Congratulations To:
- Rachel Wessel (T-12) for receiving the TIME 2000 Graduate Scholarship Award
- Sabina Meyer (T-12) for receiving the Herb Fremont Award
- Farah Kamal (T-12), Yunyun Lin (T-12), Mark Tescosn (T-12), Tina Tibball (T-12) for receiving the Undergraduate Mathematics Education Excellence Awards
- Alexandria Kubic (T-9) for receiving the Alice Arzt Award for Excellence in Mathematics Teaching
- Maria Leon-Chu (T-9) for receiving the Graduate Mathematics Education Excellence Award
- Celia Bazian (T-14) on her engagement and upcoming July 2013 wedding
- Naava Lightman (T-10) for her upcoming marriage to Eric Keehn on June 9, 2013
- Chana Silbergeit Kamelhar (T-4) on the birth of her daughter, Samantha Ruth, on April 3, 2013

The graduates of 2013! THIRTEEN TREASURED TIME 2000 GRADUATES! Thirteen shining stars, each one different, but glowing ever so brilliantly! Thirteen people who are now ready to change the world, one student at a time! Thirteen people who have worked so very hard to achieve their goals! Thirteen people who have made me proud! Finally, thirteen wishes for your future success—1. Enjoy your students! 2. Enjoy your mathematics! 3. Enjoy your teaching! 4. Enjoy the challenges you will face! 5. Enjoy the new colleagues you will meet. 6. Enjoy the new places you will go. 7. Enjoy solving problems every day. 8. Enjoy learning from your successes! 9. Enjoy learning from your mistakes! 10. Enjoy your family! 11. Enjoy your friends! 12. Enjoy good health! And most importantly—13. Enjoy some good sound SLEEP! And always know, no matter how far away you go and no matter how many years pass by, I am always here, thinking of you and wishing you the very best that life has to offer!

-Dr. Alice Arzt

On May 30, 2013 the thirteen members of the senior class of TIME 2000 will graduate from Queens College. As they prepare for the next phase of their lives, the students offer reflections on the experiences as TIME 2000 students.

My favorite thing about TIME 2000 is the fact that TIME 2000 is a family of students who share the same goal with one another. No matter where I turn, there is always someone to talk to who can share his or her wisdom with me. There is always some one there to teach me something new. In addition, many of the students in my cohort have become my friends to whom I can turn at any time. TIME 2000 often felt overwhelming to me. It always felt like there was never a weekend that I could just have to myself because of the many assignments and projects that had to get done. Currently, I’m student teaching and it feels like there’s so much to do, but I’m okay. Yes I’m always doing work, but it conditions the mind and body so that I am ready for anything. In addition, time flies when you’re so busy. Enjoy the time that you have now because student teaching and graduation seems far off but it’ll come sooner than you know it.

-Prem Balkaran

When asked about my fondest TIME 2000 memory, my answer was the 2013 TIME 2000 Reunion dinner. At the dinner, I had the chance to meet several TIME 2000 graduates, hear about others’ experiences, and enjoy the company of friends. My favorite thing about TIME 2000 was the support and structure of the program. Throughout the four years, we had all of our mathematics and education classes together with our cohort. This made it easy to quickly make friends and to help each other when needed. We could always ask each other for advice and study together because of the close-knit community the program promotes.

-Farah Kamal

My favorite thing about TIME 2000 is that we get all different kinds of resources and support from the program. First of all, we always receive email about recent news of education events which keep us updated about the education system. Secondly, we had an opportunity to meet and learn from different famous educators, like Jim Matthews and Dan Meyer. Thirdly, we have our own lab where we get all kinds of technical support. Last but not least, all the support is based on our individual needs. For example, as an English learner, I had so much trouble with English when I first entered the program. Besides support from professors, TIME 2000 provided me with a free class just to improve my English. I learned a lot from this class. I really appreciate all the different resources that TIME 2000 provided for us. My fondest TIME2000 memory was the first time I spoke in front of everybody as a member of the student panel during the 2011 Conference. Honestly, as an

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English learner, my English is not good. I never imagined I can or I will have the opportunity to speak as one of the representatives of our program. Therefore, that experience really built my self-confidence and gave me a chance to reassess myself. Now I know that a language barrier is not a problem anymore. After four years of preparing and studying as a student of TIME 2000, I know that I have the ability to confidently express my ideas.

