



First name: _____

Last name: _____

Full Name: _____ (as it will appear in program book)

Phonetic Pronunciation (e.g. John De Coteau = Dee-Coat-Owe): _____

Category: DRAMA

Sex: ☐ Male ☐ Female

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: FL Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

Mobile Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

County: Dade

High School: _____

School Phone: _____

Your School's Silver Knight Coordinator: _____

Your School's Silver Knight Coordinator Phone: _____

Your School's Silver Knight Coordinator Email: _____

Current Grade Point Average on a 4.0 Scale (GPA): 3.23 Unweighted

Please select one of the following:

☐ Class Rank: _____ Out of _____ Total Students in Class.

☒ Percentile: 94% Out of 864 Total Students in Class.

Community Service Contributions

1. List your individual community service contributions (not related to or initiated by school activities). Please list your most recent contributions first. Include only community service contributions that you performed during your high school years. Use support documents to explain goals and results. For major projects, include the date and estimated hours you were involved. Please do not list internships here, (go to page 8.) Do not list any efforts where you were compensated for your time or work.

| Individual Community Service Contributions: | Date(s) & Estimated Hours | Points Earned (Judges Use Only) |
|--|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Founded the Drama program at the Miami Rescue Mission Homeless Shelter | Summer 2006, 2007 420 hrs. | |
| King Mango Strut Parade | December 30, 2007 8 hrs. | |
| CBS Morning Show Performance/ Interview | December 28, 2007 2 hrs. | |
| National Public Radio Interview | December 16, 2007 2 hrs. | |
| King Mango Strut Kick Off Party Performance | November 27, 2007 5 hrs. | |
| Hispanic Heritage Month 2007: "Estamos Unidos" | October 25, 2007 6 hrs. | |
| Mun2 "La Esquina" Skit | June 20, 2007 3 hrs. | |
| "What the 5?" Miami Herald Performance/Interview | June 4, 2007 3 hrs. | |
| America TV "Calando Fuerte" Performance/ Interview | May 21, 2007 3 hrs. | |
| Univision Noticias Eileen Cardet Performance/Interview | May 15, 2007 3 hrs. | |
| Telemundo "Buenos Dias" Performance/Interview | May 14, 2007 4 hrs. | |
| Power 96 MILF Olympics Performance | May 12, 2007 6 hrs. | |
| NBC 6 "Chongalicious" Interview | May 10, 2007 4 hrs. | |
| Telemundo Noticias "Chongalicious" Interview | May 3, 2007 5 hrs. | |
| Power 96 Morning Show Performance | May 3, 2007 3 hrs. | |
| Director of Pantomime piece at Highland Oaks Middle School | Jan. 22-26, 29, 31, 2007-19 hrs. | |
| Christmas Play at "A Place Called Hope" | Nov., Dec., 2006- 100 hrs. | |
| Usher at the Gusman Theatre | Jan., Feb., 2006 12 hrs. | |
| Usher at the Actors Play House | Jan., Feb., 2006 8 hrs. | |
| Multiple Sclerosis Walk | February 26, 2006 12 hrs. | |
| Special Olympics | October 2, 2005 8 hrs. | |
| Miami/ Aventura Cancer Charities Walk | May 4, 2005 12 hrs. | |
| | Total: 648 hours | |

2. List all school related or initiated or related community service projects you have participated in. Provide specifics as to your role in the project. Please list most recent achievements first. Include achievements during your high school years. Please do not list any efforts where you were compensated for your time or work.

School-Initiated or Related Community Service Contributions:

**Date(s) &
Estimated Hours**

**Points Earned
(Judges Use Only)**

Hostess at Superintendant Holiday Show

December 20, 2007
5 hrs.

Barnes and Nobles Parent Academy : "The Tin Soldier"

November 9, 2007
4 hrs.

The Seussification of Romeo and Juliet (Narrator 1) Florida Theatre Conference

October 31st, 2007
100 hrs.

Performances of Godpell

2007 (Total: 500 hrs)

- Fringe Festival, Edinburgh Scotland

July 31- August 13

- "A Place Called Hope"

May

- Highland Oaks Elementary

April

- Michael Krop Senior High school (3x)

March, May, July

Denim and Dazzle Gala

April 18, 2007

6 hrs.

Tutoring in Reading at Ojus Elementary School

November, 2007

4 hrs,

Aventura Hospital Holiday Decoration

November 22, 2006

4 hrs.

The Diary of Anne Frank (Understudy)

October, 2006

100 hrs.

Open House 2006-2007 (Pantomime)

September, 2006

3 hrs.

Performances of Fame! (Ensemble)

March-April 1st

2006- 100 hrs.

Young Arts Gallery (Pantomime)

Feb. 23, 2006,

2005- 6 hrs.

Aventura Arts Festival (Pantomime)

Jan. 30, 2006,

2005- 12 hrs.

"A Holiday Machine" (Ensemble)

December 2006

10 hrs.

Superintendant Breakfast (Pantomime)

2006

3 hrs.

"Voices" Technical Work- Spotlight

April 7-8, 2005

10 hrs.

School Hallway Decoration

November 1, 2005

5 hrs.

Spaghetti Dinner

October 8, 2005

5 hrs.

Coconut Grove Art Festival (Pantomime)

February 2005

12 hrs.

H and H Jewlers (Pantomime)

February 2005

3 hrs.

"Wait, Wait, Bo, Bait" (Cassie)

May, 2004

10 hrs.

Coconut Grove Gala (Pantomime)

November 2004

6 hrs.

PBS Holiday Show for Rudy Crew (Pantomime)

December 2004

5 hrs.

Total: 903 Hours

Combined Hours: 1,551

Major Project Description

3. Please describe below the service or project that has had the most significant impact on your community or school.

Support documents must include at least one typewritten letter of recommendation addressing the service in detail.

