

BWSF NEWSLETTER



PO BOX 412, VILLANOVA, PA 19085 TEL: 610-519-0777 WWW.BLUEWHITECLUB.ORG

Blue White Scholarship Foundation

May June 2017

*Now that you've graduated,
Your adventure has begun.
Your schooling has prepared you
For the race life has you run.*

*We praise you for your efforts,
And send good wishes, too,
For a future filled with happiness,
And your fondest dreams come true.*



**Diploma's, Internships, Jobs-BWSF Donors are Going To Town!
Because of You 10 Villanova students will graduate in 2017!**



NEW!!!

We launched our Mentoring Program to help our BWSF Scholars get Internships and

The Blue White Scholarship Foundation (BWSF) is a private 501(c)(3) organization that is composed of and operated by Villanova Alumni and friends. We are "Villanovans Helping Villanovans" Although the Scholarship Awards are sent directly to Villanova, BWSF is not affiliated with VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY ®. The following words are marks registered with the United States Federal Patent and Trademark Office for Villanova University: VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY ®, VILLANOVA ®, WILDCATS ™. The Villanova "V" is also a registered service mark that is copyright and trademarked by VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY ®. All other content is subject to copyright and may not be copied or reproduced. Copyright © 2017 All Rights Reserved.

Villanova's Tuition Gap: Why We Need to Bridge the Gap



I thought it would be helpful if you had some numbers at your fingertips. Last month I explained how we are helping to solve the problem of the gap in financial assistance, but how big is it really? How do we compare to other Catholic Colleges? For incoming Freshman the 2017-2018 students average cost is **\$64,832** (\$50,554 for tuition and \$13,548 for Room and Board ++). There is about a net increase of 5% EVERY YEAR in the estimated costs for a Villanova student, meaning by the time he/she is a junior or senior, the cost of what it was for them when they were a

freshman has increased \$5-8,000.

What you may not know is that many times, Villanova University will also cut back on the financial aid they give to students during their junior and senior year. This cut in aid as well as an increase in tuition can create lots of financial burden for many Villanova students.

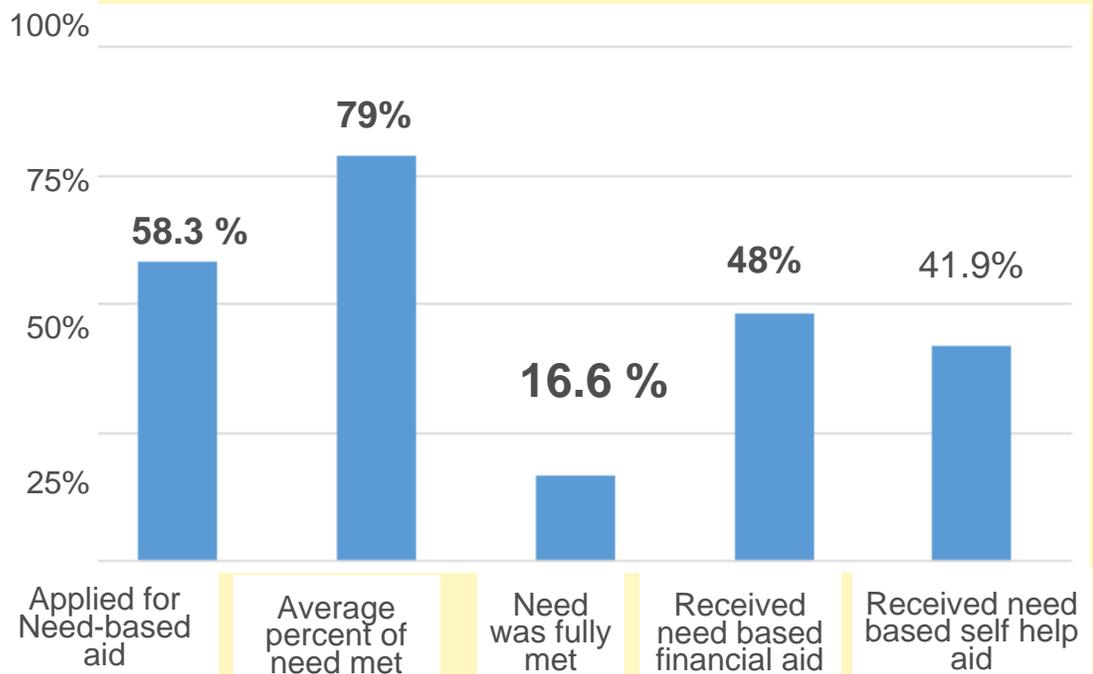
Category	Undergraduate
Tuition & Fees for 2016-2017	\$47,616
Part-Time Tuition (per credit hour)	\$733
Room & Board	\$12,707
Books & Supplies	\$950
Other Expenses	\$1,500
Annual Cost of Attendance (2016-2017)	\$62,773

*All tuition data is sourced from the 2015/2016 U.S. Department of Education National Center for Education Statistics survey. The bar graphs information is from U.S.New & World Report– Best Colleges March 2017. under Financial Aid. Here are the facts of how much aid is given by comparing the following:

