

Celebrating the Accomplishments of the LO Class of 2016

Allegheny College
B. Simmons

Bentley University
C. Lewis

Brooklyn College
M. Wharton

Centenary College
M. Brown

Colby College
T. Brown

College of New Rochelle
C. Pemberton

Columbia University
M. Sylvestre

City University of New York
N. Ahmed

City University of New York, Baruch
MD Choudhury

DePauw University
H. Dosti

Emory University
D. Davis

Goucher College
A. Hurt

Hampshire College
S. Faye
C. Fonseca
J. Pelle
S. Williams

Hobart & William Smith Colleges
L. Bascom

Hofstra University
E. Gbeneku

Howard University
N. Versailles

Molloy College
M. Choudhury

Mt. Holyoke College
E. Cerda

New York City College of Technology
A. Scott

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P. Lu

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A. Ashai

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B. Palacios

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C. Hernandez
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M. Chung

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J. Bramble
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Reflections from the Class of 2016



Before, I didn't really think about my future, but Legal Outreach really helped me develop a vision for my life and gave me the skills to pursue it. It started with freshman orientation, when Mr. O was reading some of the quotes on the wall in the AV space. He asked us what the biggest room in the world was, and I remember guessing and trying to figure it out. I really didn't know. Then he told us. The answer was enlightening. I realized from that day on that I could do whatever I set my mind to achieve if I just worked hard enough. That's what I'm taking from LO, that no matter where you are, if you have a goal and you use the tools you're given to make a plan, you can achieve that goal. – Linden Bascom

– Linden Bascom



Legal Outreach, to me, is a place where you can make mistakes, and while there are consequences, it's all part of a lesson that you're learning – it's all a road that is preparing you for the real world. One thing I always tell myself is a line from the LO pledge, "short term pain equals long term gain." It's stuck with me because it encompasses my time at LO and even my activities outside of LO. I played soccer sophomore and junior year and, when we would run laps, all I could think was that my legs were burning, and that I had to go study for the SAT after practice. But I just kept saying to myself "short term pain equals long term gain," and that helped me focus and complete both tasks. That one phrase helps me daily. Ultimately it's the lesson I will take from LO: you can't get anything you want without putting in the work.

– Kyla James



I want to be a doctor. It began as something my family wanted for me, but now I'm actually really passionate about it. Even though my parents encouraged me, they both have only a high school education. Neither grew up in America, so they couldn't advise me on what I should be doing to achieve my dream. Legal Outreach supplemented what my parents could not give. They taught me how to create the best opportunities for myself in a way not even my school could provide. My high school college counselor told me she thought I set a record for the number of acceptances to private colleges by any senior in my school. Many of the private schools that admitted me had not previously accepted anyone from my school. Even my counselor thought Legal Outreach made the difference.

– Evette Eweka



I am so grateful that Legal Outreach exists and that I was allowed to be a part of this community. Without it, I would not be in the position that I am today. During my sophomore and junior years, I was going through a really hard time, and it felt like I had no one to turn to for help or guidance. But Legal Outreach provided me with the support I needed academically and emotionally. LO has provided me with so many amazing opportunities, and I have achieved beyond what I thought was possible. I'm really proud that I'm going to be the first person in my family to go to college. I am hoping to make my family proud even as I motivate my younger sister to push herself to go even further.

– Jahlisa Pele



When I reviewed the colleges to which I was accepted, I know I wouldn't even have applied to them if it were not for Legal Outreach. LO set a higher standard for me than I had ever set for myself. They expected more from me, and with that expectation, I was pushed to work harder. I'm taking with me a whole set of skills in a number of areas - time management, studying, self-motivation - that are going to assist me in excelling, not just in college but in anything I attempt in life.

– McEndel Sylvestre



At Legal Outreach, I have grown not only academically but personally. The students I met here have the same goals as I do, and the staff had a better vision for my future than I did. Now when I go to college, I know I want to study sociology; from there, I want to go to law school and pursue a career in corporate law. LO showed me that not only were these goals possible, but these are goals that I could, and should, aspire to. Overall, I would say it's made me a better person.

– Selassieson Williams



Legal Outreach is my second home. I've developed a community here that has pushed me to do better. They encouraged me to work hard in everything I do. They've helped me discover that I am capable of achieving anything I set my mind to. As clichéd as that sounds, that's what I've learned here over the last four years. I've changed a lot. I have a new sense of self, a powerful drive to do my best in college, and the confidence to pursue my professional goals and not let anything get in my way.

– Chaimaa Riad



The most important values I will take with me from LO are hard-work and persistence. I lost my first four debates, but everyone here encouraged me to keep working hard and giving my best. Because of the support from my LO community, I qualified to participate in the Debater of the Year Competition my junior year, and this year, I came in second in the senior class. I've always known I wanted to be successful, but I didn't know much about the pathway or how to prepare for college. Legal Outreach really changed my life by providing me with guidance, helping me find life-long friends, and building my confidence so that I could achieve more than I ever thought I could.

– Michael Chung

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