-Yunyun Lin

TIME 2000 has provided me with lifelong friends and inspiring mentors. I consider TIME 2000 my second family. Our cohort not only took all of our classes together, but also spent time together after class, helping and learning from each other. We have become a supportive teaching team and will always be able to turn to each other for advice. I will forever cherish this bond that being a member of TIME 2000 has given me. My fondest TIME 2000 memory was taking Math 385W (a junior year course with Dr. Artzt). This was my first teaching experience, which I was able to share with my cohort. Watching my friends teach for the first time and seeing them grow from that point forward was a rewarding learning experience. I learned from watching them teach, as well as from their comments and suggestions about my teaching. Math 385W also showed me how exciting a math class can be and inspired me to create innovative lessons for the class I am currently student teaching and for the classes I will teach in the future. This class confirmed that being a teacher of mathematics is my passion and my calling.

-Sabina Meyer

When asked about my memories of TIME 2000, I felt my fondest TIME 2000 memories were about attending the annual November conferences. I like it when high school students visit TIME 2000 and explore the wonders of mathematics. Also, I love to meet great presenters and learn practical teaching methods. Another aspect of TIME 2000 I enjoy is that we have had the same classmates for the past four years. It helps us to make close friends, which would be rare in other classes.

-Misun Park

One thing I really love about TIME 2000 is that it is a family. I gained a family consisting of people who make me laugh, cry, get angry, and keep me sane. I would tell the underclassmen to have a little fun and don’t stress too much. In a program like this, it’s really easy to forget that we are in the best years of our lives. We should be good students as well as good friends, siblings, and people.

-Chanelle Ross

My favorite thing about TIME 2000 is the personal relationships that I formed with my cohort, students in other cohorts, and the professors. I really do not believe I would have ever made it to this point without the personal attention and genuine compassion I have felt from the people who have surrounded me with love in this program. I have made relationships that will last me well beyond my time at QC, something I know I am lucky to get from an undergraduate education. I would advise underclassmen to really push through regardless of the difficulties they may be facing now. I know that initially I did not want to stay in TIME 2000 and now I can’t imagine what else I would have done. It gave me a wonderful undergraduate experience and the rigorous and demanding nature of the program has given me a reputation that continues to benefit me as I start my career.

-Dwaina Screen

My favorite thing about TIME 2000 is the community learning experience that we had. Our cohort, compared to others, wasn’t always the closest bunch of people. However, over time we developed strong ties with one another. Not only did we develop strong ties with the members of our cohort, but with the professors, as well. As cliché as it may sound, TIME 2000 really is a family. I don’t have one memory that I would say is my fondest. Instead, I have a collection of little moments that I’ll never forget: like when Prem dragged me around to different TIME events, especially when there was a bake sale (boy that kid has a sweet tooth!); or when I drove to LIMAÇON this past year with Dwaina (that was a fun day!) or small things, like professor Hanusa kicking the wall; or Dr. Sultan always managing to look like he came out of a chalk factory after class was over. These are the things that I will remember.

-Anil Sookhoo

My fondest TIME 2000 memory is my freshman orientation. I was really scared entering the orientation! I also wasn’t sure if TIME 2000 was for me at the time. Being in TIME has been the best academic decision I’ve ever made. I am very thankful that I became a part of this “family.” I really like TIME 2000 because it makes me feel that I have a family on campus. There are people that I can rely on at any time. TIME 2000 not only helped me to become a math teacher, it also made me realize how important it is to always give back to others and that as a “family” we are supposed to be there for one another. Without my TIME 2000 family, being a student at Queens College would have been really miserable! My family here always makes me feel confident that I can succeed.

-Mark Tecson

My favorite thing about TIME 2000 is that it allows you to create great and long-lasting friendships. Because of TIME 2000, I was given the opportunity to travel through my college years with students who are going through mostly everything I am going through. Difficult classes became a little easier with the help and support of my friends. After these past four years my best advice would be to never give up even when everything seems overwhelming and to establish good time management skills. Prioritizing your time will help you stay on top of your workload, while still being able to have a social life. Managing your time in a meaningful way will also help you when everything does seem overwhelming. I wish all of the underclassmen the best of luck; there is no doubt that you will all become wonderful math teachers.

-Tina Tibball

My fondest TIME 2000 memories involved getting to know the peers in my cohort. We were able to hang out outside of Powdermaker and Kiely Hall. It was such a wonderful experience interacting with the students and we really got to know each other on a personal level. We went from texting about the portfolio to texting about what we were going to do for the weekend. I have made life-long friends because of this program.

-Chryelle Voigt

My favorite thing about TIME 2000 was always having a great cohort to lean on. Whenever I was struggling in a class, or not sure when something was due, I had the same great friends to lean on for help and support year after year. There were so many things I loved about TIME 2000, but my fondest memory was presenting one of my lessons at the 2013 Reunion Dinner. I felt really proud of myself for creating a lesson that Dr. Artzt loved. I thought the lesson was good, but after hearing all of the wonderful feedback, I started to believe for myself that it was a great lesson. This will be one of the many memories that I take with me as I graduate.