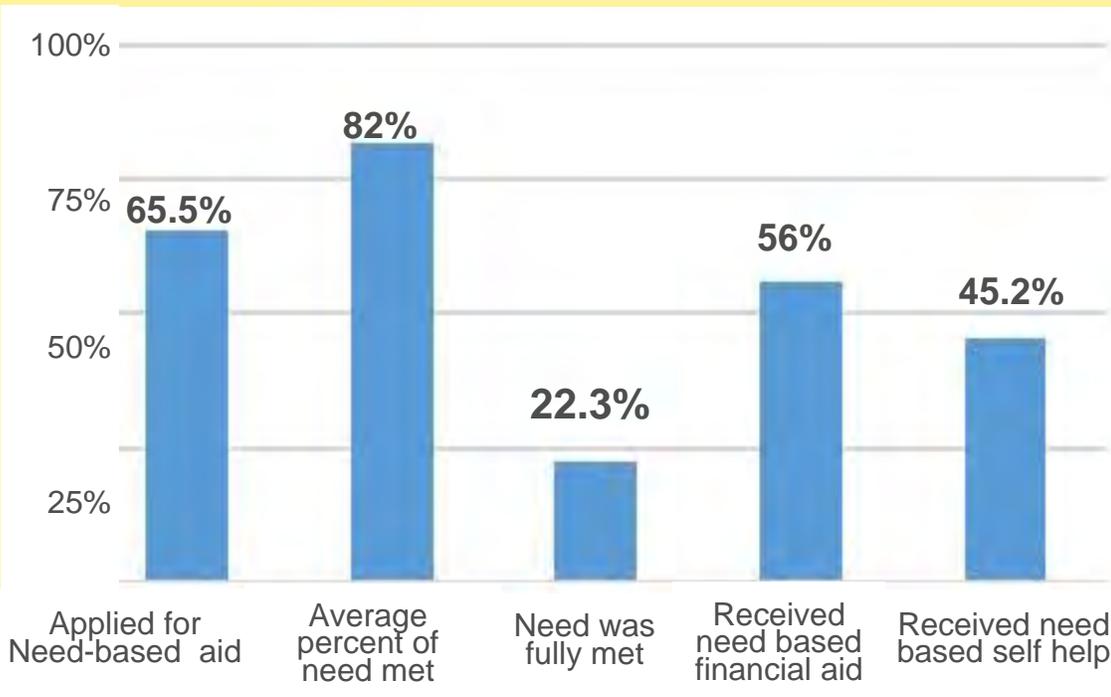
1.) **Percentage** of students **who applied** for need-based aid, 2.) Average percent of need met for these students, 3.) Percentage of students who have their financial need fully met, 4.) the **percentage** of students **who received** need-based financial need, and 5.) the percentage of students who received need-based self-help aid. The results are astonishing!

Villanova University— of the **58.3% students that have applied for financial aid, only 16.6% of those students have their full need met leaving 83.4% of students with a financial gap.** The average percent of need met was 79% leaving an **average unmet need of 20%** in their financial aid, but that means when you factor in many students receiving a full ride scholarship against those taking out loans using an

Villanova



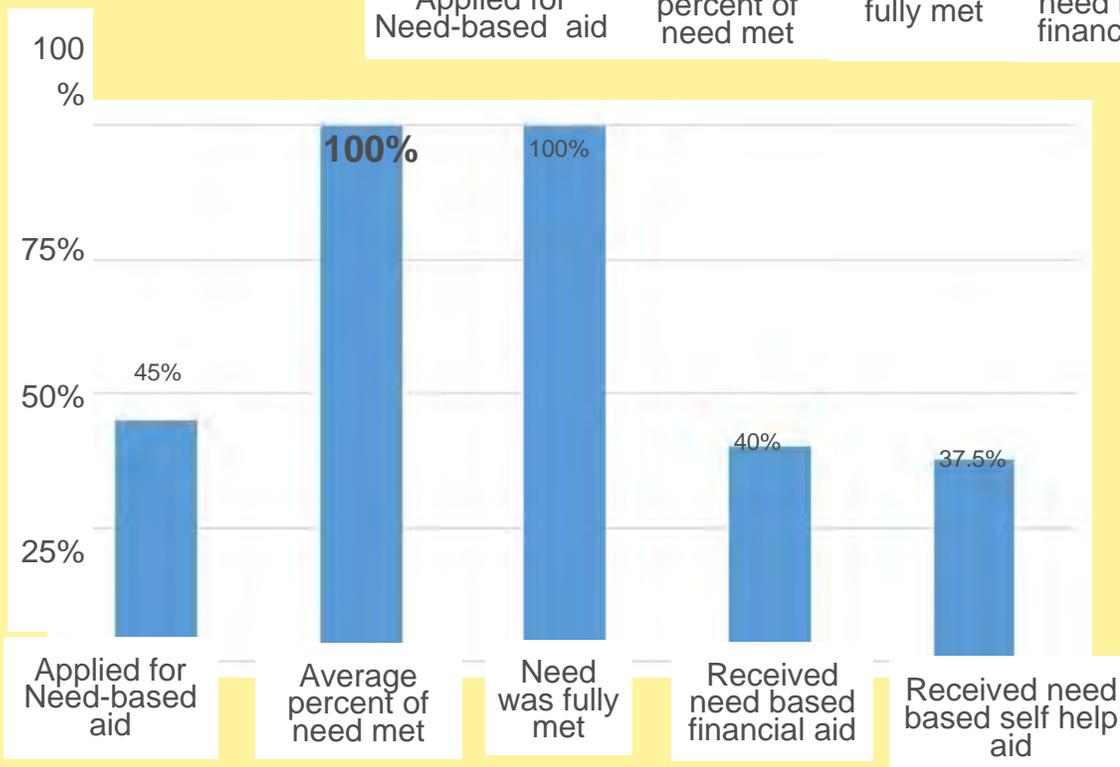
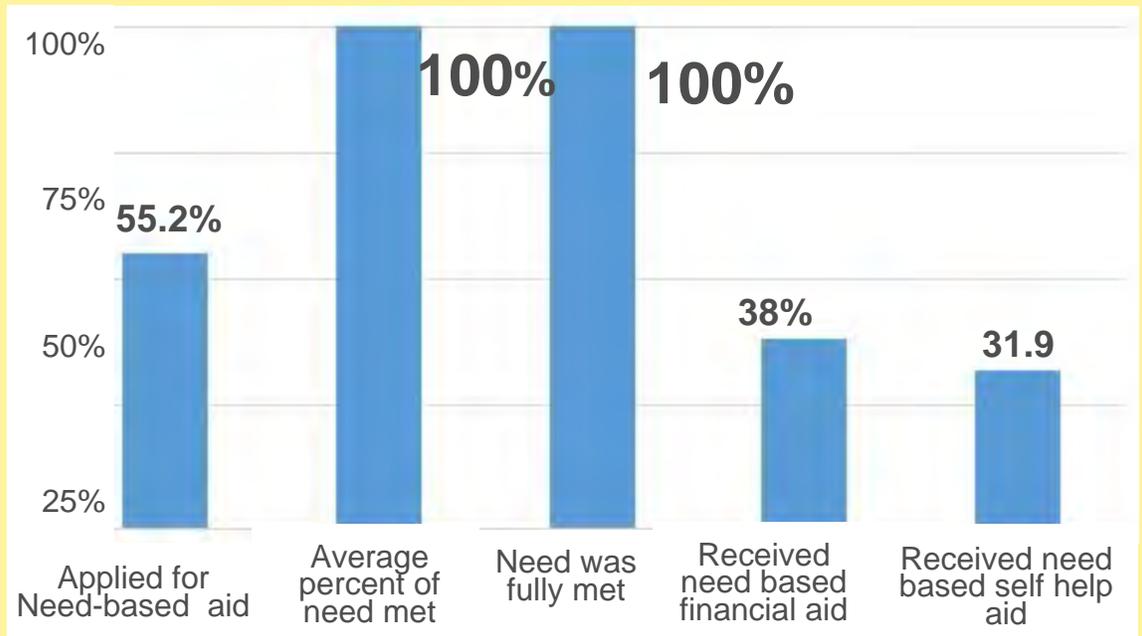
Providence College



