

# PCTI STUDENT OF THE MONTH

September 2017

## A Leader Championing the Value of Community

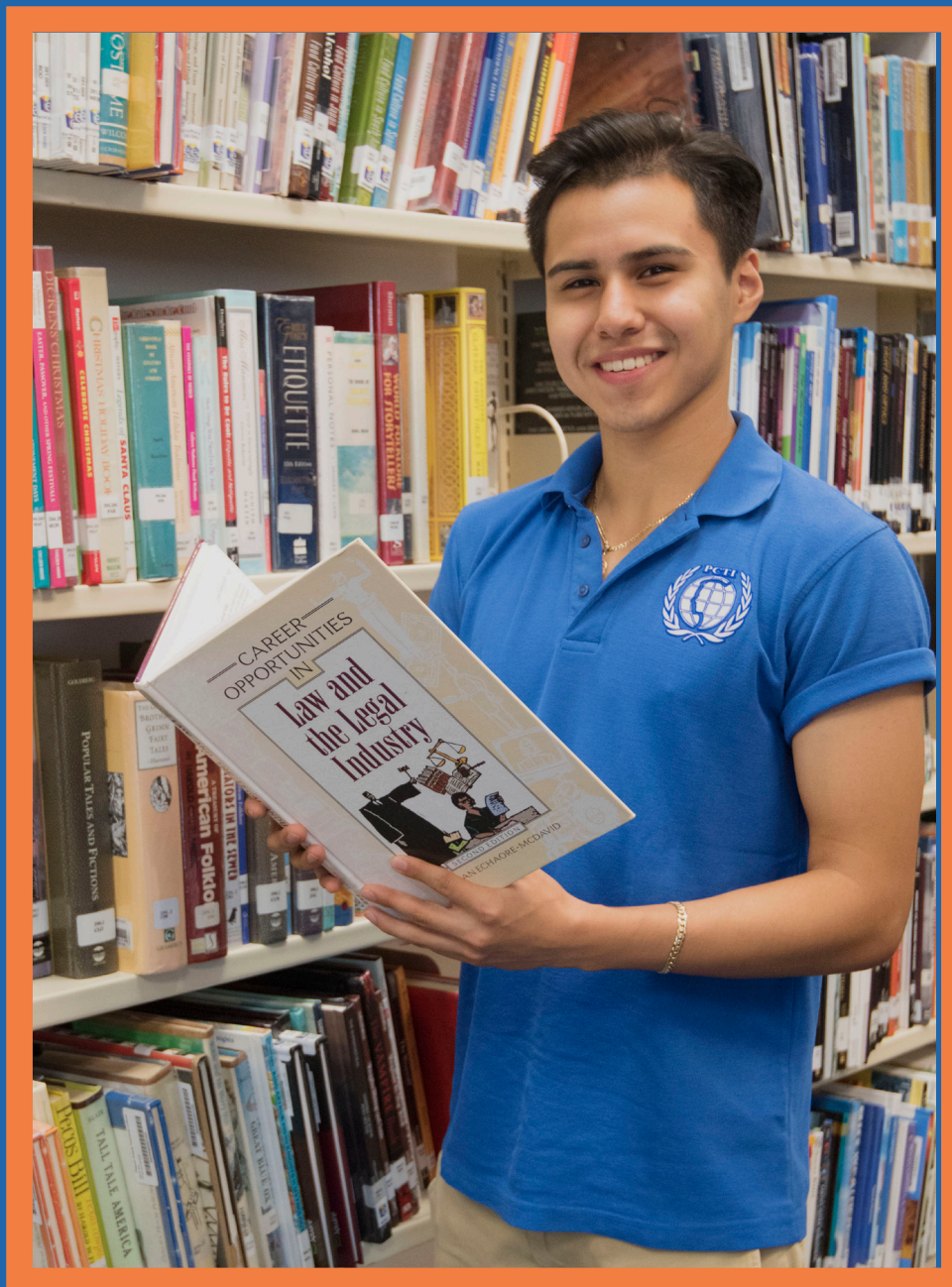
# CHRIS ZUNIGA

Chris Zuniga is a young man from Passaic who is committed to serving others. As a member of the Academy of Criminal Justice, his participation in profound citizenship and leadership activities has earned him numerous awards and accolades.

The most recent and prevalent honor Chris received was being selected to attend Boys Nation. Over the summer, he was one of two representatives from NJ to participate in the national event. Consequently, Chris is the first student in all of PCTI history to receive this honor. Furthermore, he was also selected as the Boys Nation Senator for 2017, which is the most prestigious position in the entire program!

Embarking on the path to these achievements requires a great deal of dedication and organization. Such outstanding qualities are reflected in Chris' amazing academic record. He ranks in the top six percent of his class with a GPA of 4.11 and has achieved Principal's Honor Roll throughout most of his high school career. Chris enjoys a challenge, as demonstrated by his penchant for enrolling in AP and Honors courses. In fact, he has the potential to graduate with 21 college credits!

At PCTI, Chris is involved in a host of activities, including Stu-



dent Council/Interact, ERASE, the Christian Student Association, American Sign Language Club and Astronomy Club. He is also an active member in the NJROTC where he holds the position of Assistant Operations Officer.

Outside of PCTI, Chris has been involved in numerous events of volunteerism, some of which include Memorial

Parades, the Wayne A.M. Rotary International 5K Run, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards Food Pantry Assistance, and acting as a Vacation Bible School Staff Member. In addition, he is an avid public speaker who enjoys getting involved in politics.

"After graduation, I want to give back and run for the Passaic County Tech Board of Education," Chris says.

In college, Chris will pursue a Bachelor's degree in Legal Studies and a minor in Political Science. He seeks to become a Civil Lawyer who deals in civil disputes and business.

When asked about an experience that profoundly impacted his time at PCTI, he cited, "My courses with a now retired teacher, Ms. Pagano, shaped my experiences in Boys State and Boys Nation. It's because of her that I got involved and became so invested in the community."

Congratulations to this incredibly genuine young man who has proved himself to be a dedicated and selfless leader. He's sure to succeed in all future endeavors!

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Ranks in the top 6% of his class
- Will graduate with a potential 21 college credits
- Involved in Student Council/Interact, ERASE, the Christian Student Association, ASL Club, & Astronomy Club
- Member of NJROTC Drill Team, selected as Assistant Operations Officer
- American Boys State & Boys Nation delegate, selected Boys Nation Senator for 2017
- Goal: Graduate from a university with a law degree, become a Civil Lawyer