



THE BRIDGE

Spanning the Twin Boroughs

Newsletter of the Twin Boros Scholarship Foundation

Twin Boros Foundation Names 2013 Scholarship Recipients

The following graduating high school seniors from Bound Brook and South Bound Brook received Twin Boros scholarships in June 2013.

Jessica Jiminez - \$12,000 four-year scholarship (\$3000 per year). Jessica is a graduate of Bound Brook High School and will enter the 6-year Doctor of Physical Therapy program at Quinnipiac University this fall. At BBHS, she participated in varsity cheerleading, Peer Leadership, Interact Club, JV and varsity softball, Spanish Club, Yearbook and Student Council. She volunteered at summer softball camp and maintained a job at Efinger Sporting Goods since 2011. Honors include Academic Honor Roll, Circle of Ten and Spanish National Honor Society.

Zachary Vatalari - \$12,000 four-year scholarship (\$3000 per year). Zachary graduated second in his class at Bound Brook High School, and will enter the 6-year Doctor of Physical Therapy program at the University of Michigan in the fall. At BBHS, he participated in varsity wrestling, varsity cross country, varsity baseball, JV football, was active in Boy Scouts, and was an Alter Server and youth group member at Our Lady of Mercy. Zachary attended American Legion Boys' State, and was a member of the National and French Honor Societies.

Manoj Bhagroo - Peter Boettcher \$1000 Scholarship. Manoj graduated from Bound Brook High School with the highest GPA in his class. He will attend Rutgers University this fall, and plans to major in biomedical engineering. At BBHS, Manoj participated in tutoring, varsity tennis, Peer Leadership, Academic League, Interact Club and the Honest Wig Society. He volunteered at the Memorial Library and Middle Earth. Honors include National and Spanish Honor Societies.

Robert Murray - Craig Memorial \$1000 Scholarship. Robert is a graduate of Bound Brook High School, where he ranked third in his class. He plans to major in civil engineering at Stevens Institute of Technology. Robert participated in student government at BBHS, was captain of

the varsity wrestling team for three years, a member of the Spanish and National Honor Societies, and attended American Legion Boys' State.

Stacy Brenes - \$2000 Continuing Education Scholarship. Stacy, a recent graduate of the Academy for Health and Medical Sciences at Somerset County Vo-Tech High School, will enter the College of New Jersey this fall. She plans to major in both mechanical and biomedical engineering. Stacy volunteered with the Appalachian Service Project on multiple occasions, taught for St. Joseph's Catholic Education Program, and served as fundraising head for the National Honor Society and the Red Cross Club. She was a state gold medalist for Skills USA, and a member of Phi Theta Kappa and National Honor Society.

Anna Krisak - \$1000 Continuing Education Scholarship. Anna is a graduate of Somerset County Vo-Tech High School. She plans to study criminal justice and human services at Raritan Valley Community College. At Vo-Tech, Anna participated in varsity cross country, tennis, soccer, cheerleading, and softball, as well as Rotary Interact, Youth Advisory Committee, and Yearbook Club. She was active in community service, volunteering with Law & Public Safety Programs and the Midland Schools' Production of *Grease*. She also worked at Bounce U and Delia's.

Theresa Bender - \$500 Rene Biastre Scholarship. A recent graduate of Bishop George Ahr High School, Theresa will attend Saint Peter's College this fall to study marketing. At Bishop Ahr, she participated in color guard, concert and select choirs, concert band, and Italian club. Theresa graduated with Distinguished Honors and maintained an active service record as a chess teacher and fundraiser for Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure.

The Trustees of the Twin Boros Scholarship Foundation congratulate the 2013 scholarship recipients, and wish them great success in their college careers and beyond.

First Annual Twin Boros 5k Fun Run a Winner!

On Sunday, May 26th, the Twin Boros Scholarship Foundation hosted its first 5K fundraiser on the streets of Bound Brook. More than one hundred participants showed up for the race, with a good mix of leisurely participants and competitive ones. The 5K was held on the same course as the annual Criterium Bike Races, which took place later the same day. The weather was great and a good time was had by all, whether running or walking the course.

Energy and excitement were palpable at the finish line! Music provided by race sponsor Music Notes Academy offered a lively soundtrack as participants, volunteers, families and friends gathered, refreshments in hand, to watch the top finishers in each age group receive their prizes. The “trophies” were Twin Boros piggy banks, a reminder of the organization’s early days collecting scholarship pennies in banks on the counters of local businesses. The Fun Run netted over \$1400 dollars toward scholarships for graduating seniors from Bound Brook and South Bound Brook.

We thank our many generous event sponsors and the Borough of Bound Brook for their support of the 5k. The Foundation’s Board looks forward to growing this event each year to support the Twin Boros mission of providing college scholarships for local students. Put us on your calendar for next Memorial Day weekend!

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Updates from scholarship recipients...

My second year of college has ended...with a GPA of 3.6. I will take more classes at Northern Virginia CC before I transfer to a four year university when I become an in-state student, which will be soon. The scholarship has been a great help. I have been able to worry less about my school payments and keeping up with the credits I need. I am touched by your trust in me and can never say enough how grateful I am. — Linda Munoz (2011 Recipient)

At graduation when I heard my name I started to shake and cry because I have worked so hard all these years and this award signified my accomplishments. It is an honor and I promise to live up to my academic expectations. I am so excited to be attending Quinnipiac University and it's all happening thanks to your help. I thank you and appreciate this gift you have given me.

— Jessica Jimenez (2013 Recipient)

Contributors - January 2012 through July 2013

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