Letter must contain the person's full name, title, organization, address, phone number and email address.

Points Earned: _____ (Judges Use Only)

■ Number of hours dedicated to major project: 420 Hours

■ Which of your service endeavors had the most significant impact on your school or community?

The Broadway star, Ethel Barrymore, once stated, "For an actress to be a success, she must have the face of a Venus, the brains of a Minerva, the grace of Terpsichore, the memory of a Macaulay, the figure of Juno, and the hide of a rhinoceros." While this might be true of an actress, I also wholeheartedly believe these qualities are a necessity for anyone to be successful. Thus, in the summer of 2006 and 2007, I developed and taught a drama class at the Miami Rescue Mission's Community Activity Center (CAC) in which I attempted to impart all of these attributes to the children living in the homeless shelter and other youth from the inner-city. Living in a suburb my whole life, I did not realize how important the activity center was to this particular community. In a place where crime and drugs are just as common as the streetlights, the community activity center is an alternative for the children and adults to keep out of the streets and do something constructive. Through my care and knowledge, I was diminishing the chance of them becoming involved in the wrong things and building in them traits necessary for them to persevere, even in the midst of difficult circumstances, and thus, developing "the hide of a rhinoceros."

■ Who benefited from your service project?

Whenever one is giving back to their community, the list of benefactors is almost endless, because one good deed resonates and expands. For example, my work at the Community Activity Center benefited the parents of the children who were at work and could not afford to pay for child care; the minimal staff at the Miami Rescue Mission who were grateful for my consistent, helping hand; the children who had one more entertainer they could drive crazy and more importantly, one more mentor to look up to; and of course the community, which is deeply impacted whenever someone gives of their time and talent simply to brighten the lives of other people. Theatre instills priceless qualities such as determination, leadership, teamwork, and confidence, and these qualities can be used in every aspect of life. The students I work with all have the chance to develop these characteristics and can carry them through in everything they do.

■ Why was this effort so important to you?

The arts, and more specifically drama, has been my engine through life, a source of self-confidence to tackle any obstacle I might encounter. When I first asked my students, "What does drama or theatre mean," I heard "I don't know." An inaudible collection of mumbles from most of the children gave me a magnificent sense of purpose. I felt like I was about to feed a hunger these children never knew they had. I had the privilege and priceless opportunity of introducing a world of creativity and imagination to these campers. I was so excited to inspire and bring out performers. If I ignited the desire in just one out of the hundreds of students I worked with, my goal would be fulfilled. I soon came to realize the teaching process worked both ways. While I was teaching the children, the children were teaching me as well. I observed and studied their art making process, watched which teaching techniques were most effective, and admired their fresh, brilliant perspective. Every time I heard, "Ms. Mimi, is this how you do the mime wall," my heart would melt.

■ Describe the full extent of your role with this effort.

The wonderful thing about working at this free summer program was because my role was not limited to just "teacher". I was a lunch lady helping to serve the children there afternoon meal, a chaperone on field trips, and most importantly, a friend. The campers, ranging from ages 5-16, felt comfortable with me because of my age, and thus I was more easily able to introduce them to the joy of theatre. Since they were not intimidated, many of my students would talk to me throughout the day, ask me questions, and best of all, inquire about performance opportunities. In the two months I had with these children each summer, I tried to give them as much of the theatre as possible. I started with movement exercises than gradually made my way into story telling, improvisation and scene study. Meanwhile I tried to incorporate as much of the history and technical aspects of theatre as possible, through costuming, and brief explanations of the origins of theatre.

Major Project Description, cont.

■ How did you become involved and how did you structure your participation?

I attended an orientation meeting for potential volunteers of the Miami Rescue Mission, and while watching the welcome video, I remember admiring the various activities they had for the youth and adults like cooking, movie night, and sports. However, I also noticed there was no drama program. Thus, near the end of my tenth grade year, I decided to call the Miami Rescue Mission and ask if I could teach a drama class as part of their summer program. To my surprise, they immediately said yes; I was told all I had to do was show up everyday and promise my commitment and dedication. So it was just that simple, I became a teacher within the span of our conversation. The first thing I did was create a lesson plan for every day. Since I was going to be working with ten different groups, three each day, composed of children from many age groups, I tried to tailor the activities to their particular likes and needs. For example, the younger children created their own masks and were taught the history of masks in the theatre. The older kids, however, played improvisation games and did scene work. In the beginning, many of my lessons involved activities my drama teacher did with me at school, but as time progressed, I started creating my own activities. One thing all of my classes did was pantomime, technique and makeup. In addition, in the beginning, all of the groups engaged in a series of activities which helped familiarize the students with each other, with the goal of creating a comfortable performance space.

■ If any, what obstacles have you had to overcome in order to participate or lead this service project?

When I look back at my experience, many things hampered my participation. First, I had to find transportation each and every morning from Aventura to Overtown and then back home every afternoon. On a more meaningful level, I blindly thrust myself into an area in which I was very inexperienced. I never taught or even dealt with children before. So, of course, I was under a lot of stress. Since most of the children didn't even know what drama was, they were very apprehensive and even uncooperative at first. It was difficult to get everyone to open up and try new things, and some of the campers did not want to listen or participate. When I played music from Broadway musicals, they hated it! When we put mime makeup on, the younger boys did not want to look "girly". Additionally, a few times, when I returned to my room in the morning, it had been vandalized; somebody wrote mean things on the board, ripped things and stole materials. There were many times I wanted to cry, many times where I felt that I would not even be able to finish the summer, much less inspire my students' love of drama. However, no matter how many times I wanted to cry or quit from the hours of frustration, that one student who said "Ms. Mimi, when can we practice for the show," made it all worthwhile. When I walked into the gym during recess to discover a cluster of 8 year olds' doing the pantomime I had taught them earlier, it made me forget my struggles. Finally, when children came to me and told stories about how they ended up living in the shelter, their father had been missing, or their parents constantly telling them they are unwanted children, I knew I was there for a reason.

