

Miguel A. Ortiz

Miguelortiz168@gmail.com

Summary: Miguel is a Criminal Justice Major at LaGuardia Community College; he has a 3.3 GPA and received a scholarship for his strong academic performance and community service work. Over the last four years, Miguel has served as a youth leader and activist for several non-profit organizations focused on foster care advocacy, youth development, and social justice issues. Miguel has also been a published writer for a national youth magazine, a keynote speaker, and featured in multiple films/documentaries. Miguel was selected as one of two Youth Representatives for a national group of funders, where travels to conferences across the country to provide the youth voice/perspective on a range of policy issues impacting foster youth. Miguel has a passion for boxing and martial arts, and has been training with an Olympic Silver Medalist for the past five years.

EDUCATION

La Guardia Community College

September 2017-Current

Criminal Justice Major; 3.3 Overall GPA

Stella and Guttman Community College; New York, NY

August 2015-2017

Human Services Major; 3.3 Overall GPA

Jill Chaifetz Transfer School; Bronx, NY

July 2012-January 2015

Graduated with Regents Diploma; received Certificates of Perfect Attendance

NON-PROFIT EXPERIENCE

Groundswell; Brooklyn, NY

Arts-based non-profit; Emerging Leaders Program

Summer 2016 and Summer 2017

- Selected to participate in the leadership development program for “exceptional young men”
- Engaged community stakeholders to design murals inspire social change around criminal justice issues

Foster Advocacy Change & Empowerment (FACE); New York, NY

Founding member of youth-led non-profit organization

October 2014-January 2016

- Utilized strong communication skills to advocate for policy change in the foster care system; Met with policy officials and private funders in NYC to discuss policy reform ideas and presented to FACE board and funders
- Led youth focus groups; created a digital story that was shown at child welfare conferences citywide

Youth Communication; New York, NY

Writer for Represent, a national youth magazine

October 2014-October 2015

- Wrote three published articles on youth issues for a nationally distributed magazine

BronxWorks; Bronx, NY

Youth Supervisor; Internship through P.S. 130

October 2012 – July 2013

- Supervised 20+ elementary school students; engaged them in after-school activities and provided mentorship

COMMUNITY SERVICE, ADVOCACY, & LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES

- Selected as one of two Youth Representatives for the Youth Transitions Funders Group; provide the youth voice/perspective and advise on a range of policy issues impacting foster youth (2016-2018)
- Keynote speaker at nsoro Foundation’s gala in front of over 700 people (January 2018) & at Neighborhood Coalition for Shelter’s fundraiser in front of over 200 people (June 2016)
- Participated in a film on well-being in foster care for Child Focus Partners shown at national conferences (2015)
- Participated in an international documentary created by Eurasia Foundation (Spring 2015)
- Served as a founding member of FACE and writer for Youth Communication (see above)

PUBLICATIONS, AWARDS, & SCHOLARSHIPS

- Grand Prize \$1,000 Winner of citywide essay contest; article published in Represent magazine (March 2014)
- Published articles in *Represent* magazine: “Boxing through my Anger” (Spring 2015) and “A new advocacy organization helped me find my voice” (Spring 2015); Featured in YCTeen magazine (Spring 2015)
- nsoro Foundation Ambassador and scholar