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**TIME 2000 Seniors Reflect Before Graduation**

As the academic year comes to an end, another chapter in the book of TIME closes. The seniors, who will be graduating from Queens College on May 31, 2012, reflect on their experiences as TIME 2000 students:

In the end, everything boils down to discipline. It goes a long way. Work hard, persevere, and everything will fall into place. As my gym teacher once told me, pain is temporary, pride is forever. - Abraham

My favorite memory? If I were to choose between being called the wrong name for four years (Alex), changing my hairstyle every single semester, enjoying the feeling of handing in a portfolio, never-ending arguing in the DAP group, free printing, Emma’s laugh, lunch vouchers, and being considered the class cutie, I would actually have to choose growing together with my classmates not just as a cohort, but as a family. We developed this bond along the journey to reach our common goals, picking each other up along the way. My favorite memory is actually having memories with my T-11 classmates. - Alec

TIME 2000 is very special to me as a student and as a prospective teacher. I remember coming to the TIME 2000 annual conference in November as a high school junior and senior. It was amazing to see so many applications of math in the real world. As I entered the program, I continued to be fascinated with all of the great concepts and ideas that I was learning about. The best part of being in TIME 2000 is making such great friends and colleagues. I believe that I have made amazing friends whom I know that I can count on, now and always. I find that I have gained much, academically and socially, from TIME 2000, and now it’s time to fulfill my dream to be a mathematics teacher and give back to TIME 2000! - Alia

While in TIME 2000 I met some of my best friends. Even though this experience was stressful, if I had to do everything over again, I wouldn’t change a thing. - Alice

It has been an awesome four years together with my 21 brothers and sisters. It has been a rough one, but we made it. I’m going to miss the days when we gathered to study in the library, the dining hall, the student union, and anywhere around campus. I’m going to miss the days when we chatted and sang our hearts’ content after finals. I hope to continue to laugh and cry with you all after we graduate. I’m definitely going to miss you, T-11ers! I also want to take a moment to thank our professors who have been very supportive and caring. I could not have wished for better friends and professors. Thank you! - Amy

The best memories of TIME 2000 were the times T-11 hung out and took a break from all the hard work we had been doing. I am very happy to graduate with so many friends with whom I know I will stay in contact. I appreciate and love each and every one of them. I feel prepared and ready to be a great mathematics teacher thanks to TIME 2000. I will always appreciate the staff that made my dreams come true, and I can’t wait to give back and thank them for all they have done for me. Advice for the underclassmen: share your ideas with others, if possible. I was able to use my colleagues’ ideas, and they were able to use mine. We also asked each other for advice about what to do in different situations. The members of your cohort truly know what you are currently going through. - Bessie

I always thought TIME 2000 seniors were exaggerating about how they have no life outside of TIME 2000. I didn’t think TIME was like that until student teaching began. I had no time for anything! It’s constant thinking and planning but the stress experienced during Math385W has helped prepare me tremendously. Take that class very seriously, and keep a folder of all the lesson plans you’d like to use in the future. Also, even if the due date for an assignment is weeks/months away, SERIOUSLY start little by little. It’ll make a big difference and lighten your workload. Juniors, create a Dropbox account.