■ What was the impact or outcome of this endeavor from a community or school perspective?

In recent years, there has been a significant decrease on the emphasis of arts and culture in Miami-Dade County Public Schools. I knew I needed to play a role in reversing this downward spiral. A true artist is not one who is simply talented and performs, but one who also imparts her love of theatre to those around her and uses her abilities to help others gain intelligence, grace, presence, and determination. Through my efforts, I was able to inspire the desire of performance; more than that, I was able to give the students I taught something to aspire to, skills to help them achieve success, and even a distraction from a life of hardship. The gift of theatre is like a family heirloom which must be protected and passed down to future generations. Who will continue to pass down the gift if my fellow actors and I don't work to convey our passion for theatre to others? That is why I believe mentoring and working with other people is such an integral part of the arts. The arts bring joy, pleasure, and culture to every community. It is what gives every day of life that extra pizzazz. The arts inspire, move, and shape the world and thus every community must be exposed and experience art in every form.

■ What do you envision as the impact your project will make in the future, if any, and how is it sustainable?

On the last day of camp, the dance and drama classes performed in a showcase. At the end of each summer, there were pantomimes, scenes, and sketches. At the age of 16, I felt like a proud parent when my students performed. To see these students, who at first were so uncomfortable with performing and expressing themselves, showcase their own work was amazing. They created the art; I just polished and fine-tuned it. I discovered I was more like the key that opened their eyes to theatre and released talent that they didn't even know was there. Each student was like a treasure chest; however, I had to yank, pull, and scream before I could admire and enjoy the jewels inside. I don't know if any of the students I taught will continue to pursue drama, but they were exposed to something they may have otherwise never known. The skills they learned through the theatre, such as cooperation, leadership, and confidence will help the students in school and in turn affect their community. Fortunately, the drama class at the Miami Rescue Mission will continue because I have recruited the assistance of my younger peers in our school's magnet program. My hope is that they will receive the same amount of satisfaction and insight that I have experienced as they give of themselves by sharing their talents and abilities.

Individual Achievements

4.a List up to five individual achievements related to your category. Please list most recent achievements first. Include achievements during your high school years. Please include the date of achievement as well, if applicable. Use support documents for honors, awards and recognition.

Achievements (honors, awards & recognition)

Date(s) & Estimated Hours

Points Earned (Judges Use Only)

Critics Choice- Ensemble Pantomime, Solo Pantomime

January 2006, 2008

Performed in International Fringe Festival; Edinburgh, Scotland

July 31st - August 13
100 hours

Recognition for "Chongalicious" Miami Herald/ Miami New Times/ NBC6/ The CW

March - Current
100 hours

Most Promising Female Actress

May 2007

Secretary of Drama Club and International Thespian Society

2006 - 2008

4.b List up to five individual achievements not related to your category. Please list most recent achievements first. Include achievements during your high school years. Please include the date of achievement as well, if applicable. Use support documents for honors, awards and recognition.

Achievements (honors, awards & recognition)

Date(s) & Estimated Hours

Points Earned (Judges Use Only)

AP Scholar with Distinction Award

June 2007

National Honor Society Member

2006 - 2008

Homecoming Princess

2006

Scholastic Writing Awards- 3rd Place; Poetry

2006

Outstanding Volunteer Award-

August 2006

Given to the volunteer who has shown exemplary dedication and commitment.

Academic Checklist

Current Grade Point Average on a 4.0 Scale (GPA): 3.23 Unweighted

Class Rank: _____ out of _____ total students in class.

Percentile: 94% out of 864 total students in class.

Taking into consideration your advanced classes, please enter your **Weighted Grade Point Average:** 4.56
(maximum on a scale of 4.0.)

Please list any advanced or honors courses taken in 9th through 12th grades in the four areas below. Then list any electives (art, music, foreign language, etc.) not included in the previous four areas that relate to the category in which you were nominated. To be eligible for a particular category, you must show academic interest in that category. Once again, **only list courses that delineate a focus in your category in the Electives & Other Courses section as well as in the Internships section. Please indicate those courses taken outside the regular curriculum.**

Judging Score: _____ (Judges Use Only)

Language Arts

English I Gifted
English II Gifted
AP English Language
AP English Literature

Social Studies

World History Gifted
AP European History
AP American History
AP Psychology

Mathematics

Geometry Gifted
Algebra II Honors
Probability and Statistics Honors

Science

Biology Gifted
Chemistry Honors
AP Biology
AP Environmental Science

Electives & Other Courses

Comprehensive Theatre I, II, III
Drama I, II, III,
Spanish I, II
Health and Lifestyle Management
Physical Education/Personal Fitness
Business Administration

Comments

Internships

Miami Dolphins Production Management Staff Assistant-
*This internship involved working in the control booth with
sound dubs, video ingestion and film editing.

Comments



Miami-Dade County Public Schools

giving our students the world

Matthew J. Welker, Ed.D.
Principal

Ms. Enid Weisman
Regional Superintendent

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have been a Theatre Arts teacher in Dade County Public Schools for over twenty five years. In that time, students have come and gone with long lasting memories of guiding them through their high school journeys. Mimi Davila is a student who has created a wonderful blend of "travel" in her four years of involvement in my Theatre Arts Magnet Program at Dr. Michael M. Krop High. She is a most beautiful person both inside and out who shines a bright spirit in all of her work. Mimi is a strong performer in theatre in both serious and comedic work. She moves well and excels in mime. In addition, Mimi is a gifted student in her ability to understand, analyze and interpret a wide variety of literary genres.

