



# CMSA TRIBUNE

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



April 2016

## Teacher Spotlight : Darrell Tiéno-Gustafson



**Darrell Tiéno-Gustafson** is originally from Seattle but has called Chicago home for a decade. He got his BA from North Park University and his Master's in Teaching from Delta State University, home of the Fighting Okra. He has over a decade of teaching experience and is thrilled to be joining the CMSA team and teaching in his home neighborhood of Rogers Park.

He will be teaching Algebra II and 8th grade science. Teaching for him is a fulfillment of a quote by **Frederick Buechner**: "*Vocation is the place where our deep gladness meets the world's deep need.*"

He enjoys biking to work and playing piano, which he gets a chance to do at First Free Church in Edgewater about once a month. He loves teaching and his students, but most of all he loves spending

## CMSA Forum Luncheon Tackles Cyber Security



**Fifth Third Bank and Lakeside Community Development Corporation** partnered with CMSA for a presentation on *Cyber Security and You* at our spring Forum Luncheon. Guests had the opportunity to hear from Cyber Fraud Manager J. Candler Eve and Regional Investigation Jim O'Dette regarding the latest strategies being utilized in fighting this crime from experts at Fifth Third Bank. Their presentation is part of Money Smart Week events which also includes classroom presentations to our students on money management.

***We are very grateful for this partnership and look forward to working with Fifth Third Bank on future projects!***

## Career Panel Kicks Off College Spirit Week



time with his wife and newborn daughter.

**Welcome!**

**Student Spotlight:  
Boys' Varsity Basketball Team**



Bottom row, starting with the right side:

Jonathan Robinson, Treigh Green (middle) Khalid Adnan.

Second row starting from the right side: Tobi Olanukanmi, Sidney Hunt, Franklin Onyeaghala, Isiah Smith, Kennedy Nwaezeigwe, Salah Adnan.

Top Row starting from the right side: Head Coach Jenn D'Ambrosio, Edmund Martinez Jr., Compton Barnes, Anthony Howard, Assistant Coach Patti Brooks. We congratulate the team on all of their accomplishments this year.

**Go Titans!**

**Seniors Raise over \$6 Million**



**in college scholarships!**

**Concept School's Parent Blog**



We invite you to read the latest entry in the Concept Blog. Written by our Concept Schools Director of English Education, Andy Flaherty, it takes a look at the issue of ELL students and the impact of the home environment on their learning English. It also dispels the myth that

