



# CMSA TRIBUNE

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



November 2016

## Teacher Spotlight: Sophia Rigopoulos



Ms. Sophia Rigopoulos teaches Algebra. She majored in Math Education at Indiana University-Bloomington and minored in Psychology and Social Work. Her hobbies include traveling and cooking.

Sophia also likes volunteering. In college, she volunteered often at Community Kitchen and Middle Way House (an organization that seeks to end domestic violence against women and children). At school she organized a food drive for Care for Real and a letter writing campaign for those serving in the military.

She travels to Greece often because of family, and saw some events of the 2004 Olympics there. She has a beautiful puppy named Leah. In her spare time she is looking forward to learning how to kick box!

CMSA Honored with a "Silver" ranking one off the "Best High Schools"



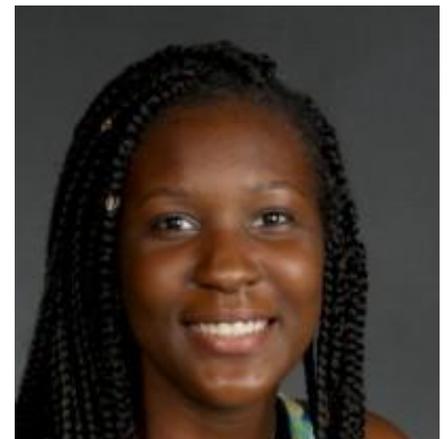
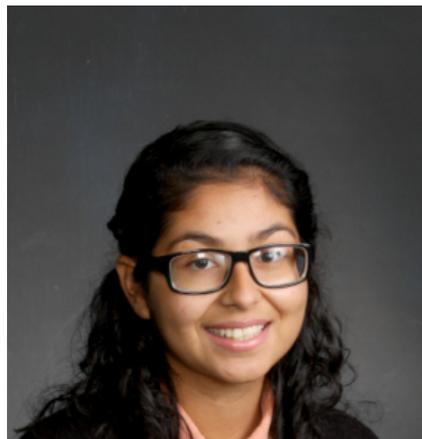
For 2 years in a row, CMSA has been selected as one of the best high schools in the nation by US News. This year we have advanced to a "SILVER" ranking. Here is a link to see more!

## Fulbright Scholar Inspires Students



In honor of International Education Week four-time **Fulbright U.S. Scholar Dr. Ana Gil-Garcia, author and tenured professor at Northeastern Illinois University**, spoke to our students about these opportunities. An advocate for Latino educational leaders, she was named as one of the **"Top Ten Chicago Latinos"** in 2009. At the beginning of 2014, Chicago Public Schools appointed Gil-Garcia one of the 13 Latino Advisory Committee members, the District's first-ever Latino-focused task force designed to increase engagement with the Latino community and to enhance the educational success of Latino students. Dr. Gil-Garcia came to share her enthusiasm for international studies and the opportunities available through the Fulbright Scholar program. We are very grateful that she took time from her busy schedule to speak to our students.

## Accepted to Northwestern and University of Chicago!



[bit.ly/2bmYtD0](http://bit.ly/2bmYtD0)

**Student Spotlight: Taisha Alvira**



**Amaka Nwaezeigwe** has been selected for admission to **Northwestern University**. **Jocelyn Perez** has been admitted to the **University of Chicago**. Both young ladies are matched with the QuestBridge College Match Scholarship and have been granted admission with full, four-year scholarships worth over \$200,000 each. These scholarship cover tuition, fees, housing, books, travel expenses.

*Well Done, Ladies - Congratulations!!*

**7th Graders Science Magazine Project**



Taisha has been a student at CMSA since the 6th grade. She enjoys being here because she "learns more and the teachers are always willing to help." Her favorite teacher is Ms. Tamburrino who teaches her favorite subjects chemistry and science. Taisha plans to work in the medical field as a nursing assistant. In addition, she enjoys basketball and tutoring other students after school.



7th graders in Mrs. Nelson's class are working on creating their own science themed magazines. Students began by picking a topic or topics in science that interested them. This required them to practice many skills like researching, graphic design, writing, proof-reading, and editing. Many students have chosen to create their magazines on the digital platform **Canva.com** that allows them to use templates to design, organize, and edit.