Georgetown University

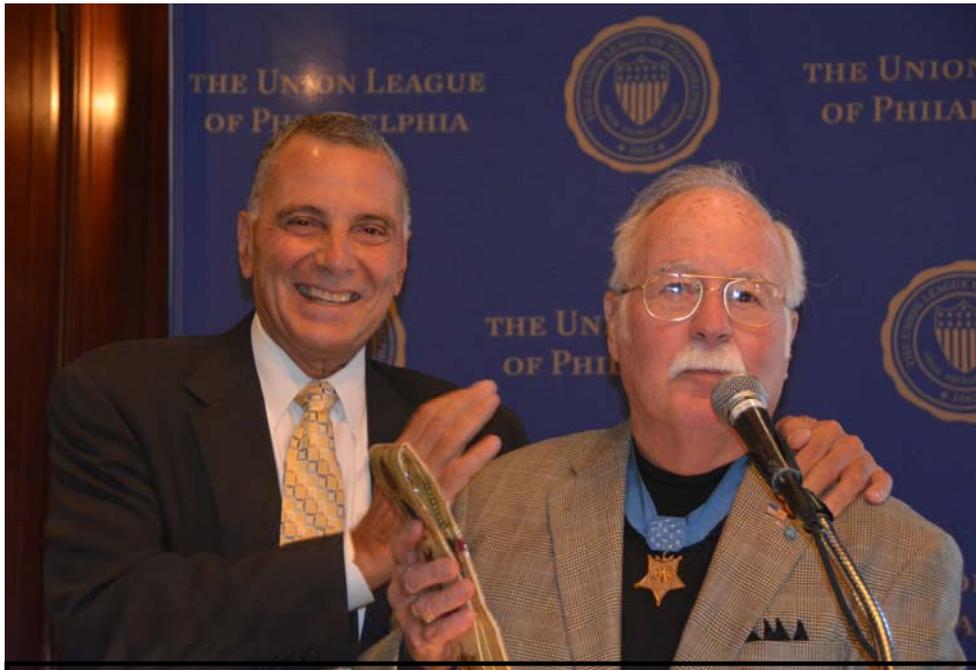
0% Gap

100% Need Fully



Boston College

Medal Of Honor: Colonel Harvey C. "Barney" Barnum, Jr.



Army confronts the Department of the Navy. Maj. General Randy Marchi presents to Marine Corp. Colonel Barnum an Army tie.

Senior class president of Cheshire, Conn., Harvey C. "Barney" Barnum, Jr. was eager to sign up for the Marines after a high school military assembly in 1958.

In late 1965, Barnum a first lieutenant, arrived in Vietnam with the Ninth Marines. On the morning of December 18, as the battalion was moving through the heavy overgrowth in Quang Tin Province south of Da Nang, the area suddenly exploded with the fire from enemy rockets, mortars, and machine guns. Barnum's company of about 110 men was cut off from the rest of the American force.

The company commander was down, his radioman alongside him. Barnum ran to help them, but the radio operator was already dead, and the captain died in Barnum's arms. It was clear that the enemy had targeted the two men to destroy the company's command and control and overwhelm the survivors of the initial attack. Barnum took the radio off the dead operator, strapped it on his back, and assumed command.