She understands and accepts responsibility with grace and poise rarely found in a student of her age. Mimi has the unique style of making everything she does seem easy. However, she is not at all shallow in her approach to her studies or to her life. She embraces each new experience with the naiveté of a child and intellect of a scholar. This combination proves to be a winning one for a talented theatre artist such as Mimi. She has won numerous awards and accolades for her work at the school level, district level and state levels of competitions.

Additionally, Mimi had written, performed, directed and produced a hit video on the popular "You Tube" venue of the internet for young artists. Her "Chonga Girls" parody received nation-wide attention for its witty and poignant look at Hispanic culture in Miami. Mimi handled this attention with her usual nonchalant grace and maintained her successful grade point average of 4.5 in all of her academic classes – many of which are Advanced Placement courses.

One of the best qualities that this young artist possess is that she is always hungry to learn more, to do more, to help more in any way that is not only best for her but for the good of the whole. This is to be commended and exemplified in her noteworthy community service projects of giving back to the "theatre community" by volunteering at the Miami Rescue Mission during the summers of 2006 and 2007. For more than 400 hundred hours she directed drama activities for children from ages four to sixteen. She wrote lesson plans, held auditions, taught the children mime, showed them how to apply and use make-up, demonstrated how to create their character by the use of proper costumes, and prepared them for an end of the summer production.

With this proven track record, Mimi is headed for more achievement on her journey –wherever that may take her in the future, one thing is for certain, she will thrive given the opportunity to continue with theatre and her education as she heads off on the next phase of her life. Mimi is the future heart and soul of what this world is all about in the artistic and educational communities. It is with fervor and joy that I recommend Mimi Davila for the Silver Knight in Drama.

Mrs. Andrea Kidd
Mrs. Andrea Kidd
Theatre Arts Director
Dr. Michael M. Krop Senior High School
STAR Magnet Program
305-652-6808

akidd@dadeschools.net

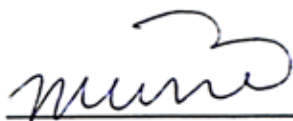
DR. MICHAEL M. KROP SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
1410 Countyline Road • Miami, Florida 33179
305-652-6808 • Fax 305-651-8043 • mkhs.dadeschools.net

Silver Knight Awards Certification Form

Nominee Name _____
School _____
Category DRAMA

Nominee Certification:

I certify that this application and all of the content is my original work. I certify that all statements on this entry form are true and that information may be used for publication. I agree to appear in person on the specified day for an interview with Silver Knight judges. By completing this application and participating in the Silver Knight Awards, I hereby give my consent for my name and photo to appear in photographs, videos, publications and/or interviews related to the Silver Knight Awards Program. If any of this information is inaccurate or untrue, my application will be immediately disqualified.



Signature of Nominee

01/22/08

Date

Parent/Guardian Certification:

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, all statements made by my child regarding grades, awards, rankings and offices, and all other reported activities are true. I hereby give my consent for my child/ward to appear in photographs, videos, publications and/or interviews related to the Silver Knight Awards Program.



Signature of Parent/Guardian

1-22-08

Date

Silver Knight Coordinator's Approval:

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, all statements made by this nominee regarding grades, awards, rankings and offices, and all other school-related activities are true.



Signature of Silver Knight Coordinator

1/22/08

Date

Principal's Approval:

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, all statements made by this nominee and faculty member regarding grades, awards, rankings and offices, and all other school-related activities are true.



Signature of Principal

1/22/08

Date

Achievements/Service Explanations

Drama

-District 8 Thespian Individual Events Critics Choice Award- Individual Events, is a district wide competition where students from different schools have their work evaluated on a scale. The highest rating one can receive is a superior. Out of the "Superiors" one "Critics Choice" is selected in each category. In 2006, I received a "Critic's Choice" for my ensemble pantomime entitled "Forever Drama" and in 2008, I received a "Critic's Choice" for my solo pantomime entitled "Flight."

-District 8 Thespian Individual Events Superior Rating- During my two years of participation in Individual Events I have received a "Superior" in my ensemble acting scene from the play the *Children's Hour*(2006) and *Smoking Lesson* (2008), a "Superior" in my duet musical "Amayzing Mayzie" from the musical *Seussical the Musical*(2007), a "Superior" in my ensemble pantomimes "Forever Drama"(2006), "American Pic"(2007) and a "Superior" in my solo pantomime, "Flight."

-District 8 One-Act Play Festival- District 8 One-Act Play festival, like Individual events is a district wide competition where schools compete with their one act plays. In 2006 I was cast in "Offending the Audience" which received a rating of Excellent. In 2007 our "Seussification of Romeo and Juliet" in which I was cast as the narrator, received a "Good" rating.

-Florida Theatre Conference 2007- In October of 2007, we presented our play "The Seussification of Romeo and Juliet" to the state wide Florida Theatre Conference. Our play was reviewed by a panel of 3 judges; all three gave our play a "Superior" rating.

-Plays- "Wait, Wait, Bo, Bait", *Fame!*, "Offending the Audience", "The Seussification of Romeo and Juliet", *Godspell*

-Star Academy Awards Ceremony 2007- In my junior year I received the award for most promising female junior. This is given to the actress who displays the most potential in her acting abilities before she becomes a senior.

-Secretary of Drama Club and International Thespian Society 2006-2008

-Fringe Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland 2007

During the summer of 2007 I was among one of the selected students to travel to Scotland and perform *Godspell* for an international audience. I had a solo, and a monologue.

Academic Accomplishments

-AP Scholar with Distinction- Granted to students who receive an average grade of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and a 3 or higher on five or more AP exams.

