

Arrupe Scholarship



Regis is seeking endowed scholarship funds to support graduating Arrupe Jesuit High School students who wish to attend the University. Arrupe is a co-educational college preparatory school founded by the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) to serve economically disadvantaged and racially and culturally diverse youth from Denver central city neighborhoods. More than 80 percent of the students live near or below the poverty level. Through its curriculum, Arrupe prepares its students to more fully participate in the economic life of their communities, take leadership roles in the Catholic Church, complete high school and pursue a college degree. Attending Regis provides a seamless transfer for these graduates, ensuring the continuation of a Jesuit Catholic education in a supportive and familiar environment.

The 2006-07 enrollment at Arrupe Jesuit High School was 260

Forty-seven students were in the first graduation class in May 2007, 13 of whom are coming to Regis

All 47 students in the senior class were accepted to college

More than 85 percent will be the first in their families to attend college

Over 90 students have registered as part of the 2007-08 high school freshman class

Regis University has been involved with Arrupe since its inception and continues that partnership today in a variety of ways including:

- hosts the annual corporate work training for Arrupe students
- sponsors an annual college prep workshop for Arrupe juniors
- provides job opportunities for 9 students in areas such as admissions, the library, distance learning and the copy and print center each year
- provides financial support, maintenance and library services

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Oscar Lomeli, RC '11

Oscar Lomeli wouldn't trade his experience at Arrupe for anything, even though he admits his parents needed to convince him to attend the high school in the beginning. Once there, though, it didn't take him long to get involved. He played basketball all four years, becoming captain his senior year, and also ran track. Then before he knew it, he was part of the school's first graduating class.

"Since I was young I knew I wanted to go to college and Arrupe and Regis made that possible. Each year at Arrupe, the possibility of a college education became more and more realistic for me."

When asked why he chose to attend Regis, he said besides the scholarship being a significant help, the question for him is more "why wouldn't you want to go to Regis?" To Oscar, Regis has always been a well-respected institution and he is proud to be a part of it with its focus on a values-based education and preparing men and women to lead in the service of others.

While at Arrupe he worked for two years at a law firm and also spent some time at the University of Denver in the advancement department. While both were great experiences, his academic and career in-

terests are in international business, and he's jumping straight in with a full course load of 18 credit hours.

He cites higher education as "priceless, because it is something that can never be taken away from you." The support from his parents to pursue college is, he feels, the greatest gift they have given him.

He is also greatly appreciative for the gift of support from donors as well.

"Their generosity really impacts our lives," he says to those who are making the Arrupe Scholarships possible. "They are giving us hope for the future and inspire me to keep going forward. I can't thank them enough for what they are doing."

Michelle Spreutels, RC '11

"Attending Arrupe was a blessing," says Michelle Spreutels, now a member of the Regis College class of 2011. As a member of the first graduating class at Arrupe Jesuit High School and the first in her family to attend college, Michelle is paving a path of success for many. Although it was at Arrupe where she discovered her passion, Regis is where she will have the chance to make it a reality. Employment opportunities through the high school's work study program introduced her to the health care field, where she served as an interpreter for Spanish speaking patients and a nurse's aid in the OB/GYN and Labor/Delivery units at St. Anthony Central hospital. She also worked with Catholic Health Initiatives. Now, this ambitious freshman aspires to become a pediatrician or OB/GYN, carrying a full class load of 17 credit hours in her first college semester.

She chose Regis because of the scholarship she received and the fact that it is a small, Jesuit college close to home. "My mom always told me that some day I would attend Regis," she says. "Going to college was more a matter of how than if, because it seemed so financially out of reach for me."

The opportunity for a Regis education is something for which Michelle is deeply grateful. She wants to repay all those who have made her dream possible by being successful and by giving back to a community that has given her so much. "I want to provide a future for myself, my family and my community, helping people in need. I am so grateful to Arrupe and Regis University and to the donors for providing so much support to me and my classmates. "

"Thank you for helping me make my dreams come true," she says. "Through the Arrupe scholarship, you are giving to students with potential. You have given us a chance, and we will show you that your investment is worth it."