-Michelle Wenz

One of my fondest TIME 2000 memories was teaching in Math 385W. It was during this time that I really got to know Dwaina and Tina, and then I was able to see that when we cooperate and brainstorm with one another, we can develop fabulous lessons. Since that time, I’ve seen such a growth in the relationships between everyone in my cohort and collectively that has been my fondest memory. If I had to give advice to underclassmen other than the traditional “try your best,” I would advise the underclassmen to learn to utilize the resources given, especially when making lessons becomes an everyday occurrence. Resources such as books, Web sites, apps and other multi-media tools are beneficial, but resources also include your TIME 2000 friends. Share ideas! Be cooperative! We want our students to do that, and when we model this behavior it is beneficial to both teachers and their students!
A True Inspiration: Gabrielle Wiesel (T-1)

Gabrielle Wiesel was my 9th grade Algebra teacher at Francis Lewis High School. She was the teacher who inspired me to pursue mathematics teaching. I nominated her for the Modeling Excellence in Mathematics Teaching award, which she received from Dr. Alice Arzt at the annual reunion dinner on January 17, 2013.

There’s no such thing as a perfect teacher. A perfect teacher would have to align with the “checklist of teaching” which includes being friendly, having control, being fair, patient, understanding, helpful, loving and of course having the gift of teaching. It’s hard to find a teacher with all of these qualities. Does a perfect teacher exist? At the start of my high school career, I encountered a teacher for whom I checked off over half of the items on the above list the very first day of class. All of the students were engaged in her lesson, and before we knew it, class time was over. She was laid back, friendly, and just different from any teacher I ever had before. Weeks went by and her class became more enjoyable each time. She taught with passion and had respect for her students. She explained mathematics in a way that I had never been taught before. She made students who hated mathematics learn to love and appreciate the beauty behind the subject. She was just different. Who is she? Gabrielle Wiesel is my favorite mathematics teacher and a member of T-1, the very first TIME 2000 cohort! Two of my close friends who absolutely despised math were in Ms. Wiesel’s class with me. I always liked math and was usually the one helping them get through math courses. It didn’t take long for them both to admit that they loved attending Ms. Wiesel’s class, both believing that she made math seem “not so bad.” It only took a few weeks until both of them began competing with me to get high exam grades on Ms. Wiesel’s exams, which I found weird for two people who claimed to have hated math. I wasn’t sure if it was how open she was with her students, or how willing she was to help students perform well, but I knew there was something different about Ms. Wiesel.

Ms. Wiesel’s passion inspired me to become a mathematics teacher. During my senior year of high school, I visited Ms. Wiesel, informing her of a mathematics program I was interested in applying for. I asked her to write me a letter of recommendation and without hesitation she happily agreed. “You’re going to follow in my footsteps and become a loving math teacher like me?” she would always ask me. I would always laugh as she would always make jokes with her students. I described the program to her and it didn’t take long until she realized what program I was talking about. Once she told me she was a graduate of TIME 2000, it finally clicked. No wonder she was such an amazing teacher! Having teachers like Ms. Wiesel made me confident that graduates of the TIME 2000 program do, in fact, become amazing teachers. This made me even more excited about joining TIME 2000 as I realized that I really would be following in her footsteps. Till this day, she tells me that I’ll make a great math teacher and, if she can do it, I can do it, too. So, it turns out that there is such a thing as a perfect teacher. It is hard to find one but they do in fact exist. With that being said, Ms. Wiesel is the perfect teacher and if it were not for her I would never have decided to become a mathematics teacher. I hope to be as great of a teacher as she is one day.

LIMAÇON: A Different Perspective

TIME 2000 students attended Long Island Mathematics Conference (LIMAÇON) at SUNY Old Westbury College on Friday, March 15, 2013. This conference is designed for mathematics educators to provide opportunities for professional development. TIME 2000 students and professors attended workshops about teaching mathematics, many of which related to the Common Core.

As a TIME 2000 freshman, I was very excited to be attending LIMAÇON for the first time since I have heard such high praise about this conference, but what came next I could not have imagined.

Time 2000 presents...
Field Day
June 5th, 2013
3pm

Editors and Writers Needed!!
If interested in becoming a Newsletter editor contact Nicole: Nicole.Turato@gmail.com
Kristina: Kristina.Troha7@gmail.com

Nerline Hyppolite (T-13)
Congratulations, T-12! Good luck!