-National Honor Society Member

-Scholastic Writing Awards- In 2006 I was recognized for my poetry submission entitled "Lonely Boy" and received a 3rd place ranking.

-3.2 Un-weighted GPA, 4.5 Weighted GPA

-Ranked 57 in a class of 864, 94th Percentile

-1270 on the SAT; 710 reading, 560 Math

- 5 AP Courses completed, 3 In progress

Explanation of Selected Service

-Director of Pantomime piece at Highland Oaks Middle School-In January of 2007, I was asked to direct a pantomime piece for a group of drama students at the Highland Oaks Middle School. The piece was ultimately to be presented at the "Superintendent's Showcase" where many important school officials were present. In order to properly prepare these students who had never attempted Mime, we had an intense "crash course" where we studied techniques, stretches and movement which aided them later in the piece we created.

-Miami Rescue Mission Outstanding Volunteer Award 2006

At the end of the summer in 2006, I was awarded the "Super Volunteer Award" for my efforts with the children at the Community Activity Center of the Miami Rescue Mission.



December 10, 2007

Ladies and Gentlemen,

My name is Sonise Carri and as the Program Coordinator for Communities in School of Miami Inc at the Miami Rescue Mission I have had the privilege of working with Maria Davila (Mimi) for the past two years. She has motivated and encouraged our students in a most enthusiastic way (using drama). As she interacted with the students most of them learned a skill that was hidden and fell in love with drama and Mimi, she is a positive and charming young lady.

Maria (Mimi) has spent a total of 420 hours for two summers 2006/2007 at the Miami Rescue Mission Community Activity Center. Every activity in which Mimi participates is highlighted by her outstanding creativity. When she first came to the center she stated that she would like to teach drama to our young clients ranging in age four to fifteen. Realizing that this could not be done without lesson plans, she immediately sat down, notebook in hand, and began to plan detailed daily activities. Aware that many of her students would be very young she knew that it would be necessary for them to have fun; therefore, she began by teaching the art of pantomime which allowed them to take their imaginations to far away places. She brought scarves, tutus, boas, different types of hats, gloves, and other items so that they would be inspired to create their own costumes and character. Eventually Mimi had the children write stories, produce, and star in them. She taught them movement exercises in order for them to feel comfortable when they appeared before others. This skill will be valuable when they return to school. Near the end of the program the children spent many hours preparing for the culminating activity an end of the summer showcase. Mimi did an excellent job of preparing the children for this event which was attended by local and state officials who are responsible for funding all the activities at the Mission. As a personal note I would like to say that due to Mimi's dedication and hard work this was happiest and most fulfilling summer that her students have ever experienced.

There is no doubt in my mind that Mimi will be a success at all that she attempts throughout life. Her character is excellent and the children and the staff dearly love her. We will miss her and whenever she chooses we will welcome her back with open arms. I highly recommend Mimi Davila for the Silver Knight in Drama.

Sincerely,

Sonise Carri-Glinton
Program Coordinator
Communitiess In Schools of Miami Inc,
(305) 726-5676



"LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!"



THE FLOWERS FROM OUR "CREATION" PIECE

Tywan Beckam

In the summer we learned drama and played games and I learned mime and I had fun and I want to continue doing it. He did musical dances I love Miss Mimi.

Loverus Sweeting

This is what I did last summer I did dances, singing, mimes.

This is what I learned in the summer talking in sound language, mimes, and be people and cheering.

That's what I did last summer



APPLYING MIME MAKEUP



TABLEAU!



IN THE MIDST OF A TECHNIQUE CLASS

Sample of Lesson Plans from Summer 2006, 2007

June 8, 2006

Group 1: Movement Circle*

Stretches

Mime Class

Beg. Of Mask Project (get into groups)*

Group 3: Movement Circle

Stretches

Mime Class

1st Story "Mime Project"*

Rap "Intro to Me" assignment given*

Group 4: Introduction

Movement Circle

Anything Scarf*

"This is a What?"*

- Movement Circle- Serves as a warm up and an easy way for the children to become more comfortable with themselves and the other students. Whoever is in the middle of the circle moves and dances while the outer circle mimics the moves.
- Group 1 and 2 Mask Project- Class will get into groups and make masks according to themes like eg. Jungle, circus, underwater. Simple intro to mime and the ancient art of mask making. Exercise in reacting to environment and interaction with other characters.
- Rap "Intro to Me"- Each student will create a short rap or poem about themselves. This will serve as a confidence builder and ice breaker.

June 21, 2007

Group 2: Stretches

Movement Circle

Mime Class

Groups

Mask Creation *

Group 5: Movement Circle

Stretches

Machine Maker*

Story Lesson

Fairytale Modernizing *

Group 6: Movement Circle

Stretches

Story Lesson

Mime

"Mime Story"*

- Mask Project- Class will get into groups and make masks according to themes like eg. Jungle, Circus, Underwater, Sports etc. Simple intro to mime, reacting to environment/characters, and the ancient art of mask making.
- Machine Maker- A human machine, every student connects to another through movement. Develops team work and cooperation.
- Fairytale- Students get into groups and choose a well known fairytale. Students will work on developing a modern version of the fairy tale and will create a beginning, middle, and end.
- Students will create a short pantomime piece using the techniques learned.

January 15, 2008

To whom it may concern,

My name is Melissa Boganian and I was fortunate enough to be mentored by Mimi Davila last year. As a mime-enthusiast, Mimi came directly from Michael Krop Senior High School, at least once a week taking time out of her busy schedule to help our newly formed Panther Players. Out of the goodness of her heart, Mimi spent much of her energy and time teaching our mime-troupe from the ground up and assisting us with all things dramatic.

Through her dedication and commitment, the Panther Players were invited to perform at county-wide events, ~~none~~ of which could have been possible without our greatest supporter. Mimi's motivation and constant smile made my time with her something I will remember always.

