

HEOP'S FALL 2021 NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 5



Marymount
Manhattan
College



HEOP WORKS

50 Years of Access, Opportunity, & Success

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Letter From The Editor

AS THE WORLD RECOVERS FROM THE INITIAL IMPACT OF COVID-19 AND PEOPLE GO BACK TO WORK IN PERSON, THE HEOP OFFICE OPENED ITS DOORS TO STUDENTS AND WELCOMED THE HEOP CLASS OF 2025. I WANT TO WELCOME YOU ALL BACK TO OUR BI-ANNUAL HEOP NEWSLETTER. I'M ELATED TO HAVE TAKEN PART IN EDITING, PRODUCING, AND WRITING THIS NEWSLETTER, ALONGSIDE THE PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER AND HEOP NEWSLETTER CHIEF EDITOR DANIELLA FRANCO' CLASS OF 2023.

THIS SUMMER FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS COMPLETED THEIR SUMMER ACADEMIC INSTITUTE UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF PREVIOUS HEOP COUNSELOR STEPHANIE NUNEZ AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT FAHIMA DEGIA. FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS WERE EXCITED TO GO BACK TO CAMPUS IN THE FALL TIME WHERE THEY MET THE ENTIRE HEOP COMMUNITY AND THE NEW COUNSELOR TASWYA CAMBRIDGE.

THIS SEMESTER THE HEOP COMMUNITY WAS BROUGHT TO LIFE AFTER A FEW SEMESTERS OF REMOTE LEARNING AND CHALLENGING WORK. STAFF WORKED TIRELESSLY THIS SEMESTER TO PLAN NEW EVENTS, LEAD STUDY HALL, AND LEAD TUTORING. STAFF ALSO MANAGED A FEW OF HEOP'S PROGRAMS; LEADERSHIP COUNCIL, YOUNG MEN'S INITIATIVE, AND HEOP'S NO PEER LEFT BEHIND PROGRAM.

WE WANT TO THANK THE ENTIRE HEOP COMMUNITY, THE HEOP LEADERSHIP COUNCIL, AND HEOP STAFF FOR ALL THEIR TIRELESS WORK AND DEDICATION TO HEOP. THANK YOU FOR READING AND WE HOPE YOU ENJOY ISSUE 5!

**FAHIMA DEGIA' 21
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

HEOP's Summer Academic Institute

XX

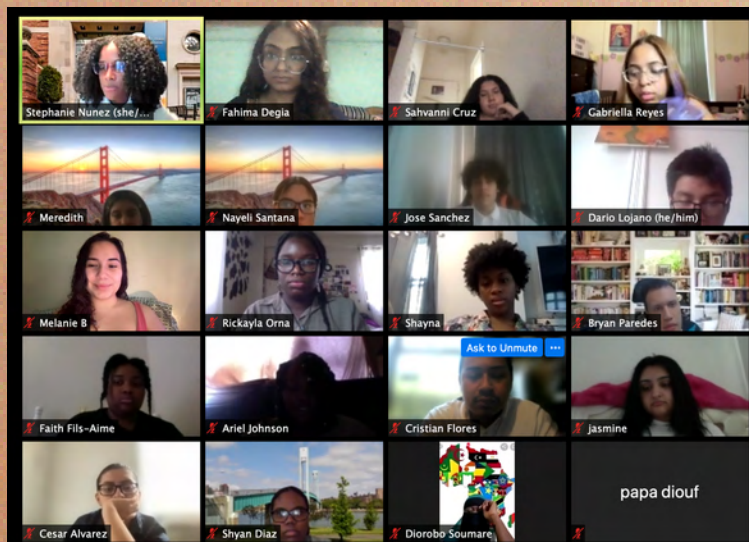


THE 2021 HEOP SUMMER ACADEMIC INSTITUTE (SAI) WAS OFFERED VIRTUALLY THIS YEAR AND HOSTED BY PREVIOUS HEOP COUNSELOR STEPHANIE NUNEZ AND CURRENT ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT FAHIMA DEGIA.

SAI IS A 5-WEEK PROGRAM THAT PREPARES INCOMING FIRST-YEAR HEOP STUDENTS FOR LIFE AT MARYMOUNT THROUGH CLASSES, A VARIETY OF PROGRAMS, AND WORKSHOPS. IT ALSO INTRODUCES THEM TO THE MMC COMMUNITY AND HEOP COHORT, THIS IS TO HELP STUDENTS BUILD CONNECTIONS.

