

# Boynton Woman's Club presents its 2013 scholarship recipients



From the left are: Marcie Pallone, Brianna Patel, Daniel Davy, Gemina Joseph, Jonah Cabada-Costello, Ramona Smith and Dot Neenan.

## Scholarship awards presented at luncheon meeting

The Boynton Woman's Club has again awarded scholarships to five high school seniors from local high schools and all residents of Boynton Beach. The recipients will attend Florida colleges in the fall.

This is the first year information about the scholarship program available online and the students were quick to discover

Not only did the students have to fulfill educational requirements, they also had to perform community service and be active in after-school activities. Maintaining busy schedules and huge workloads paid off.

The recipients, who have each been awarded a \$1,000 scholarship, are: Jonah Cabada-Costello, Daniel Davy, Ramona Smith, Gemina Joseph and Brianna Patel.

Jonah is the son of Juan Cabada and Sue Ann Costello. He attends Boynton Beach High School and is already enrolled in Palm Beach State College where he will be studying education and theater. He is president and historian of BBHS's drama department and recently starred in a production of *Peter Pan*. He is a member of Education Rocks, an organization that helps children, especially in third world countries. He also sponsors a young girl in Bali. In addition to his other volunteer activities, he also works in the school's guidance department, and has nearly 300 hours of community service. His goal is to have a career in the theater and to bring the theatrical arts experience to children with special needs. He ranks 28th out of his class of



Iveraine Joseph, Gemina (Mimi) Joseph and Erin Kurtz

the Boynton Woman's Club's website. Aware of the competition for scholarship money, the students put in the extra effort to try to secure one of the scholarships. With money so tight in this economy, students apply for numerous scholarships and bundle them together; that way, the total amount can really add up.

Dot Neenan, the chairman of the Education and Scholarship Community Service Program noted that there were far more applicants than available scholarships, and, as usual, choosing the winners was extremely difficult.

"What was so impressive about this year's group was how prepared each student was," she said. "The students found it easier to talk about themselves and their goals. Everyone had a compelling story, which made it so difficult to pick the five recipients."



Atui Patel, Ramona Patel, Counselor Kelly Bruce

400 and as his guidance counselor, Nadelia Charles noted, "has a magnetic personality...very outgoing...wise beyond his years."

He comes from a small school with a small graduating class but Daniel Davy has big accomplishments and a big outlook on life. At the luncheon, he said, "If your dreams seem like too easy to grasp, you're just not dreaming big enough." A star athlete at Trinity Christian High School, Daniel has also taken on the most demanding educational classes. He found a balance between community service, academics and sports. He is captain of both the soccer and volleyball teams as well as a member of the swim team. He always wanted to serve his country and his goal is to join the Coast Guard and become a medic. He will be attending the University of Florida for his medical training. An accomplished pianist, he took the time before he left to play a little on the grand piano in our library. Daniel's mother, Debbie Lindo was at the luncheon with him.

Gemina Joseph, known to all as "Mimi" will graduate from South Tech High School, where she is enrolled in the school's nursing program. She volunteers at Bethesda Hospital and has 241 hours of Community Service. Her goal is to be a pediatrician and open her own medical clinic. She will be attending the University of Central Florida and then pursue her medical studies at the University of Miami. In addition to her busy academic schedule, she also mentors elementary students and works with children with special needs. She admits to being an overachiever but says she loves what she does. "I know," she said,



Ramona Smith, Jonah Cabeda-Costello, Sue Ann Costello.

"that I am an over-achiever, but that's what I want to do. As long as you have a dream, you should follow it." Mimi is the daughter of S. Frid Joseph and Iverlaine Joseph who attended the luncheon.

Brianna Patel, noted her counselor Kelly Bruce, not only maintains her regular academic high school workload at Atlantic

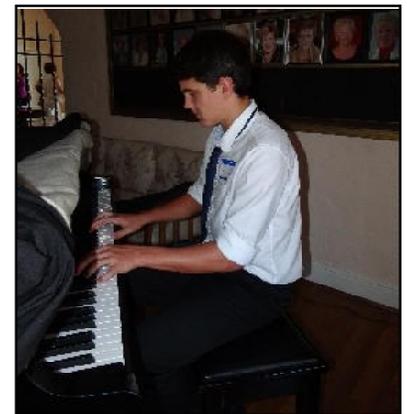
High School, she is also an International Baccalaureate Student. She is president of the South Asian Student Association, a member of the National Honor Society and has logged more than 1,100 hours of community service, including helping out at her Hindu temple. She will be majoring in biology at the University of Florida and plans to become a dentist. She is the daughter of Atui Patel and Pachie Patel. Her father was able to be with her at the luncheon.

Ramona Smith's accomplishments were lauded by Linda Richard, one of the counselors at Lake Worth High School where Ramona is a senior. Linda gave credit to BWC for being part of the

"village which it takes to raise a child." Ramona gave a good deal of credit to the Boynton Beach Police Department where she has already interned. As a matter of fact, her goal is to become a police officer on the Boynton Beach police force. In her class at Lake Worth High School's Criminal Justice Academy she gained the rank of lieutenant. She has 128 hours of community service and volunteers at the community center. A life-long resident of Boynton Beach, she wants to become a BB police officer in order to give back to the community. She told BWC, "Since they helped me in the past and I want to help others." When she attends college in the fall at the University of Central Florida, she will be majoring in public administration with a minor in criminal justice. She is daughter of Carol Mahoney.

All of the students thanked the club not only for the money but for the acknowledgment. As one student said, "It's great to get a scholarship because its the recognition for all of your hard work. Thank you."

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Counselor Maria Wolfe, recipient Daniel Davy, Debbie Lindo