It was a privilege to work with her and I know that no matter what path she goes down, she will succeed.

as/Melissa Boganian

I DIRECTED A PANTOMIME PERFORMANCE AT
HIGHLAND OAKS MIDDLE SCHOOL



Principal
Sally Alayon

giving our students the world

Miami-Dade County School Board
Agustin J. Barrera, Chair
Perla Tabares Harman, Vice Chair
Frank J. Bolanos
Evelyn Langlieb Greer
Dr. Robert B. Ingram
Dr. Martin Karp
Ana Rivas Logan
Dr. Marta Pérez
Dr. Solomon C. Stinson

Superintendent of Schools
Rudolph F. Crew, Ed. D.

To whom this may concern,

I am writing to you on behalf of Maria "Mimi" Davila. Mimi is an extraordinary young lady with many talents and a very generous heart. Mimi offered to assist our school with our Mime piece for the dedication ceremony of our West Campus. "Mimi's the best! She'll work well with you and your students," exclaimed Mrs. Kidd (Mimi's drama teacher). Mimi met with our group almost everyday after school. She tirelessly spent her free time to help my students perform a beautiful Pantomime scene that was ultimately well received by many dignitaries from our School Board. Mimi also gave the students pointers on how to greet people as they entered the auditorium. The nine hours she spent at our school will last a life time to the students who look up to her.

Sincerely,
Kyle McElfresh

Kea McElfresh
Drama Department
Highland Oaks Middle School

Blair, v. 107

When I was in middle school she had taught
me things about drama I never knew. She
showed me great warm-ups and how to
be more like a mime. I am trying to act as
like more expressions and have more fun. She
helped me and a few other kids prepare for
a performance of mine. She came after school
and helped us learn more about the art of
mime which helped us do a fantastic performance.



MIAMI RESCUE MISSION VOLUNTEER AWARD



IN MY MIME COSTUME



January 13, 2008

Silver Knight Awards
The Miami Herald
Miami, Florida

Reference: Maria Davila

Silver Knight Judges,

It is with great pleasure that I write to you about Maria Davila. I met her four months ago in connection with the King Mango Strut Parade. The King Mango Strut is a spoof and satire of holiday parades and an end-of-year laugh. We have remained commercial-free for 26 years and depend on volunteers like Maria to help make this event possible. For our 26th Strut, we wanted to bring young strutters into the fold. We invited Maria and her friend, Laura, to join our parade after seeing their YouTube hit *Chongalicious*, a spoof of the very popular pop song *Fergilicious*. They made us laugh and we knew they belonged with us.

After meeting Maria, the organizing committee was so impressed with her intelligence, sharp wit and charisma, that we decided that both girls should be the Grand Marshals of the 26th Annual King Mango Strut - without having met Laura! We decided that Maria represented the spirit of the King Mango Strut and everything that is right with young people today. Maria continued to impress us and show us what kind of person she is throughout the months of planning and organizing for the Strut. At our KMS Kick-Off Party, for example, Maria and Laura performed for over an hour (we only expected one song), which showed us their dedication and commitment to the Strut. By the end of the evening, those persons "not-in-the-know" about the *Chongalicious* Girls were then lined up wanting their pictures and autographs for more than another hour. Maria treated each of her new "fans" to personal one-on-one time, especially the children. They showed us that they were not a "one-hit wonder" and that they are indeed talented artists.

Weeks later at the parade, the crowd's response to Maria and her co-star was so overwhelming that for the first time in Strut history, the Grand Marshal went around twice! The crowd (and the girls) wouldn't settle for less. Only our 2002 Grand Marshal, Janet Reno, former Attorney General of the United States, was able to generate as much enthusiasm!

We hope that you see what we saw in Maria and consider her for a Silver Knight Award. In our eyes, she is already a winner.

Sincerely,

Antoinette Baldwin, Organizer

King Mango Strut, Inc.
1600 South Bayshore Lane, #8B
Coconut Grove, Florida 33133

Mimi and Laura have been featured on page one of the *Miami Herald* and on the national Univision newscast. And two weeks ago, the pair danced with Michael Krop Senior High principal Matthew Welker in front of their school's entire student body. Kids from all over South Florida have tracked Mimi and Laura down on MySpace; they usually post comments like this recent one from a fifteen-year-old Palm Beach girl named Lauren: "you're amazing. i was singing chongalicious all day today. and my school is like obsessed with you and mimi."

The girls have not enlisted any marketing agency nor made any money. What they have done, however, is bring worldwide attention to the *chonga* — an exclusively Miami term for a particular kind of Miami girl. There are no chongas, say, in Los Angeles or New York. There might be girls who look like chongas elsewhere on the planet, but the word is used only right here.

UP FRONT | MUSIC

THAT HAIR, THOSE HOOPS... 'CHONGA' GIRLS FIND FAME



'CHONGALICIOUS' GIRLS TAKE OVER!
WATCH THE SHOW AT
MIAMIHERALD.COM



• COCONUT GROVE

26th King Mango Strut will be 'Chongalicious'

From Miami Herald Staff and Wire Reports

The "Chongalicious Girls," who became local celebrities following the spoof of the song *Fergalicious*, will be grand marshals of the 26th King Mango Strut parade.

Expect the girls — Aventura's own Mimi Davila and Laura Di Lorenzo — to be made up with a Sharpie lip-liner and in full *chonga* gear for the Dec. 30 parade in downtown Coconut Grove.

For those who don't know what a *chonga* is:

UrbanDictionary.com, an online slang compendium, defines "chonga" as "a girl of Hispanic origin, usually between the ages of 12 and 19, but sometimes as young as 8. Primarily found in Miami (most famously, in Hialeah)... She wears ridiculously large hoop earrings, large enough to be bracelets, which are usually gold and have their name written in them, and diamond studs high up on her ears."