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It'll save your life during IC and student teaching. -Cindy
TIME 2000 is one of the greatest programs you could ever be part of. We are blessed with the best professors students could ever ask for. They are always ready to offer their knowledge not only related to our studies but also regarding life. In addition, TIME 2000 offers something more, something greater: a family. Throughout my years in TIME, I have acquired 16 parents and 21 siblings. All of us have worked so hard together to get where we are today, and we will continue to work hard to provide “equity, excellence and ethics” to our future students. My advice to our little sibling cohorts of TIME: Listen to your professors with care, work hard and work together. To my T-11, we did it, together!! Oh, the places we will go. –Despina
There have been so many good TIMES, but the best one has to be what happened in SEYS 350 with Professor Cenerelli last semester. It all started when one of my classmates decided to pull a matrix move trying to kill a fly but managed instead to hit his glasses off his face with his right hand and catch them in his left hand. The class was literally silent for about three seconds, until it took one person to start laughing. From then on, all I remember is stuffing my face in my scarf so I could try to control my laughter. To this day, just thinking about it makes me crack up. I will miss all my fellow TIME seniors as we have really grown to become a family. I love you all and I know we will keep in touch. –Emma
My fondest moment in TIME 2000 was that I came into the program not knowing anyone and being intimidated by everything around me. As time passed, I became more comfortable with those around me, and we became friends. It is amazing to realize that when you are kept with the same people working towards the same goal for so long, you grow together and develop a bond that is special. I never knew if that would happen when I started in the program, but what doesn’t kill me makes me stronger, and, by persevering through everything, I have been able to form bonds with some special people whom I hold dear. –Greg
I remember sitting in the TIME Lab before one of Dr. Ryba’s tests going over material with all of T-11 about the nine-point circle. That was a good time in TIME. –Jaemin
My favorite memories of TIME 2000 include homework assigned, every lesson taught, every math exam taken, every observation completed, and every night at Bes-sie’s that built unexpected bonds. –Johanna
We always complain about how much work we have to do in TIME. However, you will know soon that it is to prepare you for your future career. The TIME 2000 program taught us not only how to teach mathematic-ics, but also how to pour our hearts into teaching mathematics as well. –Luwren
I cannot believe my experience as a TIME 2000 student has come to an end. This unique college experience has been inexplicably satisfying and full of meaningful learning, close friendships, and unyielding determination. I am thankful for my family who encouraged me to always be the best I could be, for my friends who were right there with me every step of the way, and for the wonderful, inspiring TIME 2000 faculty from whom I learned so much. To the underclassmen: never give up. If you really feel this program is right for you, give it your all every single day, and you will make it through. All of the support you need is right in front of you. Get involved, ask for help when you need it, make use of the resources available to you, and keep in mind that every challenge you encounter will make you stronger, better, and wiser. I am forever grateful to my TIME 2000 family, and I feel unbelievably lucky to have been a part of this program. T-11, we did it! –Mara
The TIME 2000 program was intense! BUT, looking back on it all, it is definitely an experience I wouldn’t trade for the world. The friends I’ve made, the things I’ve learned, the great role models I now look up to…I cherish it all. A lot will happen through the years in the program, but make sure to allow yourself to take a step back every once in a while and pride yourself on how much you have accomplished and will accomplish. It’s easy to get lost in it all, but remember why you started the program in the first place. It’s hard work, and there were many times I thought I wanted to give up, but I am SO glad I didn’t. –Reeba
One thing T-11 does the most is celebrate. We celebrate almost everything: birthdays, end of semesters, holidays, etc. Last year we held a Christmas/end-of-term celebration in room PH004 after a final exam. Each of us brought in a dish to share and exchanged Christmas presents. That was a night that I will never forget. One of the most important things I’ve gained from TIME is friendship. No matter how tough TIME gets, we are always here for each other. These are the friendships that last for a lifetime. I’m very grateful to have met and grown with all of my T-11 buddies. Advice to lowerclassmen: Besides eating and chatting, keep your mouth busy by asking questions wherever you are in doubt. All the professors, staff, and upperclassmen will surely help you out as long as you ask. –Sammi
Thank you to all of T-11 for making each and every day of my time spent in TIME memorable. Thank you all for lending a hand of friendship, and for being so reliable at all times! Advice to all: Want for your brother what you want for yourself….work with one another, help each other, and share ideas! –Solha
Your knowledge of mathematics and teaching mathematics will be tremendously deepened through your four years of staying with this program. This will become your second family. In this family we share our lives with each other, we support each other anytime and anywhere, and we make the best friends ever in this world! This is the place that will lead you to a successful career. –Tracy
This is a one-of-a-kind program, so be thankful that you are a part of it. Stay close to your TIME family, and you will never go wrong. One of the best memories I have is teaching in Math385W, where everyone did the Running Man activity and graphed their Running Man on posters. Enjoy your time in TIME 2000 because I know I will miss it greatly. So, study hard and always keep updated with teacher certification procedures. Good luck with everything! –Violetta
The TIME 2000 program prepared me to be a better person because I learned many valuable lessons throughout the years. Because of my colleagues and professors, I am here now and ready to be certified as a math teacher. It may require some extra work but I promise that everything will be worth it in the end. It is a great program that offers a scholarship and prepares you to be a well-qualified teacher. I really appreciate the opportunity I had to work with the best professors on campus and create a strong and close relationship with my colleagues. –Yaya
The four years in TIME 2000 have been exciting—difficult, but exciting. Everything is what you make of it. It is up to you to make this time worthwhile. My best advice is to take control of your time management. Get things out of the way whenever possible. Learn to maximize your time when you can. This will definitely help you in the future (especially when you are student teaching). –Yumi
No pain, no gain! All of your hard work now will pay off at the end and prepare you for any challenge that comes your way. Thank you, TIME 2000. –Zuennis
To all of the TIME 2000 seniors: Congratulations and best of luck in your future endeavors!
The Teaching Channel is an Internet video showcase of motivating, successful teaching practices in America's schools. Found at www.teachingchannel.org, the web site features videos, lesson plans, and resources for teachers of all subjects. TIME 2000 graduates Irina Kimyagarov (T-2), Chris Persaud (T-2), Ana Mojocoa (T-4), Nicole Francipane (T-6), and Sabrina Joseph (T-9) have all been showcased on the Teaching Channel this year for their innovative, engaging mathematics lessons.

