liz: The brains and creativity behind our events

Many fun and creative events go on in the halls of Landmark high school, but who are the brains behind all these fun and creative events? The answer is: Liz Rivera, Landmarks community associate. Liz decided to work at Landmark because she believed that she needed a change, and Landmark had the exact vision that she was looking for. She makes sure that students have programs to go to after school and if they need internships or job opportunities she has all the connections. She has organized many events for Landmark like student recruitment, open houses, high school fairs and parent teacher conferences. Liz enjoys putting together her "passion projects" like the anti-human advocacy night where she raised awareness about human trafficking here in New York and changing policies on it. She stated, "What I learned that night is that NYC has the highest rate of human trafficking in the United States, and we walked by these teenagers who are being trafficked and we don't even know it, even in 42nd street in broad daylight these kids are being made to sell their body for money and they're too scared to ask for help because they're in that situation. That night was to help raise awareness in the Landmark community to pass a bill that's coming up to have more strict laws for men and women who are trafficking kids and teenagers, but mostly females." Liz has many events coming up this year - especially for the upcoming seniors class of 2017! She wants to have more fundraiser events for the upcoming seniors so they can have an amazing senior trip or maybe a new location for the prom. Liz has many successes throughout the school but one of her biggest success is the Be Brave Club - an all-girls club here at Landmark. The Be

Brave Club was an inspiration that Liz had from a heartbreak that she had encountered. She noticed that many of the girls didn't have the same recourses that

the guys had since guys have sports although some girls are in sports. Liz says, "I was like, man I wish that I could kind of like share my pain and convert it to something where I can get the girls together and kind of just be girls together and talk about things where there's no boys allowed." Be Brave started in collaboration with a staff member at Hudson high school and it ended up meeting once a week. Liz wants to also make a meditation club for this upcoming school year and this summer she is going to organize it because everyone needs a silent space especially when the students are doing their PBATS. She also has plans for the Be Brave girls to be a mentor to the upcoming freshman girls. Liz wants the incoming freshmen girls to feel comfortable here at Landmark and to feel like they fit in. Liz is very genuine, creative and fun. Landmark is very lucky to have her as their community associate.

-Camille Sosa



Shania's Summer Ice Pops

Just in time for summer, Shania's no-bake dessert is the best way to stay cool ☺



INGREDIENTS

1pound strawberries,
hulled

1cup buttermilk

1cup plain Greek yogurt

½ cup honey

¼ cup sugar

DIRECTIONS

Puree the strawberries, buttermilk, yogurt, honey, sugar, and salt in a blender until smooth.

Pour the mixture into ice-pop molds, so there is the same amount in each. Insert ice-pop sticks in each mold.

Freeze at least 4 hours and up to 4 days.

Show Me Whatcha Workin' With by Eternity Richardson

Walk left, turn right, and down the misty hallway. Everything in exact formation: flawless movements, particular technique. A dynamic, divine, and energetic group of teenagers are making Landmark High School a sensation. "The dance team is like a little family. Kids from all grades coming together in creative setting to produce unique movement and expression through dance. Dances usually consist of many genres such as hip hop, pop, reggae and R&B. Wouldn't want to have dance any other way" stated Sophia Alvarez, 11th grader. According to Tanaye Langston, 12th grader and choreographer on the dance team, "I love dance, everything about it excites me. The rush I get when I move my body in a new way is incredible. Most of all I love teaching others how to dance because a lot of people need an outlet for things and dance is definitely a fun way to do it." Even the teachers agree. "The dance group is a success, love, love, love," says Shannon, Math Teacher and dance team enthusiast. The Landmark High School dance team has been around for 3 years. Going from a small club to now a team, the dance team has definitely changed Landmark dynamic. Everyone is welcome into open arms to come out and dance. Whether it's a performance or just a plain show of talent, the dancers are changing the school, one dance move at a time.



