



Welcome to the inaugural issue of the Bravo Medical Magnet Alumni Association newsletter. We hope you enjoy it and feel motivated to join us and follow us as we move forward in an effort to continue creating an exciting, and thriving organization: Your organization!

Bravo Medical Magnet H.S. (Formerly Lincoln Medical Magnet) Alumni Association

Message from Bravo Principal Luis Lopez

I am grateful for the opportunity to share a few thoughts and a message with you. I want to thank you for your continued presence support, for your unconditional support to our cherished school, the students, the staff, and our families.

The current times we are living call for a stronger and renewed effort to connect more, to connect in new ways, to connect better. The relationships we formed in past years, the relationships we are now forming, are all important pieces in the quality of the relationships we will form in the future.



I thank you for your energy and encourage you to first nurture and protect your personal and family relationships but also to be aggressive about your connections with your fellow alumni, and your connections with our current students.

They have been and continue to be challenged like no other classes have been challenged in the past. They are being asked to continue

- ### In this issue
- Principal's Message
 - Memorable Events
 - 2020 Scholarship Recipients
 - Looking Ahead
 - 2020: The Year in Review
 - Highlighting Alumni

excelling academically with different supports, different worries, different promises. Your continued relationships with our school have the potential to create new and innovative ways to excel. Yes, we are living difficult times, but difficulties are nothing but opportunities to innovate, to create, to use the strength within to excel together. I have had to help students, their families, staff and their families, who have been directly affected, some suffering unimaginable loss.

We all need to be there for them and help them overcome. It has

been difficult and taxing on all of us. However, I am excited for the renaissance I know our country, our state, our community will experience. Thank you for investing and believing in our students.

Memorable Alumni Events

Over the past several years since the founding of the Lincoln/Bravo High School High School Alumni Association, and establishing Bravo AA as a non-profit, we have held quite a number of memorable events, thanks to our Alums.

- Our first fundraiser, an evening gala event, was held for all classes on September 12, 2015 at Monterey Hill restaurant and was hosted by Gabby Cantero, Class of '87 and Linda Rivas, Class of '88. The event was a blast! A true success! Everyone enjoyed it!
- We followed with a nostalgic



stroll down “Memory Lane,” which was held at the ‘Bungalow Magnet” (Lincoln Medical Magnet at the Wilson High School site) for those alums who attended “Bravo HS” before the opening of Bravo



in 1990. Alums from the classes of 1984-1990 attended. The event was held on November 6, 2016, delighting everyone and providing an opportunity to reminisce and connect!

- On June 24, 2017 the Bravo AA held its First Annual Alumni Reunion. It was quite a successful event. Alumni and faculty took advantage of the occasion to reconnect and support the organization. Additionally, the membership drive was launched at the event.

- The Second Annual Alumni Reunion was held on June 16, 2018. Thanks to Ulisses Sanches, class of 1998, we secured all permits needed to host a “Beer Garden.” Along with food plates donated by Yancey Quinones, Class of 1993, beverages were do-nated by various BAA members. Memorabilia and T-shirts were sold, and a second membership drive helped enlist more Alums.

- A “Holiday Reunion” held on December 9, 2018 brought together a small group of 12 members who had a wonderful lunch at the San Antonio Winery. Everyone enjoyed the food, the company, as well as some of the memories and conversations!

- A scholarship fundraiser at “Pizza Kitchen” was coordinated by Bob Spears and held on March 12, 2019. Although attended by a small group, those who participated had a great time and helped raise some funds for the scholarship program. Thanks to Bob for coordinating, and those who supported the event.

- A birthday party hosted by

Rosa Maria Hernández on August 30, 2019 at “Almanson Court” in Alhambra was attended by over 100 guests. Dinner, mariachi music and music by the musical group “Ostia,” a Photo Booth and dancing until closing hours were enjoyed by everyone. Most

of all, guests were asked to make donations to the scholarship fund instead of bringing gifts. A total of \$2,570 was raised! Thank you to all!

- Despite COVID, on August 8, 2020, Irving Pacheco, Class of 1995 hosted a very successful fundraiser to celebrate his birthday. Those who participated had a good time and enjoyed the good seafood at the “Buena Mesa” Restaurant in South Gate. Thank you, Irving!

Following the general alumni reunion at Bravo, a small group of members of the Class of 1988 held a 30-year reunion at “Luminarias Restaurant.” The reunion was organized by Maricarmen Cardenas



and Sandra Lechuga. Several staff members joined the group, among them Ms. Vrabel, Mr. Maletz, Mr. Chacon, Mr. Katzman, and Dr. Hernandez. Dinner, conversations, and shared memories made this a memorable event for this class!

We have also helped Alums with planning Class Reunions, such as the Class of 2008 who celebrated a ten-year reunion during our 2018 Alumni Reunion. We hope to be again of assistance in this regard in

the future. If you have pictures to share from Class Reunions, please let us know, and send them our way to include in future newsletters. If you are planning a Class Reunion, please contact us at Bravo Alumni

While you are visiting Bravo’s AA’s website, please register, we currently have about 500 Alums who have registered. Join us!

The 2020 Bravo Alumni Association Scholarship Recipients

The following Bravo graduates were awarded a scholarship in June, 2020. Here are a few notes of interest about these amazing young people that will give you an idea of what to expect from these future leaders.

Moneek Rodriguez Arzaga is attending the University of California, Davis. She is planning on a career as a veterinarian. She would like to start a business in her

community, a low-cost veterinary clinic and dog groomer to help members in local areas who are unable to afford such services.

Jennifer Jimenez is attending the University of California, Riverside. She is majoring in Sociology, and plans to work in HR or social work. She would like to pursue teaching and return to Bravo as a teacher. She attributes this career goal on her experiences at Bravo and the wonderful teachers

she was lucky to have there.