BEFORE THE PROGRAM BEGAN STUDENTS MET WITH PREVIOUS HEOP COUNSELOR/COORDINATOR, STEPHANIE NUNEZ FOR SEVERAL WEEKS TO ESTABLISH GOALS, ASSESS STRENGTHS AND AREAS OF GROWTH, BUILD CONFIDENCE, AND PREPARE FOR THE PROGRAM.

AS THE PROGRAM BEGAN STUDENTS WERE MET WITH AN ARRAY OF CHALLENGES, BUT THAT DID NOT STOP THE STUDENTS FROM WORKING HARD OR PERSEVERING THROUGH THOSE CHALLENGES. STUDENTS DEVELOPED A VARIETY OF SKILLS THAT WERE APPLIED ACADEMICALLY, SOCIALLY, AND PROFESSIONALLY DURING THEIR FIRST SEMESTER AT MMC.



2021 Summer Theme

THE THEME DURING THE 2021 SAI WAS SOCIAL JUSTICE. ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT FAHIMA DEGIA CREATED A PROJECT FOR THE STUDENTS THAT REQUIRED THEM TO COLLABORATE AND CREATE NEW DISCOURSE WITH THEIR ASSIGNED GROUPS. THE PROJECTS WERE ABOUT RELEVANT SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES SUCH AS RACIAL JUSTICE IN RELATION TO BLACK LIVES MATTER, THE LGBTQIA MOVEMENT, STOP ASIAN HATE AND CLASS INEQUALITY. THIS IS BECAUSE SOCIAL PHENOMENA AND SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES ARE DIRECTLY INFLUENCED BY OUR SOCIAL STRUCTURES AND INSTITUTIONS. FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT, STUDENTS WERE EXPECTED TO CREATE A POWERPOINT AND PUBLISH A PAPER. THE GOAL OF THE PROJECT WAS TO HELP THE STUDENTS BREAK DOWN THESE SOCIAL STRUCTURES AND DECONSTRUCT THEIR OWN NARRATIVES THAT PLAY INTO THESE SYSTEMS. THE GOAL WAS TO HELP STUDENTS BUILD CULTURAL COMPETENCE, MAKE CONNECTIONS IN THEIR PERSONAL LIVES, AND IN THEIR EDUCATION. WE ALWAYS ENCOURAGE HEOP STUDENTS TO BUILD CONNECTIONS IN OUR CURRENT SOCIAL, POLITICAL, AND RACIAL CLIMATE.

2021 Summer Pledge/Poem



DESIGNED BY JAVINN TAVERAS DURAN

Class Of 2025's Symbol

HEOP STUDENTS WERE ENCOURAGED TO WORK TOGETHER AND CREATE A SYMBOL THAT REPRESENTS THE COHORT. THIS SEMESTER STUDENTS CREATED A SYMBOL WITH NYC IN THE BACK. SOME OF THE PROMINENT IMAGES ON THE SYMBOL ARE THE FLAGS OF ALL THE STUDENT'S COUNTRIES, MUSIC, DANCE, YIN AND YANG, AND A SYMBOL OF ZOOM. THIS COLLAGE REPRESENTS THE CLIMATE THAT HEOP'S FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS WERE RAISED IN; IT WAS A CLIMATE OF ADVERSITY AND CHANGES WITH THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC. DESPITE HARDSHIPS, OUR STUDENTS EXCEL AND ADAPT TO REMOTE LEARNING THROUGH ZOOM. OUR FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS ARE ALSO BONDED BY THEIR PASSION AND TALENT IN DANCING, SINGING, AND DRAWING. THIS SYMBOL ALSO REPRESENTS THE DIVERSITY AMONG OUR STUDENTS AND THE STORIES EACH OF THEM HOLDS; AND HOW EACH OF THEIR STORIES AND BACKGROUNDS CONNECT THEM.



