



CATHEDRAL HIGH SCHOOL

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Contact: Josefa Paganuzzi
Thompson & Bender
(914) 762-1900, josefa@thompson-bender.com

For Immediate Release:

STUDENTS AT CATHEDRAL HIGH SCHOOL ARE ACCEPTED INTO SCIENCE ENRICHMENT PROGRAM AT MEMORIAL SLOAN KETTERING CANCER CENTER

Four Juniors at the Private Catholic All-Girls School Start Classes as Part of Prestigious Two-year Program



Pictured from left to right are Cathedral High School Juniors Skylla Collado, Annette Malan, Taiana Corchado and Thais Pena.

NEW YORK, NY (November 15, 2019) – Four students from **Cathedral High School**, an all-girls Catholic High School in midtown Manhattan, have been selected to participate in **Memorial Sloan Kettering's Science Enrichment Program**. The two-year internship program helps high school science students learn fundamental skills in a clinical environment to explore careers paths in medicine. During the two-year program, students take courses in cancer, biology, lab skills, professional development and participate in clinical research/trials.

“At Cathedral High School, we empower young women to reach their full potential. To that end, programs such as the Memorial Sloan Kettering Science Enrichment Program are key and dovetail with our Medical Gateways and STEM academies to provide access and avenues for girls into professional pathways for future success in college and beyond,” said **Maria Spagnuolo**, Principal of Cathedral High School.

- **Skylla Collado (Cypress Hills, Brooklyn)**
- **Taiana Corchado (Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brooklyn)**
- **Annette Malan (Corona, Queens)**
- **Thais Pena (Claremont, Bronx)**

The students were nominated for the program by Cathedral’s Medical Gateways Academy staff based on academic eligibility. Memorial Sloan Kettering reviewed all applicants and named finalists this past June. The program kicked off this Fall with eleven students participating in the program, Cathedral High School representing four of the highly coveted spots.

To date, the students have attended professional development talks and discussions as well as faculty luncheons, had professional photos taken, created LinkedIn pages, attended faculty luncheons, in addition to their scheduled classes focused on building their awareness of cancer research within a laboratory setting. Students are also required to conduct a research project during the summer, submitting a paper at the conclusion of the program in August of 2020.

The Memorial Sloan Kettering’s Science Enrichment Program aims to provide a review of human biology, an in-depth introduction to cancer biology, laboratory skills and clinical research training. Emphasis is placed on understanding normal cell functions and relating malfunctions that relate to cancer, and the central dogma of genetics: DNA to RNA to Protein. Students will also have didactic and hands-on training for basic laboratory skills. Supplementing their science education, students are offered several lessons in professional development and mentorship.

Cathedral High School is located at 1011 First Avenue in Manhattan. For more information about the school and its Medical Gateways Academy, visit www.cathedralhs.org or call (212) 688-1545.

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