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Softball: A Landmark Tradition

By Camille Sosa (Dark Blue Captain)

Intensity is what these players are feeling, who will make it to the championship softball game along with the Red team? Will it be the Black Team or the Dark Blue Team? Red Team triumphed against the pinstripes leaving them waiting on who they might play against in the championship game on Thursday May 26, 2015. On Tuesday May 24, 2016, Black team played against the Dark blue team for third time because the first time black team won breaking Dark Blue's winning streak and the second time Dark Blue won taking back their victory. Once the Black Team and the Dark Blue team played against each other, the intensity began. Dark blue team started off but ended up getting no points, then it was Black team, they started leading the game by one point. The Dark Blue team eventually had the lead against the Black Team with 5-2, but once that happened the Black team got serious and they caught up to blue and the game was all tied up. Originally in softball a game is supposed to last seven innings but the Black team and the Dark blue team broke a record in Landmark history and ended up having ten innings due to the teams having a tie over and over again. Both teams were under extreme pressure, but once the black team made an error the Dark Blue Team redeemed themselves winning the game 6-5. All you could hear was screaming and yelling once the Dark Blue Team won the game. Both teams did a very good job, and whether they lost or not they should be very proud of themselves due to the effort they put in the game.



Melinda Marx and the world of Landmark Art

Art: such an exquisite form of relaxation. You go in art class and forget about everything but what you're drawing and/or painting. Melinda Marx, an art teacher in Landmark high school has been working with Landmark for 6 years. Melinda's favorite part in Landmark is the art department because she says that she allows Landmark High School students art to be seen in the city. If you work with Melinda you would get the experience of putting your art out there. Once thing that Melinda likes about her coworkers at Landmark is that they work great together as a team which is very much true because as seen in the Landmark hallways teachers seem to always collaborate with each other to make Landmark a better community. When asked what her favorite part about being an art teacher she says, "I enjoy bringing beauty into the world." She feels so passionate with what she does which makes her a very strong individual. People have many inspirations but her inspiration is Dennis because he knows how to build a community within Landmark. There are many pros and cons to everything. Melinda believes that there is a pro and a con to things in Landmark. She says that a pro in Landmark is that the teachers care about every student succeeding after high school. A con about Landmark is that she believes that some of the Landmark students are easily distracted from making progress in their academics. Melinda has many bright ideas; she claims that she is already starting to make new ideas for next year. She said "yes, I'm thinking about adaptations humans will need to make with climate change." She already knows what she is expecting her future students to do for the years 2016-2017. From what I've seen in the last couple of years that I've known Melinda is that she is a very sweet and caring woman who cares deeply about her students.



The following students are being honored for their merits in visual art:

Bellaide Lopez will receive the Haney Medal - awarded to the Ninth grade Student who has shown the most growth and potential in the field of visual arts.

Tanya Wine - Alexander Medal, awarded to the graduating senior who has completed a visual arts program with distinction.

Simon Jimenez - St. Gardens Medal for a graduating senior who has completed an art program with excellence in drawing.

(PS Simon's Memorial to youth murdered in our country is not up on view outside of room 401)

Our students were exposed to the world of Master Painter's on Friday the 13th of May. Rembrandt, Titian, Velasquez, DaVinci, ...

From the old masters to our modern and contemporary artists. The two floors of the exhibition, UNFINISHED: Thoughts Left Visible, is available to all of our students, with their student ID. This exhibition explores how art is a direct communication with the artist, and their intention of what they are hoping to convey. Head sets for this show are available, to gain a deeper understanding.

The new annex to the MET, is located at 74th Street and Madison Avenue.

This worthwhile exhibition is up until September 4th. Remember the MET is the people's museum, pay what you wish rather than suggested.

I Believe by Manny Frias

I believe in God - not because I've seen him or the fact that I was a church boy while growing up, but because it's good to believe in something. It's what makes me believe that there's another day, another morning and another opportunity.



This I Believe by Eternity Richardson

This I believe that I too can achieve my greatest goal.

This I believe that my actions speak louder than my words and I play the biggest role.

This I believe that anything is possible, may your dreams come true.

This I believe that only you can change yourself into a better you.

My year has been great and so many more to come. This I believe: senior year is approaching. I'm ready for the long run.

I Believe dance is medicine when nothing else is working by Kayla Casanas

As I'm watching her, I see a little girl who loves to dance -- she imitates her big sister and follows her ballet class. Her arms, legs and hair flying everywhere. She's twirling, wiggling and falling, looking all out of place even tripping over her own feet. She couldn't get the dance right but she was still smiling and having so much fun. She's just only a beginner watching the big girls in amusement. She says, "I want to be like her someday." She says the secret is to work hard don't give up and dance with your heart. She's just a small girl with big dreams. Dancing was a medicine for her when nothing else was working.

I Believe by Sophia Alvarez

I believe in anything I want to.
Clouds don't exist.
There's no "right" man
for every woman.
Death is not
your last life.
And you are
your creator
of your life's purpose.

