



Paving the Way...

Summer 2008
www.pave.org

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Making Excellent Educational Options Possible for Milwaukee Families

Work² + Inspiration = Success



Meet Maribel Aranda, a 2008 graduate of St. Thomas More High School. Maribel epitomizes the best of a PAVE scholarship student. As a PAVE student, Maribel participated in a variety of activities at St. Thomas More including National Honor Society, Latino Student Organization, varsity tennis, year book photographer, prom and homecoming committees, and Students Against Drunk Driving (SADD).

Maribel serves as a model to her five younger brothers and sisters. Alex, her 14 year old brother, will be attending St. Thomas More in the fall. While Alex may be a bit nervous about following in his big sister's footsteps, Maribel notes that he will do fine since he has the enthusiastic support of their family.

Maribel plans to attend UW-Milwaukee in the fall. The Credit Association of South-eastern Wisconsin has awarded her a \$750 scholarship which will help her as she is responsible for working part of her way through college. Her dream is to graduate from college as a bilingual therapist and to work with autistic children, a condition which affects one of her cousins.

When asked what was special about her PAVE scholarship, Maribel replied that this scholarship helped her parents make her education at St. Thomas More a reality. According to Maribel, there is something very special about St. Thomas More High

School, a spirit which is instilled in the students, and noticeably present in the faculty, staff, and administration. She felt a real sense of belonging and specific expectations to become a well-rounded student.

Maribel's advice to students includes: "Do your homework on time. It's too easy to get behind! Get involved in school activities as soon as possible - believe in yourself and you'll find many friends. Live high school to the fullest; these are the best years of your life. Live in the present so you can get to the future! It can't be done any other way."

PAVE Scholarship Alumni Report 2003-2007 College Enrollment

- 72% of PAVE graduates enroll in college, surpassing their low-income *and* middle-income peers.
- 71% of all PAVE Alumni college enrollments were in four-year institutions. In comparison, the national average is 61%.
- 86% of PAVE Alumni enroll in Wisconsin colleges and universities.

To view the full Alumni Report, visit www.pave.org

A Message to PAVE's Great Partners

Dear Friends,

Congratulations to the Class of 2008 and the PAVE seniors who graduated from high school this year. We celebrate that all of our PAVE seniors graduated, and 87% of them plan to attend Wisconsin colleges and universities!

PAVE is especially proud to report that 36% of the Class of 2008 graduated with better than a 3.0 GPA during their four years of high school.

Maribel Aranda is one of these graduates whose story is highlighted in this summer's newsletter. I wish we had room for more stories, since each of our PAVE graduates deserves to be recognized.

Excellent educational opportunities inspire students to face the future with high expectations and to work hard to achieve their goals. These opportunities are possible because of the long-term commitment and sup-

port of PAVE's Board of Directors and our generous Partners who fund PAVE scholarships. Please take a moment to enjoy this newsletter. See how you have truly made a difference in the lives of low-income students in Milwaukee!

Dan McKinley
President/CEO

For more information on PAVE's ongoing efforts to make excellent educational opportunities possible for Milwaukee families and how you can help PAVE accomplish its mission, please visit www.pave.org.

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PAVE Teams up with Community Partners to Present *Summer of Baseball*



Student players from the Business and Economics Academy of Milwaukee (BEAM) receive a visit from Carole Meekins of WTMJ-TV as part of her Positively Milwaukee series

Too many low-income students in Milwaukee's central city lack access to organized youth sports and other enriching experiences.

Barriers such as the cost of participation, a scarcity of places to play, and a shrinking number of adults knowledgeable in sports like baseball prevent urban kids from engaging in organized sports and fulfilling their potential on the field, in the community, and in the classroom.

During Summer 2008, PAVE has partnered with 10 charter and Choice schools and a variety of community organizations to bring academic classes and enriching activities to low-income Milwaukee students.

As part of this summer learning initiative, PAVE reached out to community partners to provide organized baseball for 100 middle school students at Jared C Bruce

Academy, Urban Day School and Business and Economics Academy of Milwaukee (BEAM). PAVE worked with Milwaukee County Parks to locate and prepare suitable baseball diamonds, and recruited volunteer and paid baseball coaches. PAVE *Summer of Baseball* is generously supported by Brewers Charities, Inc, and the Miller Park District Community Program.

The vast majority of youth participating in *Summer of Baseball* had no previous experience with the game. Students are engaged in morning academic classes at their Milwaukee schools, and practice baseball in the afternoon two days per week. *Summer of Baseball* will culminate in a tournament at Helfaer Field on Tuesday, August 5.

Thanks to the hard work and generosity of PAVE's partners, including volunteer baseball coaches Phil Sklar and Angela Keuhl of Ernst & Young, LLP, Milwaukee youth benefited from an enriching school experience this summer.