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Gateway Glimpse

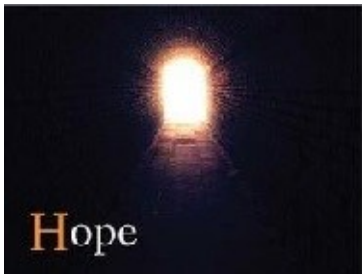
INSIGHTS INTO WHAT GOES ON AT GATEWAY

Success Is Within Reach @ Gateway

Gateway's Placement Testing series for Term 1, 2014/15 will be in full swing next month. The first testing will be held on March 18th, 2014. The term will start in August 2014.

There are many at-risk students and their families who are about to give up their college dreams because they have fallen behind in credits and are not on track to graduate.

College is possible for motivated students. Let us take this opportunity and help at-risk students learn about the Gateway option. Please contact us to set up group presentations.



Student Profile: Austin Attaway

For Austin, his high school experience started out very positively at a Public Charter School. Austin was ambitious and always wanted to attend college. "To me, college is a place to go and learn the necessary knowledge in order to get a better job in the future," he said.

Austin lost his motivation and started falling behind during his Junior year after his transfer. His experience then became similar to that of many students who fell behind. He felt lost and did not feel like going to school. He did not want to study. He was afraid to ask for help and guidance. His dream of going to college was fading away.

Austin was made aware of the Gateway option through his high school counselor. During his study at Gateway, Austin was introduced to the Riverside Youth Council and became a 2013-2014 council member. "I didn't think that it was possible for me to be part of this organization. I applied because I wanted to help the community; especially at-risk students. I was there and I knew how painful it was," he said.

“I got very nervous in the first meeting, because I was different, being the only one from a public charter school and a dropout,” he added. Austin wanted to send a message to students who struggle in high school.

“In order for you to become successful to the point where you are able to make a difference, you really have to overcome many obstacles. Don't be afraid to ask for help along the way!”



Man Of La Mancha @ Riverside Fox Performing Arts Center

On a balmy evening on the last Friday of January, 2014, 34 GCCA students and six staff members enjoyed a fantastic production of Man of La Mancha at Riverside's Fox Theatre. Most of the students were exposed to the story beforehand in their Language Arts classes and so brought in prior knowledge, having learned new skills using the context of the story as the backdrop. The tickets were generously donated to GCCA through the Fox Theatre's Foundation and the hospitality with which we were met was refreshing – Thank you, Fox!

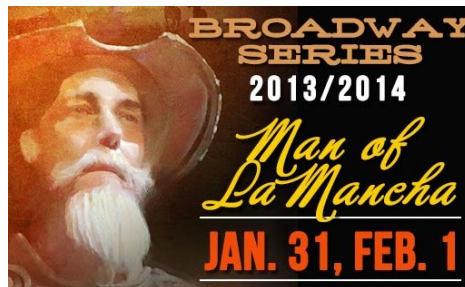


Being able to see The Man of La Mancha live was an amazing opportunity for which I was grateful.

The theater itself was well-kept, despite the fact that it has been standing since 1929. Its interior was adorned with dark, vibrant colors that suited the comforting feel of the building, but beauty is nothing without hospitality. The employees took the time to assist each and every person even though they were swarmed by crowds looking for their seats. It was unfortunate that my seat was not as close to the stage as I would have liked it to be but fortunately, each location in the theater had an amazing view of the performers.

As the production began, people sat in their seats and observed the performance. The show

looked very much like a three-dimensional film which made it difficult to resist rubbing my eyes in an attempt to adjust to its peculiarity. But even so, I caught myself interacting with the performers as much as the rest of the



crowd. Applause followed every song and laughter filled the room after comical remarks, surrounding the audience and actors with joy and encouragement. This made the Q&A afterwards much more exciting. Everyone in the production was

not able to be there, unfortunately, but the ones who were, made the extra half hour being there late, worth it.

As they all introduced themselves and people started asking questions, I noticed how they were all from very different places and backgrounds but got along so well. It is crucial that they do; after all, they are traveling and performing together. But what blew my mind was the amount of time they took to put the production together. You start to understand that it is almost impossible to underestimate the hard work they all put in to making the play come alive. That is why we get a chance to speak to the cast; to understand their motivation and most importantly, to thank them all for putting on a show to remember.

By: Jessica B.