Estimating that the marines were outnumbered about ten to one, Barnum quickly organized defenses, called in artillery fire, and led a counterattack on the enemy trench lines to destroy the machine guns that had his men pinned down. He saw that they weren't facing Vietcong but North Vietnamese regulars, troops disciplined enough to have let the bulk of the Marine battalion pass through before triggering the ambush. At close to 6:00 p.m., nearly eight hours of continuous fighting, the battalion commander radioed Barnum that it would be impossible to mount a rescue for his cut-off marines. Barnum knew that if he tried to hold out through the night, his dwindling force would be wiped out by morning, so he ordered the company engineers to blow a space in the heavy tree cover to allow two H-34 helicopters to land for the evacuation of the dead and the wounded. Then he ordered the rest of his men to move out in fire team rushes. Perhaps because the maneuver was so unexpected, they were able to break through North Vietnamese lines, crossing five hundred years of fire-swept ground to rejoin forward elements of his battalion before dark. Barnum was told two days later that the commanding general was recommending him for the Medal of Honor.

He was presented the medal on Feb. 27, 1967, by Secretary of the Navy Paul Nitze. But it would take months, even years, for the fragments of this day to come together in his memory. When they did, it was often only with the help of messages he occasionally received from the men he had commanded. "Somebody gave me your name," one Marine e-mailed him decades later. "I think you're a lieutenant who fought beside me with a .45 caliber pistol and a 3.5 rocket launcher for a while back '65. If so, thanks for saving my life." Until this communication, Barnum hadn't remembered the incident.

First Lieutenant Barnum left Vietnam in February 1966. He worked as a military aide in Washington on the condition that he be allowed to pick his next assignment. When it came time to make the move, he chose Vietnam. He was the first man who received the Medal of Honor in Vietnam to return to action there.

Meet Our Last Featured 2017 Scholars

These students are what drive the Blue White Mission year-in and year-out. We understand that not everyone can attend Blue White's events and it is hard to meet the scholars, so we are bringing them to you. Each Newsletter features our outstanding scholars, sharing their background and showing you how your contributions are assisting them. Our goal is to inspire you to share our mission with other alumni so we may continue to help these students and our future scholars.



Bailey Paige

Hometown
Wilmington

Major
French & Francophone
Studies, Global Inter-
disciplinary Studies, &
Honors

Activities & Involvement: French Club; Intramurals; Honors Peer Advising; French Honor Society.

Career Aspiration: To work in global management for a food or fashion company

Favorite Quote: "Words are our most inexhaustible source of magic." - J.K. Rowling

"The Blue White Scholarship is helping to finance my final year at Nova by adding to my on-campus job as Intramurals Commissioner"

Extraordinary Circumstances:

Bailey is almost entirely responsible for her tuition and works four jobs to cover the expenses.



Matthew Powers

Hometown
East Rutherford, NJ

Major
English
Minor
Comm., Writing/
Rhetoric

Activities & Involvement: Photography Editor, The Villanovan; Lambda Chi Alpha; Sons of the American Legion, Prospect Park Alliance

Career Aspiration: Photographer, journalist, or filmmaker

Favorite Quote: "I want to stay as close to the edge without going over. Out on the edge you see all kinds of things you can't see from the center." - Kurt Vonnegut

"The Blue White Scholarship has helped by fulfilling a financial need since my father was out of work."

NOVAdance by: Ryanne Duffy, BWSF Scholar '17

On Saturday, March 25, 2017, 1 in every 8 Villanova students, myself included, attended NOVAdance, a 12 hour dance marathon to benefit the Andrew McDonough B+ (pronounced "Be Positive") Foundation. Joe McDonough started the foundation in honor of his son Andrew who passed away on July 14, 2007 at age 14. From the day of his diagnosis to the day he passed away, Andrew lived 167 additional days, each of which was underlined with the motto present in Andrew's B+ blood type, "Be Positive."



The fundraising and events held by NOVAdance benefit the B+ Foundation and every family that the B+ Foundation helps, but Villanova has a more specific commitment to a group of eight B+ Heroes. B+ Heroes are children affected by pediatric cancer who have received financial and/or emotional support from the B+ Foundation. In addition, each B+ Hero is paired with an organization on Villanova's campus. These groups give our B+ Heroes a group of students to care for and support them throughout their battle with cancer and even beyond their treatments. They create bonds that help these kids feel loved and supported while dealing with an unimaginable hardship, one that they handle with grace and maturity.



I was lucky enough to be a member of this year's 42 person NOVAdance Committee as chair of the Morale Committee. The Morale Committee is a group of students who commit to being present and on their feet for the entirety of the dance marathon and who pledge to raise at least \$167 in honor of Andrew's battle. This role was special because I got to work closely with those members of the Villanova community who feel especially passionate about this cause. The Dance Marathon kicked off at 10 am and continued

throughout the day with various entertainers and events including live music, Zumba, and a lip sync battle. One of the highlights of the day is our Hero Hour during which Joe McDonough speaks about his relationship to this cause and honors each of Villanova's B+ Heroes. He not only speaks about the strength in each Hero, but recognizes their siblings and families for being a constant source of support throughout their journey. The day concluded with a reveal of our fundraising total at 9 pm. This was the moment when we announced the amount of money we had fundraised throughout the previous year, a number that had remained a secret from the majority of our committee. In the end, we raised \$251,277.31, significantly exceeding the previous year's total of \$167,123.40.

Student Spotlight: Matt Powers

Picking Myself Up From my Bootstraps

The first semester of my sophomore year of college was a rocky one. I was balancing two majors, English and Computer Science, and I was having trouble with the workload from both since the content had little to do with each other. My GPA was suffering during that first semester and it was partially because I was increasingly stressed by emails from the bursar's office, which put holds on my Villanova account due to the incompleteness of the IRS data retrieval tool, a requirement to complete FAFSA. Due to these issues, I was forced to withdraw from Villanova for the second semester of my sophomore year since my family's taxes could not be retrieved using this tool and I could not take out a loan for the semester until the process was completed.