Irina Kimyagarov, Chris Persaud, and Ana Mojocoa all teach at Elmont Memorial High School. For her teaching channel lesson, Irina, the department chairperson, taught how to determine the single transformation that is equivalent to a composition of transformations. Irina’s students moved through stations to critique each other’s work and perform different parts of composition questions. “There are so many interesting ways that we can engage students in learning. I wanted to demonstrate something that people would be able to learn from and hopefully apply to their own lessons. I made sure my lesson had all of the elements of an effective cooperative learning activity and catered to multiple learning styles,” Irina said. When asked how TIME 2000 prepared her for this experience, Irina said, “The TIME 2000 program models effective and sound pedagogy, creativity, and reflection. As a result, looking for interesting new approaches, adapting ideas, and being willing to experiment come naturally to me.”

Chris Persaud agreed with Irina that the TIME 2000 program more than adequately prepared him for his career in teaching. Chris’ lesson was a discovery lesson that introduced functions using the idea of a lottery. His students were involved from the beginning of the lesson when he brought six of them up to the board and told them they were each going to win a different car! Chris felt his lesson was strong because it “included student involvement, discussion, and a relation to the real world. Introducing functions to the students in this manner and encouraging independent thinking allowed them to reach critical conclusions on their own. The unique motivation allowed for a high level of rigor because of the multitude of open-ended questions.”

Ana Mojocoa is finishing her seventh year as a mathematics teacher. Her Teaching Channel lesson focused on compositions of transformations. The main idea was to have students work in groups to perform reflections over parallel and intersecting lines. Ana’s lesson incorporated the use of GeoMirrors, which added a nice hands-on component to the activity. The students were required to share, explain, and teach what they discovered. When asked how she felt about being on the Teaching Channel, Ana said, “It was an honor to be chosen, and I was very excited. I love what I do, so I wasn’t nervous at all. I appreciated the opportunity to validate my hard work and creativity.”

Nicole Francipane has been teaching for five years at the Queens School of Inquiry. Known for her passion and energy in the classroom, she hosts the SEYS 201W fieldwork experience each year for the TIME 2000 sophomores. Nicole strives to create Common Core State Standards-based lessons that meet the varying needs of her students. For the taping, Nicole taught a review lesson with stations on Surface Area and Volume to prepare her class for an upcoming unit exam. When asked about this particular lesson, she shared, “This type of lesson focused on meeting the learning styles of all of my students. The station work was differentiated. There were many opportunities for students to show mastery by choosing the types of problems they wanted to work on, ranging from multiple choice questions to extended response questions.” Like her fellow TIME 2000 graduates, Nicole believes that TIME 2000 provided her with the skills necessary to become an effective secondary mathematics teacher.

Sabrina Joseph is in her second year of teaching at Columbia Secondary School for Math, Science, and Engineering. Sabrina’s Teaching Channel lesson focused on subtracting integers. As shown in the video of her lesson, she engaged her students with a unique motivational story about a chef cooking a magical soup and the use of two-colored chips to represent +1 and -1. Sabrina appreciated being recommended for the Teaching Channel so early in her teaching career. “I think an experience like this is helpful because I can use it to reflect on my teaching, and it’s like an online demo lesson for potential employers to view. I’m honored that my teaching practices have been noted by veterans in the field,” she said. The five TIME 2000 graduates who were chosen to be on the Teaching Channel have demonstrated masterful teaching practices and a commitment to bettering the field of mathematics education. Opportunities to showcase one’s skills and dedication in this way are rare, and Irina, Chris, Ana, Nicole, and Sabrina have much to be proud of. To watch their videos and access their lesson materials, visit the Teaching Channel web site, www.teachingchannel.org.

TIME 2000 Alumni Featured on the Teaching Channel  By Mara Markinson (T-11)
Thank you to the retiring editors of the TIME 2000 newsletter, Mara Markinson and Greg Hyams. Your hard work and dedication through the years has been greatly appreciated! Thank you for making a smooth transition possible for the new editors. Best of luck starting your careers! You will be missed.

T-11 Through the Years

Congratulations, T-11! Good luck!