

Legal Outreach ALUMNI NEWSLETTER



Above, Students receive sweatshirts and sweatpants from Alumnus Jibri Easter '10

LO Alumnus, Jibri Easter, Gives Back in a Very *Fly* Way

During the student holiday party this past December, Alumnus Jibri Easter '10 returned to LO to bestow some holiday cheer upon the current student body, a collection of fashionably designed sweatpants and sweatshirts from his own streetwear clothing company, EasterxSunday. The students were thrilled to connect with an alumnus successfully achieving his entrepreneurial dream, not to mention getting to take home some of the swag.



EasterxSunday.com

Jibri gives credit to the discipline and a “no excuses mindset” which LO instilled as key factors that led to the creation of his company. That mindset, complemented by a strong LO work ethic, motivated him to become an entrepreneur. He reflected,

“LO’s strict program requirements taught me the discipline required to take control of my life and steer it in the direction of my choice. It’s not easy but I realized that anything you let get in the way of what you say you want is an excuse. You have to make sacrifices if you say you really want something.”



By sharing my story, I believe that I am serving as another type of role model for what they can become.

In starting his career, Jibri was not interested in a 9-5 office job and strove for something “beyond the suit and tie” profession. He focused his passion on developing a streetwear collection that connected to his community. “EasterxSunday was created to evoke a certain feeling of ‘flyness’ achieved by wearing something that makes you feel confident in yourself.” Through his collection, Jibri seeks to remind people of the history of Black families in America who would put on their Sunday Best for the annual pilgrimage to church on Easter. He imagines the children who would put on their new clothes, possibly the only new clothes they would receive that year, and would feel connected to their identity. As Jibri explains,

“It’s about exhibiting pride in your appearance and pride in who you are. Wealth is of the mind, not the pocket. And if my clothes can stimulate that pride, especially in kids, then I feel fulfilled.”

Jibri’s goal in making the donation and sharing his story was “to broaden students’ minds and expose them to different opportunities.” While he truly appreciates all the tools provided by LO, Jibri says “I could have benefited from having a role model that chose a less traditional career path. By sharing my story, I believe that I am serving as another type of role model for what they can become.”

So do we, Jibri, so do we. To check out Jibri’s Collection, Go to EasterxSunday.com!

Alumni Return for Fireside Chat and *Light Up* Current CB Students' Motivation to Pursue and Prepare for College

On January 9th, LO Alumni returned to reunite with current College Bound students and share words of wisdom during the annual Fireside Chat. Thirty-four alumni participated in a panel discussion with the entire student body, sharing their perspectives on how Legal Outreach had prepared them for college academics and college life. The alumni were then split into smaller groups to address important topics pertaining to each grade level. The freshman panel shared their excitement about college and what it means for their future; the sophomore panel provided suggestions on how high school sophomores can best position themselves to gain admission to competitive colleges; the junior panel discussed the final push before applying to college; and the senior panel gave advice on how to prepare for the academic and social transition to college.



LO’s current students were motivated by the alumni to further dedicate themselves to the LO curriculum in order to achieve their college dreams and were encouraged to take advantage of the support that the organization offers. One freshman was enlightened by an alumna’s commitment to LO during her time in the program. “Her comments really opened my eyes to the benefits LO provides in preparing us for college. And though it’s a lot of work, the programs are here to prepare us, not hinder us.” Although multiple students acknowledged the rigor of the program, they were encouraged by the endorsement of the program from the alumni. One student stated, “All the hard work will prove useful in the long run. Hearing from the alumni made me realize how much LO is offering and how much more I need to do. I will definitely work harder over the next few years.”



THANK YOU TO ALL OUR ALUMNI WHO CAME TO THIS YEAR'S FIRESIDE CHAT

- Ismelda Mejia '19, Skidmore College
- Maleyah Peterson '17, Swarthmore College
- Nana Yaw Ofori '18, Syracuse University
- Genesis De Los Santos '19, Columbia College
- Lanonis Shob '19, CUNY Hunter College
- Galeon Shob '19, CUNY Hunter College
- Mya Singh Johal '19, Cornell University
- Little Azeez '19, CUNY NYC College of Technology
- Priscilla Asamoah '17, CUNY Lehman College
- Jelani Simms '19, Borough of Manhattan Community College
- Chaimaa Riad '16, Smith College
- Naomi Pina Garcia '19, Franklin and Marshall College
- Sarae Perez '18, Cazenovia College
- Samuel Sylvestre '19, University of Rochester
- Mikka Legaspi '19, College of Mount Saint Vincent
- Amardeep Banga '19, CUNY Hunter College
- Bria Royer '19, Marist College
- Joshua Cherry '18, Skidmore College

- Ava Celeste-Dujon '17, Smith College
- Bilal Mohammed '19, Wesleyan University
- Luna Rodriguez '19, CUNY Baruch College
- Ndeye Ndione '19, CUNY Hunter College
- Karen Boateng '19, Tufts University
- Evelyn Ramdhanie '19, Cornell University
- Thursday Williams '19, Trinity College
- Storm Lewis '17, Smith College
- Meki Chambers '19, University of Hartford
- Michaela Shelton '17, Pomona College
- Farraz Younes '18, CUNY Baruch
- Marissa Campiz '19, Cornell University
- Claudene Roye '17, University of Rochester
- Kyara Lomax '17, Allegheny College
- Giovanni Luke '19, College of Mount Saint Vincent
- Patrick Casimir '19, CUNY Baruch
- Ajani Scott '16, NY Institute of Technology