

Dear Friends and Fellow Alumni,



A few years have passed since I was a student at Christian Brothers, but I find that there's always a part of CB that remains with me. Do you have a similar experience?

Recently, I visited the campus and made my first gift to the Alumni Fund. It felt great to give back to this school. Here's my story. I hope it inspires you to give back to CB too.

The day I received the letter saying that I was accepted into Christian Brothers High School was the day I knew I could have a great life. **The day I received the letter saying that I received a full scholarship to CB was the day that I knew I would have a great life.**

My teenage years were turbulent. My father passed away when I was just seven years old. My mother worked hard but was often not able to make ends meet raising three children. There was absolutely no way she could have afforded to send me to CB. In my junior year, we lost our home and stayed with relatives sleeping on couches or extra rooms. It was so stressful, I thought about leaving school to get a job to help support my mom and sisters. Looking back, it feels like half of my time at school was spent wondering where I'd be later that night.

Grit got me through, along with several key people at CB who allowed me to see that at the end of that dark tunnel, there was light.

When I didn't have confidence in myself, teachers at CB did. Mr. McClure showed me how to live my life with dignity and respect, for myself and for others. Watching him give and command respect was inspirational and transformational. Mr. Diaz had confidence in my abilities even when my scores didn't show my capacity. He taught me to advocate for myself. And Mr. Levasseur's passion for teaching and for biology inspired me to work hard. **These dedicated teachers helped me realize my own potential, and reach for goals higher than I had previously thought possible.**

Today, I'm a graduate of UC Berkeley, happily married to Megan (Wong) '04, and recently began working toward my medical degree and Ph.D. at University of Washington. Statistically speaking, I'm not where I'm "supposed" to be.



CBHS Graduation 2007



UC Berkeley 2012



Off to University of Washington Med School

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Some say it's where you finish in life that matters. I disagree. I believe it's where you start that matters most. **I received my start at Christian Brothers because others gave so that I might enter to learn and leave prepared to serve.**

There are so many teenagers who have the capacity to be amazing students today and amazing leaders tomorrow. They simply need a "start." **Your contribution to Christian Brothers will make it possible for them to become the people God created them to be.** All they need is your help.

Thirteen years ago, someone like you invested in a kid like me.

I often think of the people who supported me as I went from searching for housing to searching for cures to cancer. Many of them I never met, but I feel I know them. They are those who believe in CB's mission and value its tradition of excellence.

Please join me and make your donation today.

I am one of many who can tell you that it will make a lifelong difference for students. Your generosity will give a student like me a lasting, firm foundation and will never be forgotten.

With sincere gratitude,



Sam Regalado '07

"It's where you start that matters most. I got my start at Christian Brothers because someone like you invested in a kid like me... a kid who otherwise would never have had the chance. CB was the difference for me."