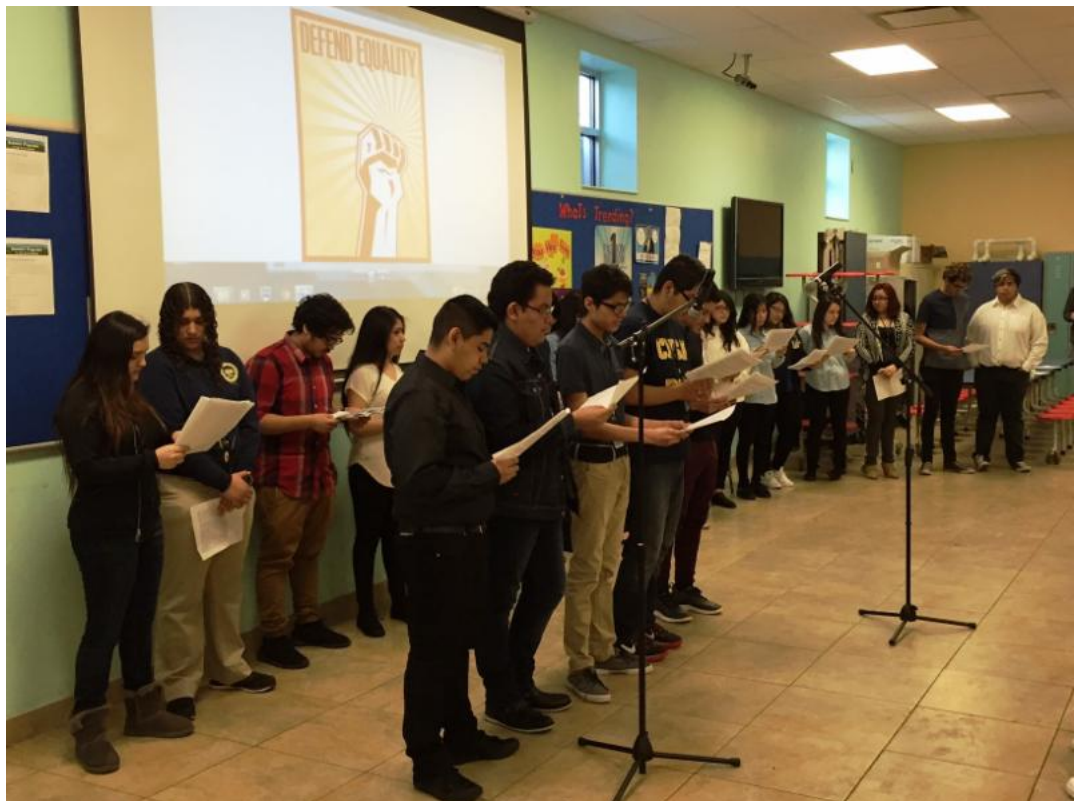


Juniors and sophomores had the opportunity to engage with professionals from various industries at the second annual career panel day. The panel kicks off our very busy College Spirit Week for CMSA.

This year's guests panelists included: Internist Dr. Cynthia Rozier; Community/Economic Development Relationship Manager for Chicago & Northwest Indiana at Fifth Third Bank Michelle Hurst Brown; Vice President and Director of Legal Services with Sargent & Lundy, L.L.C Jill Liska; Blue Cross/Blue Shield Academic Relations Specialist Vernon Johnson; CMSA alumn and History teacher Robert Jasso; Cars.com Data Scientist Alice Zhao; and Morningstar US Benefits Manager Numita Ruffing. We thank them for taking time from their busy schedules to share their professional journeys with our students.

**We are very grateful to all for participating in this important event!**

**Northlight Theatre Encourages Students To "Speak Up"**



This school year marks Chicago Math & Science Academy's second year of partnership with Northlight Theatre with the help of a Creative Schools Fund grant for arts education. Our school conducted a theatre for social residency with

English. It also dispels the myth that speaking in one's native tongue at home inhibits English language.  
<http://www.conceptschools.org/parents-learning-happens-right-in-your-home/>

Spanish II with Teaching Artist Jazmin Corona collaborating with Spanish teacher Melissa Barcenas. Jazmin's program is called "Speak up". The focus deals with teaching students to express themselves artistically about any social injustices. The students performed their theatre pieces on the topics: of Discrimination against the LGBT community, and Cultural Discrimination in the US.

### CMSA Ranks as Level 1+

**PASSION MISSION**  
 We couldn't have done it **LEVEL 1+** without YOU!

CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS RATES CMSA AS LEVEL 1+ SCHOOL  
Students made significant gains in key areas:

- Reading growth on NWEA MAP (grades 5-8) → Better than 85% of schools nationally
- Math growth on NWEA MAP (grades 5-8) → Better than 94% of schools nationally
- Growth of EPAS assessment series (grades 11 PLAN to ACT) → Better than 90% of schools nationally
- College Persistence rate (class of 2013) → 84.6% of graduates persisting in college
- My School, My Voice Survey → Well organized school
- Attendance Rate → 97.3%

27% of District schools are Level 1+ and 17% of Charter schools are Level 1+

Chicago Math & Science Academy is ranked Level 1+ by Chicago Public Schools. According to their SQRP report, CMSA students made significant gains in key areas:

- **Reading growth** on NWEA MAP\* (grades 6-8) = is in the **top 15% of schools nationally**
  - **Math growth** on NWEA MAP\* (grades 6-8) = is in the **top 6% of schools nationally**
  - **Growth of EPAS assessment series** (grades 11 PLAN to ACT) = is in the **top 4% nationally**
  - **College Persistence Rate** (class of 2013) = **84.6%**
  - **Attendance Rate** = **97.3%**
- \*\*NWEA = Northwest Evaluation Association & (MAP) = Measures of Academic Progress are nationally recognized norm-referenced assessments used as one metric in the school quality equation. Comparison*

### CMSA Honored as One of the "Best High Schools"

**BEST HIGH SCHOOLS**  
 & WORLD REPORT  
**U.S. News**  
**BRONZE**  
 2015

Chicago Math & Science Academy was awarded a Bronze Medal in U.S. News & World Report's 2015 Best High Schools ranking. Only 4 charter schools in Illinois and 9 in Indiana made the list. Considering there are around 30,000 public high schools in the United States, this is truly a great honor and testament to the hard work and dedication of the CMSA students, teachers, staff, parents, and community members. We are very proud of this recognition.