DESIGNED BY JAVINN TAVERAS DURAN



Cesar Alvarez



C



Meredith De Oleo



Shayna Bennett

L

A



Shyan Diaz



Sahvanni Cruz

S

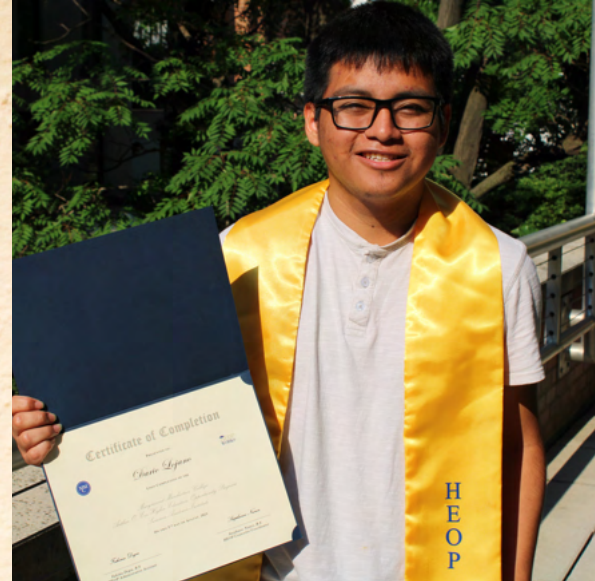
S



Papa Diouf



Faith Fils-Aime



Dario Lojano



Cristian Flores

**O
F**



Jasmine Lugo



Ariel Johnson



Rickayla Orna



Bryan Paredes



2



Nayeli Santana



Gabriella Reyes

0

2



Diorobo Soumare



**Jose Sanchez
Acosta**

5



**Javinn Taveras
Duran**

SPRING 2021 DEANS LIST

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR STUDENTS WHO MADE IT ON THE
SPRING 2021
DEANS LIST!**

**EMELY ABRIGO
IBRAHIM BAH
JERANDY BEATO
ANAYA BOND
DIANA CAMILO
DARLENE CASTILLO**

**JANET CASTILLO
AMY FERNANDEZ
STEPHANIE GALVEZ
AISATOU ISHIMORI
AOLANI KENDALL
PERSIS QUAICOE**

**HEOP CUMULATIVE GPA: 3.12
PERSISTENCE RATE: 100%
FALL' 20 GRADUATES: 1
SPRING' 21 GRADUATES: 6
HEOP FIRST-YEAR RETENTION RATE: 100%**

HEOP SPOTLIGHT



**JENNIFER HERNANDEZ
(FALL 2021 GRADUATE)**

MAJOR: PSYCHOLOGY

"MY FAVORITE MEMORY OF HEOP WOULD BE THE SUMMER PROGRAM BECAUSE WE GOT TO EXPERIENCE A BIT OF HOW COLLEGE WAS GOING TO FEEL LIKE BEFORE STARTING FRESHMAN YEAR. IT MADE ME FEEL PREPARED AND I REALLY ENJOYED THE SUMMER ACTIVITIES WE DID."

"ADVICE I WOULD GIVE TO FUTURE HEOP STUDENTS IS DON'T WORRY ABOUT FINISHING COLLEGE SO FAST, TAKE YOUR TIME AND DON'T PROCRASTINATE. ENJOY YOUR FOUR YEARS BECAUSE THEY GO BY SO FAST."



**AOLANI KENDALL
(CLASS OF '22)**

ARTWORK TITLED "FREE SPIRIT"

BY USING OIL, CANVAS, AND ACRYLICS IN HER THREE WORKS OF ART, KENDALL EMPHASIZES THE IDEA OF BEING TRAPPED IN YOUR OWN BALL OF STRESS. KENDALL SPEAKS TO HER FELLOW STUDENTS ABOUT FREEING THEMSELVES FROM THEIR FEARS. SHE ENCOURAGES THEM TO REGAIN THE STRENGTH THAT THEIR DOUBTS TOOK FROM THEM.



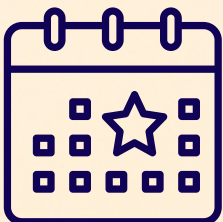
**EMELY ABRIGO
(CLASS OF '24)**

ABRIGO SERVES AS A FIRST-GENERATION GUIDE/MENTOR FOR FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS. IN HER ROLE SHE ACQUAINTS STUDENTS WITH STUDENT SERVICES, ACTIVITIES HOSTED BY MMC, AND RESOURCES. SHE ALSO WORKS TO DEVELOP THE COHORT'S ABILITY TO HANDLE ASPECTS OF THEIR LIFE BEYOND COLLEGE. LASTLY, SHE ORGANIZES SOCIAL EVENTS FOR HER COHORT TO ESTABLISH A PEER SUPPORT GROUP THROUGHOUT THE PROGRAM.



