

## Alumni... Their stories say it all!

Annie, 2021: Stanford University – I was able to form a support system that would remain strong even throughout the pandemic. Being a College Academy student also made me eligible to apply for the Armstrong International Internship Grant from Broward College. As a recipient of the grant, I interned virtually for a multi-venture company in London the summer before my senior year. Through my CA guidance counselors, I found out about QuestBridge, a non-profit organization that matches students to top universities across the country. Now as a National College Match Finalist, I can attend Stanford University on a full scholarship covering my tuition, room & board, and more. If I could go back and decide to come to CA a second time, I would not hesitate to take the offer. After my experience at College Academy, I feel prepared for whatever the next four years may hold. In all, I am glad that my sophomore self was brave enough to embark on a new adventure and that the leap of faith.

**Randolph, 2018: University of Florida –** "CA helped prepare me for a life of success at UF. Because of the help and guidance of the staff and advisors I was able to get a head start on my college career and I'm looking forward to graduating next semester with double major and Summa Cum Laude."

**Ted, 2020:** Davidson College – CA opened many doors of possibilities for my future after high school. I successfully obtained the POSSE Scholarship that is currently funding all my education at one of the top private liberal colleges in the country. If it wasn't for the genuine regard and care of each faculty and staff member at CA, I may not have reached the position I find myself in today.

**Kayla, 2018: Georgetown University** – CA transformed my life - from being (necessarily) challenged to transition out of high school early, to the care-based approach to learning, to the incredible chance at freedom to create who you want to be, even prior to college. I full-heartedly believe that the reason I got into Georgetown University was because of the phenomenal advantage CA gave me. Though it will take hard work and unrelenting ambition, if you choose and commit to CA, I am confident you will find not only a welcome community, but a world of opportunity which would not have otherwise been accessible to me and so many others, especially for students from underrepresented populations.

**Mia, 2020: Syracuse University** – I am currently studying biomedical engineering at Syracuse University College of Engineering and Computer Science on a full tuition scholarship. College Academy gave me a taste of the real college experience and gave me the well needed independence when it came to course selection, classes taught by actual professors, and freedom on campus. It also provided me with a close community or faculty advisors and staff that were passionate about helping me connect with helpful resources to set me up to go to my dream university and have the most aid and college credits transferred. This allowed for a smooth and comfortable transition into university life, and I could not be more grateful.

**Jaime, 2020:** Rice University – For starters, the fact that you're considering College Academy goes to show how invested you are in the quality of your education. For me, College Academy was a place where I could explore my interests and really get to know my professors who are invested in the quality of my education. This type of environment allowed me to grow as a student and prepared me to apply to top schools.

**Duaa 2021: Florida Atlantic University –** College Academy is by far one of the best decisions I made in my academic journey thus far. As a 2021 College Academy graduate, I graduated not only with 103 college credits but countless memories and connections I'll remember for a lifetime. In the two years I spent at CA, I was the NHS Vice-President, UNICEF SGA Representative, Wellness Committee Historian, a BRACE Cadet, and a MSA

member. Outside of school, I started a non-profit state chapter called Medical Wonders Florida. I am planning on continuing my education at FAU as a Biology major with not only scholarships from FAU but also other forms of aid such as the FAFSA and Take Stock in Children. I say with confidence CA will be an amazing life decision.

Zahra 2021: Duke University – Nothing got me to think more about going to college or prepared me better than, well, being at one; the College Academy @ BC.

**Emily 2021: University of Florida and National Merit Scholar –** The teachers and administrators at CA were always available and willing to guide me; they provided personalized and invaluable resources to prepare me for college and my future. At the same time, the program's structure gave me the freedom to explore unique educational and extracurricular opportunities I couldn't have had anywhere else.

**Nick 2018: University of Florida –** My time at College Academy was a turning point in my academic career and allowed me the freedom to explore various studies and extracurricular activities. The community at CA, as well as Broward College, are full of welcoming individuals and the friends I made have remained in my life ever since. Without organizations such as NHS and Model United Nations, I would not be where I am today!

**Luiza 2020:** Syracuse University – College Academy helped me get ahead of my studies so I could focus on my dreams. Not only did I graduate with a degree, but I was accepted into my 1<sup>st</sup> choice of University. CA gave me the confidence and security to follow my dreams of being an artist without the fear of having no backup plan, so I have been pursuing that career for the last year and living my best life.

Leandra, 2019: University of Central Florida / Nova Southeastern University – College Academy is truly a program that can accelerate you not only in academics, but in your chosen field. Because of CA, I'm currently pursuing a M.S. in Clinical Mental Health Counseling and Applied Behavior Analysis, while also starting my career as a behavior analyst. This is only two years after graduating high school. Not to mention the friendships I've made at CA have lasted longer than the program itself. There's no way I'd be where I am today without the help of everyone at College Academy!

**Estefany, 2019: Florida International University –** CA helped shape me in many ways; it was the place where I developed my work method and my identity. Overall, it benefited my future by opening many doors I didn't even know were there.

**Elizabeth, 2021: Pomona College –** CA provided me with the knowledge and resources to attend one of the top liberal arts institutions in the United States, Pomona College. CA also gave me a competitive advantage in regard to the Posse Scholarship which has nearly funded my entire undergraduate education.

Elianne, 2018: University of Florida – CA prepared me for college and empowered me to use my resources. It gave me the opportunities I came to this country for, and I am grateful for all I have learned!

**Nia 2021: Tufts University** – Two years ago, if I was asked why I chose College Academy, I would have answered: "I can earn my AA degree earlier and get a head start in my medical career." However, College Academy is much more than that. At a regular high school, you are often in constant competition with your peers to be in the top 5% - 10% ranking. I was shocked at how College Academy took this feature and made it a thing of the past. This program fostered an environment that is collaborative instead of competitive; inventive instead of restrictive. The staff and teachers want us to think outside of the box and try things we've been hesitant to try before. Through the support of those around me, I was able to earn a full scholarship to Tuffs University through the QuestBridge program. Furthermore, I was able to hone my passion for medicine and become a volunteer at the Broward Health Coral Springs Emergency Department, while maintaining a 4.0 GPA. I could continue about how College Academy has given me the means to change for the better, but I will leave you with one point: it allowed me to change my, "I can't," to "I can; no one's going to stop me."

**Bryant, 2021: Florida Atlantic University –** "CA was a great experience. It gave me a lot of freedoms and opportunities for my academic career that I never experienced before. It's a great choice for those who want more independence."