During my semester away from Villanova, I was so disappointed in myself. I got a part-time job cutting deli meat at a local ShopRite that I hated. I had to ride my bicycle there each day since I had no car or any money. I decided that I'd get my mind and body right while I wasn't in school. After all, why did education have to be confined to college? I spent a lot of time reading books from the library. A friend of mine who went to school nearby would often ask me to go on photoshoots in New York City on the weekends. These journeys were the only creative outlet I had and I still look back on them fondly. Still, I felt guilty about all the loans accumulating. For a time, I worked two jobs until I quit the job at Shoprite to make more money as a full-time bike messenger in nearby New York City. The work was not easy, but I enjoyed being outside despite the bustle and danger of Manhattan's traffic. As for my education, I wanted to go to a cheaper school and give my parents a break, thus I decided to fill out a transfer application for Rutgers which offers in-state subsidized tuition.

It was not until late in the spring, as the Rutgers transfer application deadline was nearing, that my mom realized the error. When filing taxes late, you must send your items to a very specific IRS location, and my mom sent them to the location for filing taxes on time, so they promptly threw her paperwork out. I was stuck between a rock and a hard place: I needed my transcripts to transfer schools and I needed to pay my bill from that semester with a loan to remove the holds and retrieve my transcripts. It wasn't until late in the summer of 2015 that the taxes were appropriately filed and my FAFSA items were completed. Having not had sufficient time to remove the holds on my VU account, retrieve my transcripts, and subsequently transfer, I returned to Villanova in the fall of my junior year, just happy to be back, though still accumulating a great deal of loans. All the financial aid that Villanova offered me for my sophomore year was rescinded due to the time it took to resolve the issue, so I took out a loan for the entire amount to avoid delaying college and further wasting time.

Come fall, I was back at school and living off campus with friends. My parents were paying my portion of the rent out of pocket and I had no car for the first semester. I got rides from the people I was living with and paid for groceries with my credit card, while I applying to various part-time jobs. Returning to school was an adjustment period, but I was always a good student and the semester off didn't change that.



After my parents purchased and fixed a cheap, used car for me, I got a part-time job at the Gladwyne Market.

I was cruising through another semester at Villanova when I got an email from the Blue White Scholarship Foundation. I immediately applied since I was very aware of the financial hole that I was digging myself into. I was the perfect candidate since the foundation emphasized academic achievement and hard work. The application specified that one needed a recommendation from an employer in order to receive the scholarship, so I asked the owner of the Gladwyne Market who was kind enough to oblige me as I had never missed a shift. I finished up another strong semester in 2016 in which I overloaded on classes again while maintaining my part-time job at the Gladwyne Market. Things took a turn for the better in the summer of 2016 when I got an internship at a great company, SAP, and was lucky enough to receive the Blue White Scholarship.

This was a great time for me. I was doing well at my internship and prepared to finish at Villanova. I no longer felt guilty for the financial burden I put on my parents as I was helping to pay utilities with the money I made from my internship and I had received the Blue White Scholarship to help to offset the cost of the loans. Additionally, my dad articulated that he felt a great deal of pride that his son attended Villanova, despite the price tag. He told me time and time again not to worry about paying for school, since he planned to pay every penny. Disaster struck in October of 2016 when my father was diagnosed with Glioblastoma, an incurable brain cancer. When Kate Cellucci, director of the Blue and White Foundation, heard of my dad's illness she immediately comforted me, letting me know that she'd be there for me through it all and when my dad passed away in January, she even sent flowers to my mourning mother. I can't thank Kate and Joe enough for everything the Blue White Scholarship Foundation does, not just for me, but for every student who is facing some very adult responsibilities with little to no warning or assistance.



I'm still excelling academically as I continue to write and create marketing or narrative content through pictures. Through Villanova and SAP, I've become adept with cameras and editing media content with the Adobe Creative Suite. In my Advanced Film Class I'm producing and directing a short film that I wrote entitled "Youth Vandalized," based on the summer of 2015. The narrative follows a trio of young men, based on myself and two friends, who are biking to Fort Tilden, a remote beach at the tip of Brooklyn. My goal is to enter the film into a festival and enter the film industry as a low-level production assistant. Meanwhile, SAP has expressed interest in retaining me to generate content for their social me-

May Donor of The Month



May - Acts of Kindness – AJ Brady '54

In March and part of April, I spent most of my time personally calling a number of you about serving as Judges for the 2017-2018 Scholarship Applications. I treasure this time because I really get a chance to talk with you at length and well, a number of you are just plain old “Characters!” I absolutely love the stories and asked “several of you to write up your story since you graduated. Aj didn’t write what he’s done since graduating, but he did tell me a few stories of how much fun it was to go to college at Villanova. Does this remind anyone of the “good old days?”

Hi Kate, per our discussion here are some of my antidotes of my college life at Villanova. I have to delete proper names for sundry reasons. Freshman year, 1950, all two hundred of us were assembled on the lawn outside of the former U.S. Navy Barracks where the barracks moderator related to our behavior what is okay and what is not okay. After a friendly chit chat, he spoke about after class activities. He told us that during the week we should be back on campus by midnight since most of us had our first class at noon or 1pm. As for the weekend do as you please. That started the ball rolling and did not stop until June 1954. A friend of mine who was a freshman at Notre Dame told me they turned out the lights at 9pm. Another fond happening was Mother’s Day, May of 1953. This started junior week which also included the Blazer Ball Junior Prom, Junior Dinner Dance, and various Gin and Juice picnics at Darby Creek. I believe that none of the mothers knew each other but they knew all of us sons. The program started with a campus tour- a visit to the chapel and a tree planting event. The lunch and the rest of the day until benediction at three. The group I was with all wanted to go to Kelly’s which at that time was a shot and a beer saloon. Then the fun began. The ladies started to order mixed drinks, manhattans, whiskey sours, etc. Dan Kelly got a drink manual and advised Lou and Andy, the bartenders, how to make the drinks naturally. They were served in an eight ounce beer glass. Everyone was having a ball as the night approached with benediction on the horizon. They declined to go back to the campus and had few more rounds. We remained fast friends forever.”