**DARLENE CASTILLO
(CLASS OF '23)**

"WORKING AS AN INTERN AT MAP 360 (MARKETING, ADVERTISING, & PUBLICITY) HAS PROVIDED ME WITH REAL-LIFE EXPERIENCE OF HOW A MARKETING AGENCY FUNCTIONS. I DO RESEARCH FOR POTENTIAL CLIENTS IN THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY. WE HAVE MEETINGS TO DISCUSS WHAT PLACES OR PEOPLE WE BELIEVE ARE BEST TO PARTNER UP WITH TO PROMOTE THESE MOVIES. WE DO THIS BY LOOKING UP BUSINESSES, PODCASTS, AND SOCIAL MEDIA INFLUENCERS AROUND THE COUNTRY WHO WE FEEL WILL HAVE THE BEST OUTREACH FOR THE MOVIE. I CONTRIBUTE BY KEEPING OUR DATABASE UP TO DATE AND STAYING IN CONTACT WITH CLIENTS FOR ANY FUTURE PROJECTS. THE WORK I DO AT MAP 360 IS CONSIDERED MICROMARKETING WITH A GOAL OF GETTING THE BEST OUTREACH FOR PROJECTS. I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE WHAT OTHER DOORS OPEN AFTER THIS EXPERIENCE."



PROGRAMMING & EVENTS

"Heop provides great programs that have helped my mental health stay on point! It gives us an opportunity to use the resources they provide so that we are able to get through this pandemic!"



Check out our Fall 2021 events

**HEOP
VIRTUAL
MOVIE NIGHT**

★ ZOOM THEATRE ★

PLAYING 6:30 PM

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER. 24. 21

INVITE WILL BE SENT VIA EMAIL!

★

LINKEDIN WORKSHOP

COME JOIN US AS WE HELP YOU CREATE A
LINKEDIN PROFILE AND GET STARTED WITH
BUILDING YOUR PROFESSIONAL NETWORK!

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER.29.21

@1:00PM

VIA ZOOM

INVITE WILL BE SENT VIA EMAIL

 **Homecoming 2021**
Family and Friends Weekend — October 22-24





"The HEOP programming structure was very satisfying because it laid out every important thing a student should know. I didn't feel as if I was lost or confused about anything. It was straightforward and helpful with how to organize. Emails would always update us on how to join programs"





HEOP Holiday Party



Unwind With HEOP

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

The HEOP Leadership Council (LC) is a paid-internship and leadership program, that was founded by previous HEOP Director- Harmony Cross to aid in the development of HEOP students' professional and leadership skills. Leadership Council members are appointed annually by the HEOP staff to execute their assigned projects, while simultaneously giving back to the HEOP community. The members of the council meet frequently with the HEOP staff both individually and collectively to discuss goals, ideas, updates, future programming/events, and assessment. With the guidance of the HEOP staff, students are allowed the autonomy and independence to plan and execute their projects. Whether Leadership Council members are interviewing alumni on tips for success; encouraging the community to prioritize mental health through various methods; planning the next YMI event; or designing/writing the bi-annual newsletter- LC members end their internship appointment with an increase of professional and leadership skills that are transferable a) cross-industry; b) academically, c) co-curricularly; d) socially, and e) personally.

FALL 2021 COUNCIL MEMBERS

✦✦✦ Ibrahim Bah '24 ✦✦✦



HEOP YOUNG MENS INITIATIVE MANAGER

✦✦✦ Daniella Franco '23 ✦✦✦



HEOP PUBLIC RELATIONS & NEWSLETTER
MANAGER/INTERN

Melanie Bermudez '23



HEOP RECRUITMENT MANAGER/INTERN

Stephanie Galvez '23



HEOP OFFICE MANAGER

Nereida Alvarez '24



HEOP 101 PM

Jose Sanchez '25



**Parent/Alumni Engagement & Homecoming
Manager/Intern**

HEOP BANQUET CEREMONY

On December 15, HEOP hosted its Annual Banquet Ceremony Recognizing the Fall semester graduates, peer mentors, Leadership Council members, and students who made the dean's list. Overall we celebrated HEOP's current success and ability to get through and handle unprecedented circumstances.