## Concert for a Cause: The Water Project

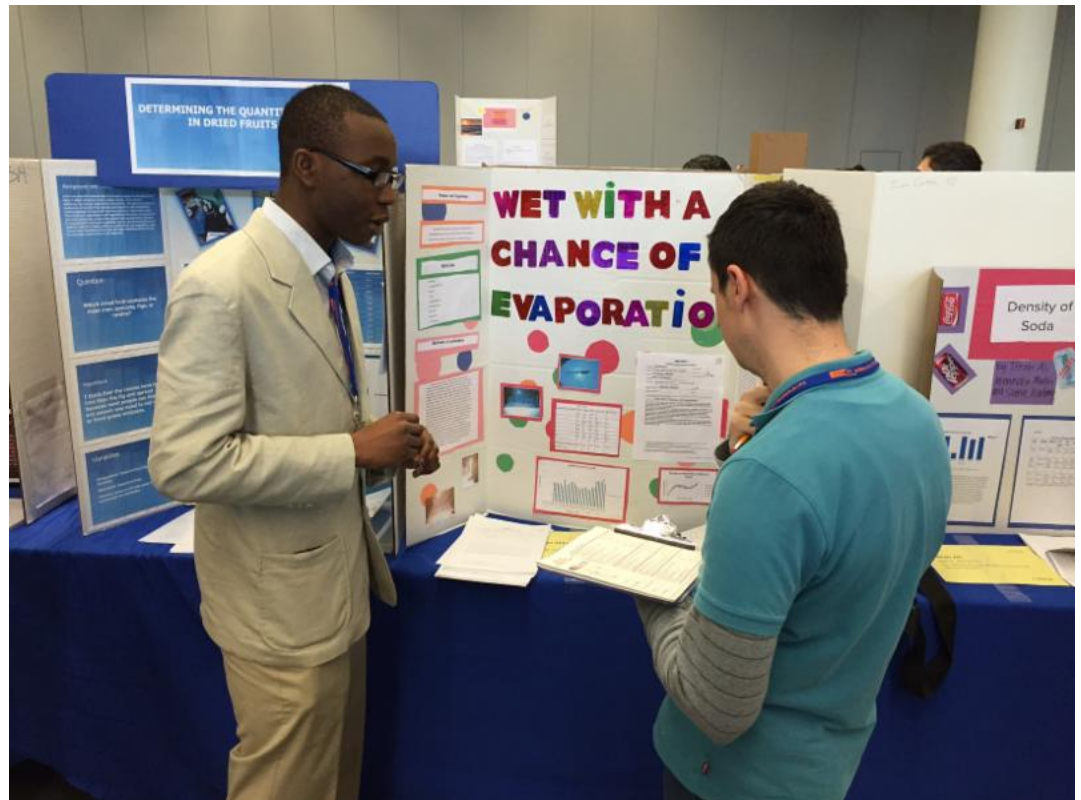


This year's 4th Annual Concert for a Cause was a benefit for the The Water Project. CMSA family and friends enjoyed the sounds of our award-winning CMSA Band on April 28, 2016 whose performance helped raised funding for this important project. Clean, safe drinking water is scarce. This video says it all:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/sb64lvu19cx73mj/AAD-XSNK5MtOjz7IZ3MGPEA7a?dl=0>

*Well done, students!*

## Students Win at STEMCON Fair



Students from all Concept Schools participated in the annual STEMCON Fair in Cleveland and our CMSA students won many awards. On the high school side **the winners include Afifa Chaudhry for Best Category in Microbiology; Sophia Caballero won Gold; Amaka Nwaezeigwe won Silver; Bizi and Yared both won Gold medals; Rahwa Berhe won a Silver medal, and Hassan Abioye won a Gold Medal. The Middle School winners were River Atwood-Winner who won a Gold medal and Shane Olivera received a Silver medal. Roshan Siddiqui and Lance Velez won first place in the Engineering area.**

## First Annual STEM City Fair May 27 at Daley Plaza

## You Can Help CMSA!

Please consider making a difference in the education of Rogers Park youth with a tax-deductible donation. We will gladly accept a check, credit card or you can use PayPal through the CMSA website. Your donation will directly help our

students succeed by providing such things as STEM-related textbooks, incentives for academic achievement, equipment for science labs, robotics kits, etc.

Remember that every donation received by CMSA gives inner-city youths the opportunity to fulfill their educational dreams.

Join us as our philanthropic partner in continuing our excellence in education. You can click the Donate button below. Every dollar makes a difference! We thank you for your support and generosity.



Mark your calendars and join us on May 27, 2016 as students from all 4 Chicago Concept Schools participate in the **first annual STEM City Fair at Daley Plaza** from 11:30am - 2:00pm. Come see cool science demon-strations, robotics and mental math presentations. Hear wonderful student band performances and witness our kids at their very best as we showcase our students!.

***Help us introduce our future leaders through innovative public education!***



***Chicago Math and Science Academy:  
changing the trajectory of our students' lives with STEM-  
focused education that successfully prepares students for  
tomorrow!***

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