Comments from Kate: A.J. is one of the most dynamic guys I know. His son works for an airline so he is able to fly on standby for free. So, A.J. is constantly on the go and traveling the world. He loves young people and has had a lot of fun entering his vintage WWII Army Jeep, in



June Donor of The Month

Tom Giudice, '63 CLAS, Math, has been a long time supporter of the Blue White Scholarship Foundation.

Tom recognizes the important work BWSF is doing considering the expenses a student faces during their four years at Villanova. When he compares the \$2,000 per year cost in 1963 versus \$60,000 plus per year currently, Tom praises BWSF for stepping up to provide essential assistance to worthy students at the University.

While at Villanova, Tom was a class officer, president of his Fraternity and helped lead service projects in the community. He regards his time at Villanova as very special both in terms of the education he received and the friendships he established. After graduating from Villanova, Tom earned an Assistantship, working for the Director of the Business School at St. John's University and completed an MBA degree in Marketing. Upon finishing his degree he was hired by IBM in Sales and Marketing in New York City. He worked as a Professional Marketing Representative and Sales Manager during his eighteen years with the Company. After IBM, Tom started his own computer company selling, installing and supporting commercial computer systems in the NY and NJ areas. In 2013 Tom took part in the 50th Anniversary Reunion of his '63 Class and when the Math Majors gathered the lull of 50 years was never discernible in terms of the conversation and interaction. As a retiree, he is enjoying his golf, travel and contributing to his NYC civic community.

June Acts of Kindness – Helping Us Grow

Hi Kate– I both purchased a raffle ticket and posted about the scholarship fund's need on my Facebook page. I do not have a ton of Facebook friends, but many of those I do have are alums (one is loaded-who knows!), Hope that helps.

Sorry no time to talk this week-best of luck!

Sheila

Sheila Hoag took it upon herself not only to purchase a Mother's Day Raffle ticket but also posted about us on her personal Facebook page! What a thrilling E-mail to receive!!!!



R. Thomas Giudice '63



Sheila Hoag '90

Congratulations BWSF Class of 2017

This summer, **Marie Bouffard** will be working as a science educator at a Smithsonian nature camp.



Greg Branigan will be attending the University of Arizona College of Medicine as a part of the MD PhD program.



Francesca Cocchi will be attending the summer publishing institute at



Gabriella Santone and her sister Alessandra as bridesmaids at their father's wedding (Gabriella's mother passed due to cancer several years ago) the girls were excited to welcome the newest member to the family. Gabriella received her Master's Degree in Microbiology. She will be living in Boston and working at The Brigham and Wom-

Left: **Luke Hensley** will be teaching high school English in the Montgomery County Public School System in Maryland, where he attended as a boy.

Story on the History of Flag Day



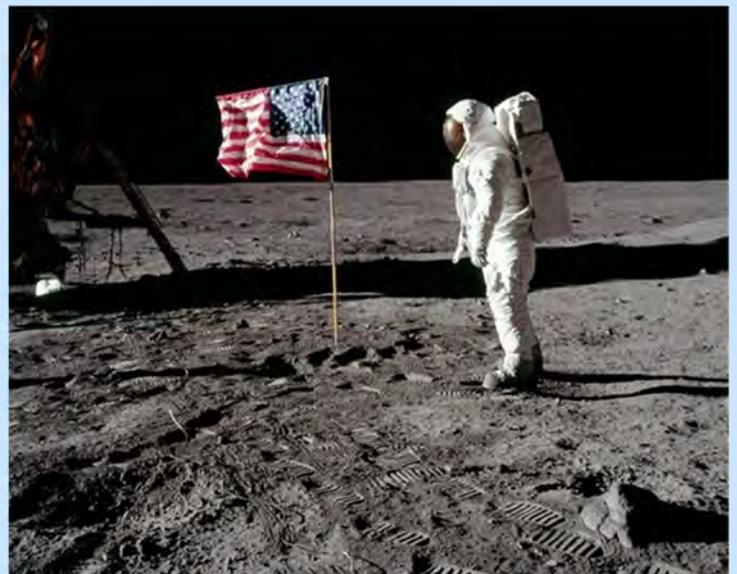
Many people look forward to 4th of July, the day that marked America's independence from England 241 years ago. However, June 14th also marks a very special day in American history; it is the official start date of our The United States Army- "Happy Birthday Army!" -Hooah! it is the day America adopted the flag that we love and cherish to this day. It was on June 14th, 1777 that the American flag was hoisted by the continental Army at Middlebrook encampment and the day the Continental Congress approved the first official flag. The 13 red and white alternating stripes represented the 13 colonies as did the 13 stars (the flag adorned 50 stars once the 50 states were established).



The white signifies purity and innocence while the contrast of the red symbolizes hardiness and valor. The blue signifies justice and perseverance. The crest in the upper right corner is the family crest of George Washington's ancestor's.

Pennsylvania was the first state to celebrate Flag Day as a state holiday. During the week of June 14th, the President issues a proclamation for all U.S. citizens to fly the American flag proudly throughout the whole week. The flag is displayed on all government buildings and many different towns and cities across the United States will hold parades and celebratory events. The Betsy Ross House right here in Philadelphia is a famous site for the observance of Flag Day. The American Flag is an icon in it of itself

and it truly represents the long way we have come as country.