Everyone deserves to have someone on their side by Jenifer Castillo

I believe in everyone having a chance to a fair trial. Lawyers chose to do this for the rest of their lives therefore they cannot complain about whom they have to defend. You can be the lawyer representing someone accused of something but you don't always know they are actually guilty. I found Peter Keane point to be very agreeable. Peter Keane brings to light a great point that everyone has to have someone on his or her side - at least one person. Although he knew they were probably guilty he still was proud of himself and put his all into every case that he had. Sure, it can be difficult but everyone has the right to have someone on his or her side. I believe everyone should have a chance to a fair trial.

Freedom Corner

creative
writing from
our young &
brilliant minds

Nourished by Manny Frias

What was for breakfast today?
A refuser
Bacon egg w/ cheese plain and Simply made orange juice.
Eating an ok breakfast always keeps me
Moving
& not starving until lunchtime
where I go to the truck and get myself an order of chicken
over rice.
What I like to eat for dinner is probably a chocolate cake or some Belly's,
2240 Amsterdam.

Things we New Yorkers HATE about NYC subways by Kayla Casanas

Trying to find a seat in the morning but the train is so crowded
There's that one person who's taking up 2 seats
Trains are delayed or suddenly going local
The conductor forever yelling at everyone on the train to "step in" and
"get your bag out of the door," and
"we can't move until the doors shut."
The train too full for anyone to get on.
The rats in the tracks
People blasting their music making everyone else listen to it
The MTA employee sitting in his little box
People who stand in the doorway with their backs turned to the
entranceway, as if all the people trying to get on don't even exist
People on the platform who can't wait 5 seconds
When the person fell asleep next to you
Hearing "its show time"



Dancing movement by Sophia Alvarez

Her movements matching the rhythm of the song,
her face showing her passion for dancing.
She does it for herself,
no one can tell her when to stop or whether she's
doing it right.
It's her moment to be herself.
Dancing is her outlet to being who she wants to be.



The Unrequited Love Poem

The bad thing is I have loved someone who didn't love me back and it hurt so much but I stayed because I was comfortable. I was with the kid for almost 3 years. When I started with him I was 14 going on 15 then I broke up with him when I was 17. We were always on and off because of him he always treated me like dirt when I was the one always there for him. No other girl will ever treat him the way I did. The way he was with me was like I was a puppet. Outside it wouldn't even look we were even together but behind close doors he was glued to my hip. —Anonymous

The Last Page #FinalThoughts

each issue we offer the monthly rant, as well as important dates for college and careers here!



Monthly Rant [This month by Eternity Richardson]

"Oh that's your boyfriend" #LandmarkProblems

Subs being thrown #LandmarkProblems

Never stating the facts, leaving everything unknown, duh #LandmarkProblems

Arguing with females because they got no change #LandmarkProblems

Unfaithful boys, got a whole girlfriend but want my friend #LandmarkProblems

News & Announcements from the Landmark College Office:

College and Careers – See Karina for any questions or more info!

- Seniors - time to make sure you have listed the college you intend to go to on your TAP application (remember this is half of your free money!). Seniors must also remember to "accept" their financial awards, especially if they'll be taking out loans.
- Congrats to Camille Sosa, Kimberly Assi, and Tiara Martinez!! They were admitted to John Jay's competitive Law Institute for this summer.
- Congrats to Adileimy Calleja, Rafael Newman, Humayra Haque, and Shamaru Scott!! They were accepted to the new Science and Technology Entry Program (STEP) at BMCC. They'll start this summer and continue throughout the school year.
- Congrats to Christopher Young! He secured a spot in the very competitive Television Production program at BMCC. He will be one of only 15 students admitted for this summer opportunity.
- Huge shout out to all the students who have chosen to challenge themselves and have submitted a College Now application for the fall term. **We have submitted over 50 CN applications!!** Most applicants are current freshmen and sophomores. Whoop-whoop!
- There is still space to apply for the English 101 and Intro to Human Services courses which will be offered on site (in our building!) in the fall.

Lastly, we would like to wish good luck to James Anthony, Natasha Santana, Frantz Dorismond, Emmy Alvarado, Anabel Pena, Xienna Dejesus, and Kristy Delacruz. They are scheduled to interview for admission at the Upward Bound Program at BMCC. This is a highly involved college access program that works with students all throughout their time in high school.

Stay posted for more from Leave Your Mark next year! Interested in writing poetry, articles, short stories + more? Join the newsletter class next year!! See Shannon in 441 for more info