

A Studious Young Woman Determined to Succeed

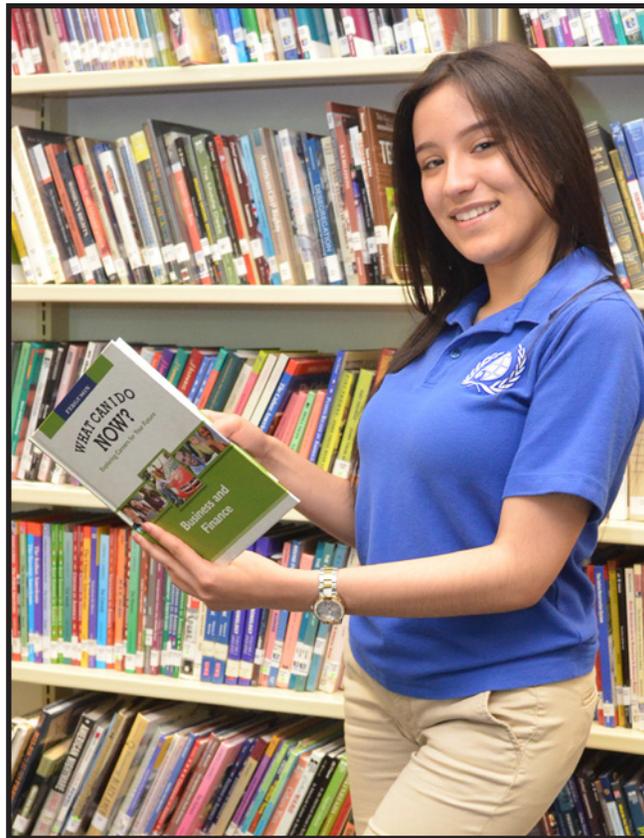
Sarah S. Velez

Sarah Velez is a young woman of unparalleled focus whose eyes are set firmly on the future. This Paterson local and member of the Academy of Finance is well known for her academic achievements. She is ranked in the top 4% of her class with a cumulative GPA of 4.16 and has already accumulated twelve college credits. Sarah has also consistently achieved honor roll status throughout her PCTI career. So what's her secret?

"I take advantage of every opportunity," Sarah says, "and allow my achievements to speak for themselves."

This grounded perspective has served Sarah well throughout her high school career. Entirely modest in her learning, Sarah's practical approach to education has ensured a solid foundation for the future. She is a member of the MSA, FBLA, and SLICE and was selected for Girl State and the World Language Honor Society. This year, she participated in the Federal Reserve Challenge - a competition where student teams were expected to solve hypothetical scenarios of economic downturns by submitting recommendations and answering the questions of Federal Reserve bankers and economists. Out of sixty teams from the tri-state area, Sarah and her classmates came in third place!

Building on her experience in the finance



arena, Sarah also holds a Co-Op position with the on campus branch of Columbia Bank.

"What I really enjoyed was training to be a Teller. It's fascinating. I started at sixteen years old and I thought, *I can do this!*"

After graduation, Sarah will attend Montclair State University and pursue a Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting. Her greatest dream is to travel the world and work with a bunch of different companies. Eventually, she'll receive her

CPA and one day hopes to become a partner at an Accounting firm.

When asked what she appreciated most about PCTI, Sarah says, "There's always people to guide you whenever you need them. They're available and receptive. That's important for students to experience."

This determined Bulldog has discovered her passion for learning within the halls of Passaic County Technical Institute. "Throughout my four years, I've really broken out of my shell to become an open-minded and social individual."

Congratulations on your accomplishments, Sarah. We know you'll achieve your dreams!

HIGHLIGHTS

- Ranked in the top 4% of her class
- Has earned 12 college credits
- Co-Op with Columbia Bank
- Involved in FBLA, SLICE, & MSA
- Selected for Girls State & World Language Honor Society
- Volunteers at St. James of the Marches R.C. Church as Catechist Assistant
- Accepted into 6 prestigious universities
- Goal: Graduate from Montclair State University with a Bachelors of Science in Accounting, earn her CPA, pursue a Master's in Business field, become a partner at an Accounting firm