**Middle School Soccer Team Scores**



**Concept School's Parent Blog in Spanish!**





Le invitamos a leer la última entrada en el Concept Blog en Español.

[WWW.CONCEPTSCHOOLS.ORG/blog/](http://WWW.CONCEPTSCHOOLS.ORG/blog/)

### CMSA's Very Own - Jazmen Moore - National Educator of Color Award Winner

Last November in 2015, Ms. Jazmen Moore was awarded the Early Career Educator of Color Award offered by the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE)! It is a two year award with the expectation that after all of the celebration, a mentorship begins with a veteran teacher of color, and in the second year Ms. Moore presents at the annual NCTE conference. That conference was held this past November 18th in Atlanta, Georgia. The theme for this year's four-day event was: **Faces of Advocacy**.

She worked along with two other educators from Connecticut and Louisiana, respectively to develop a professional presentation on the self-selected topic: Digital Literacy. It was entitled: **"Its Lit!: Exploring Digital Literacy As Advocacy"**.

The crucial piece was Ms. Moore highlighting her students' projects which comprised specifically of digital media public service announcement (PSA) campaigns.

What's next for Ms. Moore and her students? They are on to their next project by using art as advocacy and becoming involved in collecting coats for the indigenous Water Protectors in need in North Dakota.



Click here to check it out!

<https://oneitpoetryclass.wordpress.com/>

**We look forward to hearing more great things from Ms. Moore and her social justice champions!**

### CMSA Ranks as Level 1+



Our middle school soccer team made it to the semi-finals this past month and we could not be prouder of them. This group worked really hard to achieve these results and looks forward to returning to the soccer field again next year. **Congratulations to Justin Mutabazi, Efen Ruiz, Eric Ayala, Kevin Ayala, Kevin Castro, Luis Martinez, Javier Delgado, Salar Muhammad, Ahmed Rahmaan, Muhammad Abdul Raheem, Moises Escobedo and Cristian Saldana**

**. Go Titans!**

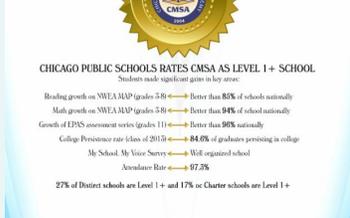
## Middle School Students Receive Honors



Congratulations to our middle school students who made it to the Honor Roll this year. This great achievement only inspires them to be even better with their studies. Well done, Titans! Keep up the great work.

## Update on Alumni Joel Nahimana





**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*

## 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.



Many of you may remember that back in June Joel Nahimana suffered a terrible car accident. At the time of his critical injuries the doctors were not sure he'd ever walk again. We are very happy to report that Joel is doing very well! He came to visit his favorite teacher, Ms. Barlett, to updated her on his progress. Joel will begin his studies at Malcom X college in January. He is very grateful to his CMSA family, and his Rogers Park community, for all the support he received during his time of need.

*Congratulations Joe!*

## Parents Participate in Elevate Energy Workshops



**Northside Community Services** offered our Spanish-speaking parents an opportunity to save energy in their homes by presenting two sessions of "Elevate Energy" workshops. This workshop offered information on programs that can perform energy assessments in their homes to help save costs in gas and electric bills. The team also provided free energy saving surge protectors.

*Thank you, Northside Community Services for bringing this resource to our parents!*

## Students & Morningstar Mentors Relax at Bowling Party





Morningstar mentors and CMSA seniors took time to unwind and enjoy some fun at Waveland Bowling. The event created a more informal setting for communication time where mentors and students discussed future college plans and cemented their relationship.





## Chicago Math and Science Academy:

**"Changing the trajectory of our students' lives with STEM-focused education that successfully prepares students for tomorrow!"**

Chicago Math and Science Academy  
7212 N. Clark Street  
Chicago, IL 60626  
[www.cmsaonline.net](http://www.cmsaonline.net)

Phone: 773 761 8960 || Fax: 773 761 8961