Where Are They Now?

Whether entering their careers or areas of higher study, our students are some of the best representatives of Villanova University. Investing in Blue White Scholars is truly a wise investment. Just read their stories! We love hearing about job offers that have taken them to new places, unexpected opportunities to use their talents, and the hard work they continue to do.



Peter Lucas, Class of 2003

Peter Lucas graduated with a degree in Political Science from Villanova in 2003. He then went off to law school at Northwestern University School of Law in Illinois from 2004-2007. After receiving his law degree, he went on to be an Assistant Corporation Counsel for four years in the New York City Law Department. Then he went on to be an Associate at LaRocca Hornik Rosen Greenberg & Blaha in August 2011. He switched to Armienti, Debellis, Guglielmo & Rhoden, LLP in December 2012 where he stayed until 2014. He is currently an Associate at Furman Kornfeld & Brennan LLP, focusing on general litigation and construction liability.

Clare Oven received a degree in Mechanical Engineering from Villanova in 2010. After graduating, she worked as an Associate Engineer at Dexter Wilson Engineering, Inc. Clare decided to go back to school to receive her masters and attended National University In San Diego, CA to get a Masters of Education with specialization in Best Practices from 2011-2013. She held a position as a student teacher at Oceanside High school while receiving her masters. Now, Clare is the Director of Institutional Research at John Paul the Great Catholic University in Escondido, CA where she collects and reports assessment data, survey data, and student success data to assist in continuous improvement efforts.



Clare Oven, Class of 2010



BlueWhite Scholarship Foundation

P.O. Box 412 Villanova, PA 19085
www.BlueWhiteClub.org

MARCH—APRIL 2017 NEWSLETTER

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Special Congratulations to Francesca Cocchi, Gregory Branigan, and Liana Benjamin BWSF Class of 2017



Greg Brannigan received a medal for his thesis work in the DiBenedetto Lab of the department of biology.

(Front Cover)
Liana Benjamin
accepted an offer from PricewaterhouseCooper.



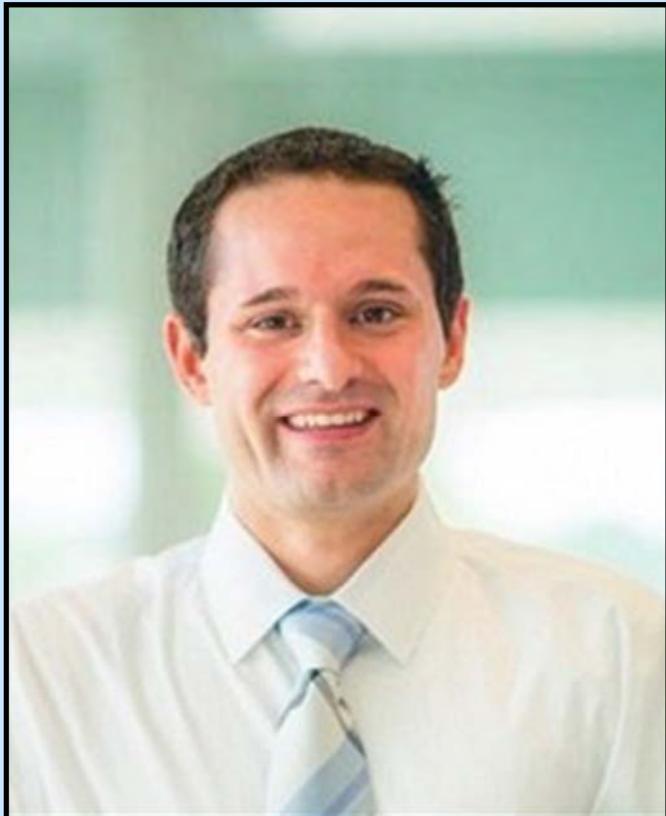
Francesca Cocchi was 1 of 72 Villanova Seniors to be nominated to join Phi Beta Kappa, the National Honors Fraternity for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Where Are They Now?

Laura Powers graduated from Villanova in 2003 with a degree in Communication. Since graduating, Laura has made a career in advertising, specializing in media planning. She has worked on clients such as Nestle, Jim Beam, AstraZeneca and Unilever. Currently, Laura works for Mindshare, as the Client Lead on the Chanel account. Laura's current responsibilities include overseeing media strategy and implementation for Chanel across their Fragrance, Beauty, Fashion and Watches/Fine Jewelry divisions, driving thought leadership across her team and for her clients, and infusing creativity and innovation into Chanel's media plans. Laura got married in May 2015 and



Laura Powers, Class of 2003



Thomas Hopkins, Class of 2004

Dr. Hopkins is Director of Quality Improvement for the Department of Anesthesiology at Duke University Hospital, Associate Medical Director for Care Redesign at Duke University Health System and is Chair of the American Society of Enhanced Recovery's (ASER) Newsletter. He has an advanced degree in health care management and clinical informatics from Duke University's Fuqua School of Business and his research focuses on leveraging clinical informatics resources to generate actionable knowledge that can be used by clinicians, administrators and health policy experts to enhance the value of health care services, transform care delivery models and improve patient outcomes. Dr. Hopkins has a track record of success leading design and implementation of Enhanced Recovery Programs (ERPs) at Duke University Health System and supporting similar implementations across the United States and in Singapore. He has published several peer reviewed manuscripts and provided lectures on ERPs, value-based care, budget impact analyses

Where Are They Now?