The high school seniors' YouTube.com video *Chongalicious* has attracted 1.7 million views over seven months and in May was the most requested song on WPOW-FM (96.5).

"I feel like we're perfect to lead the parade of crazies," said Mimi, 17.

A tongue-in-cheek video by two Aventura teens spoofing a dress style has become a hit on the airwaves and cyberspace.

BY LAURA FIGUEROA
lfigueroa@miamiherald.com

The magic starts with a heaping glob of electric blue L.A. Looks hair gel.

Then comes the extra coating of \$1.07 Beauty Glamorous Extra Hold hair spray.

So begins the transformation of 17-year-olds Mimi Davila and Laura Di Lorenzo from your typical T-shirt-and-jeans-wearing high school juniors to *chongas*. Not just your typical *chonga*; they are "The Chongalicious Girls" whose song recorded as an antidote to boredom is becoming a runaway hit on the airwaves and cyberspace.

What started out as a homemade music video shot



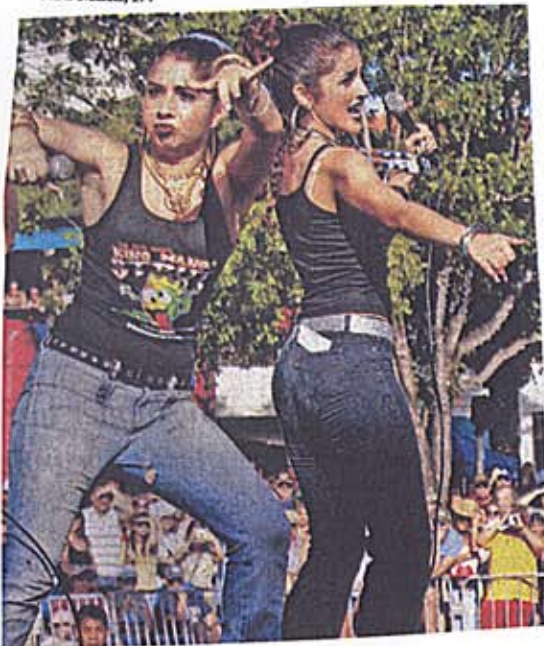
MIAMIHERALD.COM: CLICK ON TODAY'S EXTRAS TO SEE THE VIDEO

among best friends spoofing the way certain teens dress has gotten more than 388,000 hits on YouTube.com and is the most requested song on

WPOW-FM (96.5), or Pow-er 96.

"They're beating out people like Justin Timberlake,"

•TURN TO CHONGAS, 2A



"Memoirs of a Drama Student"

A series of unrelated events, that offer a glimpse into who I am

Series 1: When I was first selected to be a part of the mime troupe in ninth grade, I was everything but thrilled. To me mimes were in the same category as freaky clowns and cheap Santa Claus's that gave children nightmares. Even though I was very tempted to quit, I decided to stick around. Sticking around was one of the best decisions I made, mime has furthered me as an artist in more ways than one. I realized through my training, that expressing your thoughts and feelings through movement, is one of the most powerful abilities a performer can have. Through my four years at high school I was able to exercise these "abilities" through a number of community service projects. Our mime troupe was called upon to perform at art festivals, book stores, teacher of the year breakfasts, and shows. With each and every experience, my ability to connect with people was enhanced and I was able to begin sensing who would like to be approached and who would not. Doing mime, as with any street performance is tricky, on one side you can light up a crowd but you have to be careful not to cross any personal boundaries. Especially at social functions where some people are bored or grumpy, you as a performer can really have a direct personal influence on that person's facade. Overall, it was a pleasure to change the entire atmosphere of a room into laughs and love with a little pantomime.

Series 2: I never really found the magic in the cliché phrase "anything can happen" until April 31st, 2007. To explain the phenomenon that occurred on this day and the following months, I shall start from the beginning (no surprise there.)

One day as my friend and I were eating lunch we happened to be staring at a group of "chongas". Before I go any further I would like to describe the cultural phenomenon that is the "chonga." In order to imagine an accurate visual of the "chonga", one must combine a "don't mess with me" attitude, with the following central ingredients: one ton of hair gel, one pound of fake jewelry, skin tight clothing, and a thick black outline around the lips and eyes. We decided to create a song about them called "Chongalicious" to the beat of the hit pop song "Fergalicious". I, being the avid movie maker that I am, quickly suggested that we make a music video to our new song. We rummaged through my closet, found some clothes from my "chonga wannabe" days in middle school, and began filming. That same night, April 31st, 2007, I uploaded the video on "Youtube", an internet site where anyone can post their video creation, thinking it would be something to laugh about with just my friends. Little did I know that the whole city of Miami would be laughing along with us.

A few weeks after the original posting, I woke up and heard our song on the radio and after that everything happened like dominoes. I was flooded with messages from different news papers, TV stations all with the intention of getting the scoop on "Chongalicious". Everyone wanted to know, "How did you come up with this?" and "How is the chonga a representation of your generation?" We appeared on the front page of the "New Times", "Miami Herald", the 11:00 News, TV shows, and even performed live. I wondered, "why did we strike such a cord in Miami, why is everyone so interested?" I mean I knew the video is funny and a very accurate portrayal of "chongas", but why is it getting all of this media attention? Then I realized that these adults are curious about this peculiar culture our generation has created. A culture where boys wear their pants way below their waist, where little girls emulate the style and movement of the women in the music videos, and where drugs, crime, and "pimps" is the main focus of music. I, along with my friend, were the spokespersons for my peers.