Cassandra Loreto is attending the University of California, San Diego. She is majoring in General Biology. She would like to work with her community, educating people about the way their daily life choices affect the environment. She wants to do volunteer work, educating and engaging in outreach to her community.

Joy Miramonte is studying at California State University, Los Angeles. Her goal is to become a teacher; she is majoring in Urban Learning Elementary Education. Her goal is to teach in her neighborhood elementary school in Boyle Heights. Her volunteer work at Sunrise Elementary School has helped her develop her love for teaching and her community.

Nafisa Sharmin is attending the University of California, Riverside, where she wants to major in Anthropology. Her daily experiences in South Central Los Angeles have taught her of the many needs in low-income communities. She would like to be part of the solution by working with organizations whose purpose is to eliminate inequities in South Central Los Angeles.

Esme Elvira Vargas is attending the University of California, Los Angeles. She is majoring in Political Science, and would like to be an attorney. She is particularly interested in working with her community in the area of immigration. As an attorney, she is open to representing her community in areas of need or representing her community through a political career.

Edgar Daniel Yak-De Palma is attending California State University, Los Angeles where he is majoring in Civil Engineering. He would like to work with the youth of his community. His involvement with the group SRLA allowed him to work with middle school students. He would like to work with them in areas that will motivate

them and give them self-confidence.

The 2021 recipients will be introduced and highlighted in the next issue of this publication.

Looking Ahead

As we look ahead, the Bravo Alumni Association Board has identified three priorities:

1. **Membership Drive:**

We all know that an organization is only as strong as its membership. That is why our membership drive is the most important of our priorities. Lincoln/Bravo has graduated 37 classes since 1984. With so many graduates, we can recruit an army of former Knights, and we need your help to enlist as many as we can reach! Together we can make a difference!

You can register as a member of the Alumni Association by logging on to our website:

www.Bravohsalumni.org

2. **Scholarship Fundraising**

The future of our organization, of our beloved school Bravo, and indeed of our various communities in the greater Los Angeles area, all depend on strong leaders. Students who are academically prepared, demonstrate a strong set of leadership skills, and are determined to follow their conscience and values will become our future leaders. A



strong, robust scholarship program will allow us to support Bravo graduates ready to take their place as the leaders we need. This is our second priority, equally important - scholarship fundraising! We call upon you, Alums, current leaders in our communities, to lend a hand and make a donation to our scholarship fund. No amount is too

small! We accept checks as well as Paypal. Checks can be made out to Bravo AA Scholarship Fund, and sent to Bravo AA c/o Bravo High School, 1200 North Cornwell St., Los Angeles, CA 90033.

3. **Regular Newsletter**

Regular communication with our members is critical to the life of the Alumni Association. In today's society, there are multiple means of regular communication between and among individuals and group members that enable connections that bring these groups together. In addition to the Bravo Alumni Association web page, Facebook, and regular contact, a newsletter will help us



accomplish this. We want to publish the Bravo Alumni Association newsletter on a regular basis.

You, of course, are a critical part of this endeavor. In addition to regular updates and news, we would like to share your stories. We would like to highlight "conversations" between and among alumni; between alumni and current students; and between alumni and teachers. Does that interest you?

Upcoming Meetings

Join us during our upcoming AA Board Meetings, September to December, 2021 as follows:

September 11, October 9, November 13, and December 11. Meetings are held via Zoom from 10 a.m. to noon. The link will be on our website:

www.Bravohsalumni.org
Hope to see you!

We would like to know: What are you doing? What have you accomplished since you graduated from Bravo? *How can you become a vital part of the Alumni Association?*

2020: The Year in Review

To say the least 2020 has been a year of challenges for the Lincoln/Bravo Alumni Association (Bravo AA), as it has undoubtedly been for all of you! Starting in August of last year, the Interim Board of Directors decided to meet virtually via Zoom rather than in the College Center at Bravo, which became unavailable. For some of us older folks, this became a very steep learning curve. Following our first virtual meeting on August 4, 2020, and once adapted, meetings continued monthly. We set our focus upon awarding as many scholarships to our newly minted 2020 grads as possible, given limited resources.

Although many activities that were planned for 2020 were put on hold due to COVID, we have, nevertheless, continued to plan for these events as we look ahead to the resumption of more normal times in the future. Included among those on hold were the 30th Anniversary of the opening of Bravo High School and Bravo AA's Third Annual Reunion, the Memorial Ceremonies and Plaques to honor our students and staff who have died over the years, the setting in motion of our long-anticipated Mentorship Program to support current students, and our planned fundraisers.

As part of our effort to honor those of our Bravo family who have passed, we are in the process of updating our student and staff memorial lists, and we will publish them in our newsletter. If you have any further information about any of the deceased, (who we could contact - family, or close friends) for the memorial, please contact us at our

website: www.Bravohsalumni.org

They Make Us Proud



Among the many Bravo Alumni, we found out that one of our own, Esther Dabagyan, Class of '95, recently took over as Principal at the STEM Academy of Hollywood. She formerly served as Lead Teacher of this very successful Linked Learning Academy. Two other Bravo alumni make Esther's job easier. Veronica Mercado, Class of '94, has served as Administrative Assistant since

2012, and now is Esther's right hand. Jason Andrade, Class of '93, is an English teacher at the STEM Academy. We are particularly proud of these alumni, because the STEM Academy was recognized as a California Distinguished School during the 2020-21 school year. Congratulations to the STEM Academy community of students, staff, and parents!

In our next issue, we will highlight Bravo Alumni who are now teachers at Bravo, and Bravo Alumni who serve on the Alumni Association Board! Stay tuned!