Meaghan Londergan graduated from Villanova in 2003. She earned three degrees: Political Science, General Business, and Philosophy. She continued onto law school at Villanova School of Law, which she graduated in 2007 with a J.D. From 2007 to 2009, she was an attorney at Dilworth Paxson, LLP. She then switched to being an attorney at Green, Silverstein & Groff, LLC for four years. Currently, Meaghan is a Partner at Freeman Mathis & Gary, LLP, where she has been since April 2014. She has received many awards for her outstanding work over the past three years.



Meaghan Londergan, Class of 2003

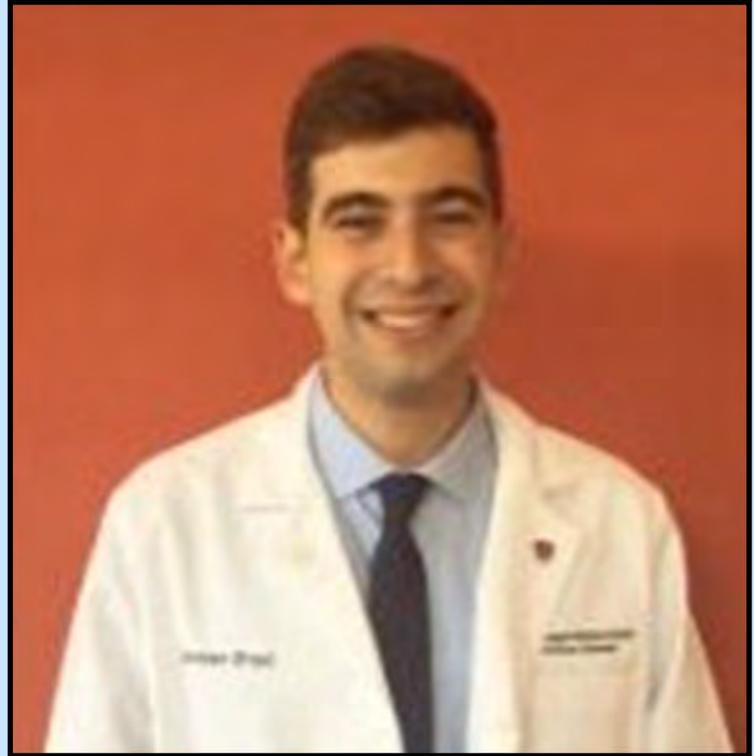


Joshua Alcorn, Class of 2003

Joshua Alcorn has been doing a lot since graduating Villanova in 2003. After receiving bachelor degrees in English, Irish Studies, and Honors, he went on to teach at Archmere Academy, his former high school, as an English teacher. He then decided to continue his education at American University to earn his Master's degree in Political Science and Applied Politics from 2006 to 2009. While getting his masters, he was the finance assistant for Biden for President and later the regional field director. Afterwards, he continued to work in the political field as he was the Deputy Finance Director for Sen. Harry Reid. Since January 2016, Joshua has been the Chief Engagement Officer for the Beau Biden Foundation for the Protection of Chil-

Where Are They Now?

Christian Bruni is a recent graduate of Villanova, earning a degree in Comprehensive Science in 2015. He continued to Georgetown University where he received his Master's degree in Science, Physiology and Biophysics from 2015 to 2016. Now, Christian is transitioning to life as a full-time medical student at the Cooper Medical School of Rowan University in Glassboro, NJ. He is set to earn his M.D by 2020.



Christian Bruni, Class of 2015



Laurie Barge, Class of 2004

Laurie Barge earned degrees in Astrophysics and Astronomy from Villanova in 2004. She then went to the University of Southern California to get her PhD in Geological Sciences from 2004-2009. She has been working for NASA for the past 6 years; she first started out as a graduate research intern for NASA. She held another position from May 2008 to July 2008 as a petrophysics intern at Marathon Oil company but ended up coming back to NASA where she currently works as a Research Scientist for Planetary Chemistry and Astrobiology at NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory since May 2015.

July Donor of The Month

Thomas E Keating '56

Our June Donor of the month doubled his monthly donations! Here is a little bit about Tom Keating, our June donor of the month.

Tom Keating grew up in Ventnor City, (a yellow card on the monopoly board) a very small town in “South Jersey.” As a small boy, he thought South Jersey was a state because his grandfather said you live in South Jersey, not New Jersey. A little known fact is that South Jersey tied to secede from New Jersey – farm country vs. the industrial north.

Tom’s best job was being the president of the Ventnor city lifeguards, not much pressure and one perk was that he got to escort Miss Ventnor City to the Miss America pageant in Atlantic City.

Tom attended high school in Atlantic City because Ventnor did not have a high school. He rode a trolley car costing 5 cents every day to school or hitch hiked. After high school, instead of going to college, he became a truck driver. He told his father his goal was to eventually drive a very large truck. After one year of unloading freight cars and loading his truck, college didn’t seem like a bad idea. So off he went to Villanova. At Villanova, Tom earned a B.S. in economics and finance and then completed Stanford Graduate School of Business Executive Program and the MIT Financial Management Program. Tom served as the CEO of Travelers Investment Management Company and Travelers Corporation of Bermuda and was the head of the Travelers Asset Management and Pension Services Division, headquartered in Hartford, CT, for 37 years where he managed 25 billion dollars in Pension and 401K Assets for corporations. He is now retired from the Travelers Corporation and Citi Group. Tom was also very involved with his community as he was the past president of Cashiers Valley Rotary Club, Optimist Club, and Ohio and Country club of Sapphire Valley. He also served on the finance council at St. Jude Catholic Church.

Tom and his wife, Lynne have been married for 36 years in July and they now have 13 grandchildren. The oldest of his grandchildren will be the first to be married in August.