It might seem crazy that we made a social and artistic statement by accident. But this experience has taught me that each individual has the power to make a point, and that each individual has the power to alter and shape their society. This is information that my generation can use to their advantage, especially with the technology available to us. It may seem cheesy, but I feel it is my duty to let my peers know, "Anything can happen"-really.



AP Scholar with Distinction Award

MARIA L. DAVILA

in recognition of exemplary college-level achievement on
Advanced Placement Program Examinations

Gaston Caperton
President
The College Board

Trevor Packer
Vice President, Advanced Placement Program
The College Board

Conferred: September 12, 2007

Certificate of



Membership

National Honor Society of Secondary Schools

This Certifies that

Maria Davila

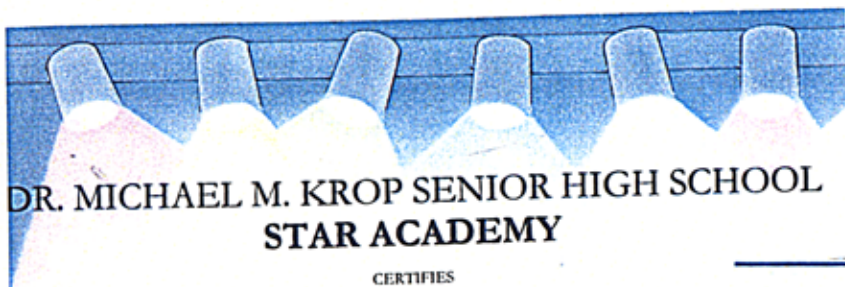
was selected a member
of the *MKHS Lightning* Chapter
of the
National Honor Society of Secondary Schools.
Membership is based on
Scholarship, Leadership, Service, and Character.

Given at this *18th* day of *April 2007*

ROSE M. MARAMBA
SECT. MEMBER NATIONAL COUNCIL
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF
STUDENT ACTIVITIES
NASSP

M. KELLY L. HULL
ADVISER

JUDITH M. O'LEARY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
SECONDARY SCHOOL PRINCIPALS



DR. MICHAEL M. KROP SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
STAR ACADEMY

CERTIFIES

Mimi Davila

AS

Most Promising Female Junior

Given this 26th day of April, 2007

Mrs. Andrea R. Kadd, Director

2007 American High School Theatre Festival

Certificate of Participation
is awarded to

Maria Davila

In recognition of outstanding participation in the
13th annual AHSTF as part of
the 2007 Fringe Festival.
Edinburgh, Scotland

Dr. Michael Krop High School, FL

Mary Cerk
AHSTF Program Director

January 7, 2008

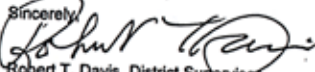
To Whom it may Concern:

This is to certify that Maria Davila participated in the Superintendent's Holiday Concert on December 20, 2007, at the School Board Administration Building Auditorium. These students should receive 10 hours of Community Service for their volunteer efforts.

Should there be any questions, please call Mr. Robert T. Davis, District Supervisor for Music Education, Division of Life Skills and Special Projects, at (305) 895-1912.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,


Robert T. Davis, District Supervisor
Music Education
Miami-Dade County Public Schools

The Woman's Club of Coconut Grove

Established in 1891
2909 South Bayshore Drive
Coconut Grove, Florida 33133

February 23, 2006

To Whom It May Concern:

Maria Davila attended our Preview Party for the Young Artists' Gallery, an exhibit and sale of art by Miami-Dade County High School students and provided entertainment by performing with the Mime Troupe from Dr. Michael M. Krop Senior High School. This took place on February 16, 2006 and the troupe performed for three hours.


Dolly MacIntyre
Advisor, Young Artists' Gallery



Special Olympics

Florida

19436 N.E. 26th Ave. • Suite 84
Miami, Florida 33180
305-935-4733

Miami-Dade County
Area 11
Summer Games
Track & Field Meet

February 26, 2006

To whom it may concern:

Maria Davila was a valued volunteer for the North Miami Beach Optimist Club's David L. Singer Memorial 23rd Annual SPECIAL OLYMPIC'S Area 11 Summer Games "Track & Field" competition. It was held today at the North Miami Stadium at F.I.U. He or she has certainly earned at least (8) hours of Community Service in helping us provide a very "Special" day for our "Olympians." It is a compliment to their family and a credit to their school, that these young adults have developed the character to devote their time to help those less fortunate.

Sincerely,



Edward O. Smith
Chairman



AVENTURA MARKETING COUNCIL
18851 NE 29TH AVENUE, SUITE 413
AVENTURA, FL 33180

Phone: (305) 932-5334
Fax: (305) 932-4701

info@aventuramarketingcouncil.com

January 30, 2006

Maria Davila
Dr. Michael M. Krop Sr. High
1410 County Line Road
North Miami Beach, FL 33179

Dear Maria,

Thank you for volunteering 12 hours at our 15th annual Aventura Arts & Crafts Festival held on W. Country Club Drive and the Macy's East parking lot of the Aventura Mall.

This event, sponsored by the Aventura Marketing Council, City of Aventura and Aventura Hospital and Medical Center provides this community with a free family festival that draws over 50,000 people each year.

Thank you again for your help.

Sincerely,


Elaine Adler, president
Aventura Marketing Council



South Florida
Chapter

3201 W. Commercial Blvd., Ste 127
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309
Tel 954-731-4224
Fax 954-739-1398
office@fls.nmss.org
www.nmssfls.org

Spring 2006

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with the gratitude of the individuals with multiple sclerosis and their families that we thank Maria Davila for his/her volunteer / fundraising efforts at the National Multiple Sclerosis Society's MS Walk®.

He/she has earned 12 volunteer hours for their valuable help in the fight against multiple sclerosis.

With appreciation,


Dwight Eisenman
Development Director