YOUNG MEN'S INITIATIVE

The Young Men's Initiative (YMI) was initially created to assist with recruitment for the Program. HEOP has since expanded the mission to include retention and graduation of self-identifying men of HEOP. The YMI cohort meets on a bi-weekly basis to discuss various topics.

Members:

Bryan Paredes
Dario Lojano
Javinn Taveras Duran
Cristian Flores
Cesar Alvarez
Papa Diouf
Jose Sanchez Acosta
Ibrahim Bah



MarymountManhattan

THE HIGHER EDUCATION
OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM
Young Men's Initiative

SECOND ANNUAL
**HIGH SCHOOL
TO COLLEGE
SUMMIT** Virtual!

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 18
1:00 PM VIA ZOOM

Learn about the opportunities that
await you at MMC!

- Professional development
- Tuition Assistance
- Academic support
- Metro cards
- Meal plan

Proveemos traduccion en español!

CLICK HERE TO
RSVP

"The YMI program is here to stay I want to see it evolve even more, and leave a legacy behind"



HEOP NO PEER LEFT BEHIND

The HEOP No Peer Left Behind Peer Mentoring (NPLB) Program was launched to provide an extra layer of support to the first-year HEOP students as they began their virtual collegiate journey. All FY students were paired with an upper-class student based on common majors and interests.

Mentors meet with their mentees biweekly to provide guidance and support as needed. HEOP Counselor/Coordinator Taswya Cambridge serves as the primary advisor for the NPLB mentoring program.



Names of Peer Mentors

1. **Jerandy Beato**
2. **Janet Castillo**
3. **Melanie Bermudez**
4. **Darlene Castillo**
5. **Ashley Alberto**
6. **Ibrahim Bah**
7. **Amy Fernandez Orellana**
8. **Heilyn Perez**
9. **Luznery Martinez**

MEET THE STAFF



TASWYA CAMBRIDGE

HEOP COUNSELOR/ COORDINATOR

SHE/HER/HERS

TCAMBRIDGE@MMM.EDU

Cambridge graduated from Rowan University with a BA in Public Relations. In 2017 she graduated with a Masters in Psychology from the University of Westminster in London. She is passionate about helping youth and being a person that students can rely on for advice and guidance through out the different obstacles in life. Cambridge also previously worked as an Admissions counselor and HEOP Liaison at MMC

FAHIMA DEGIA

HEOP ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

SHE/HER/HERS

FDEGIA1@MMM.EDU



Degia is an alumni of Marymount Manhattan College, she graduated in May 2021. At Marymount she earned a degree in Politics and Human Rights with a minor in Sociology and History. During her time at Marymount, Degia participated in a number of internships such as Marymount's Professional Immersion Program for the United Nations. She also interned at Reading Partners, wrote for The Monitor, worked at Emèlle Restorative Medicine, and worked at Marymount's Academic Affairs office. Her dedication to HEOP only extended when she became a staff member. As a staff member Degia dedicates her time to hosting and planning events, managing study hall, making sure students are filling out weekly forms for their HEOP requirements, and helping students with registration, and much more!

MICHAEL SALMON
HEOP INTERIM DIRECTOR
HE/HIM/HIS
MSALMON@MMM.EDU



Salmon is a graduate from the University of West Indies, he graduated with a Bachelors and Masters in Science. After receiving his degrees he pursued a graduate degree at New York University. In 1993 Dean Salmon began his career at Marymount Manhattan College as an economics professor; something he still does to this day. He later transitioned to an advisor for the Office of Academic Advisement, in which he worked tirelessly to make it what it is today. Salmon also has other roles in the institution as he lends support to both the Center for Academic Support and Tutoring as well as the Higher Education Opportunity Program. Salmon also plays a role in programs that support students such as the Peer Leaders Program, the First Generation Program, and LINK. Salmon also played a heavy role in Marymount's 2018 Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Plan. Salmon is an award winning higher education leader who is passionate about educational access and he constantly challenges people to think critically, decide wisely, and take action.

THANK YOU!

**HEOP THANKS THE
ENTIRE MMC
COMMUNITY FOR
SUPPORTING THE
HEOP NEWSLETTER**

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**FACEBOOK:
ARTHUR O. EVE**



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