One of the most important lessons Americans learned from the horrific events of September 11 was the responsibility we have to each other. We have been reminded in the starkest possible way of the gravity of those responsibilities and of how much we all depend on those who willingly give of themselves whatever the cost. The heroic efforts of rescue workers and others who responded so selflessly on and after September 11 recall the special qualities that make our country great. The *Myself Third* scholarship program has been established to honor this altruism and to inspire young people to cultivate and practice the qualities of tolerance, responsibility, and compassion we have all witnessed.

“*Myself Third*” is a lesson taught by my sixth grade teacher in the Bronx—to put oneself third after responsibilities to God and to country. I congratulate the winner of this scholarship. You have demonstrated involvement in your community and an understanding of the importance not only of academic achievement, but of a commitment to the well being of your fellow Americans. Good luck to you as you pursue your studies in the City University, my alma mater. The values you have demonstrated in your high school career will inspire us all in the years to come.

*Robert Friedman*
Introduction

On January 17, 2002, Robert Friedman - a retired partner at Goldman Sachs (and founding partner at Robeco-Sage Capital Management) and a loyal and generous alumnus of the City University of New York (CUNY)—established a new scholarship for high school students bound for the University. *The Myself Third: Spirit of New York Scholarship* pays tribute to the altruism of rescue workers following the events of September 11, and serves as an inspiration for young people to model selflessness and civic responsibility in their own communities.

Since the establishment of the *Myself Third* program in 2002, about 187 students chosen for their achievements in community service, leadership and academic excellence received the scholarship, and have enrolled in CUNY to pursue their college education supported in their first year by the Myself Third Scholarship. Of those, 136 are still in CUNY pursuing their degrees. Seven percent are enrolled in associate degree programs, 81 percent in baccalaureate programs, 10 percent are pursuing masters degrees, and the remaining students are enrolled in advanced certificate or non-degree programs. This year, the Myself Third program will award one (1) $10,000 scholarship to a College Now student, in recognition of her leadership, academic achievements, and ongoing community service.

*Myself Third* gives us the opportunity to invest in talented young people who have shown loyalty and generosity through individual acts of service in their communities. Mr. Friedman’s vision reminds us that our future will require civic responsibility and compassion to sustain the greatness of our city and our country.

It is with great pleasure that we present the winner of the 2017 *Myself Third: Spirit of New York Scholarship*.

~ CUNY College Now

Myself Third Scholarship
Award Ceremony

Reception and Refreshments
5:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Ceremony
5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Pedro L. Baez
Deputy Director for K-16 Initiatives
The City University of New York

Ljubica Depovic
University Director, College Now
The City University of New York

HONORED GUESTS

John Mogulescu
Senior University Dean, Academic Affairs and Dean, School of Professional Studies

Robert Friedman
Founder
Myself Third:
Spirit of New York Scholarship

Cass Conrad
University Dean for K-16 Initiatives
The City University of New York

PRESENTATION OF AWARD CERTIFICATE
John Mogulescu and Robert Friedman
Dorena Pink
A. Philip Randolph Campus High School
Participated in College Now at The City College of New York
Will be attending The City College of New York in the fall

Work, Volunteer and Extracurricular Experiences
- Certified Dosen, Shomburg Center for Research in Black Culture
- Member, Project Rousseau
- Member, Tennis Team and the Randolph Times
- Volunteer, Toys for Tots, Food Bank of NYC and NYC Blood Drives

Excerpt from Dorena’s Essay
When I first decided to participate as a volunteer at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, I did it in hopes that I could learn more about the African diaspora. I wanted to know who my ancestors were and where they came from so I could figure out where I came from and all the stories behind their journeys. I didn’t want the stories to be diluted by the victors of history, nor did I seek to be educated on one-sided perspectives of what history must be because it was stated within a history book; I was seeking the truth. My voyage within the Schomburg revealed unknown truths that were as close to home as it could get.

At the Schomburg, everything I believed to be true about my heritage and my ancestors was called into question. What was America? Is it a land of opportunity and privilege or a land of suffering and destruction? Within my research I was amazed to discover that it was both. I realized how blessed I was to live in a country where you can forge your own path, even around the destructive nature of humans. You get up every day and toil to create the best future for you and your family.

About Dorena
“Dorena regularly contributed to the learning experience in our classroom community. She made connections between multiple time periods when she studied history, and demonstrated strong literary analysis of characters when we read novels and poetry. This created thought-provoking class discussions and debates. Dorena was a strong group facilitator when asked to work with her peers, and her contributions reflected a close examination and analysis of textual evidence. One of the most rigorous exams my students had to take was the New York State Global Studies Regents exam. Many students have to retake this exam because of the abundance of knowledge and strong writing skills the exam demands. Dorena performed well on this exam the first time she took it. When asked to peer edit her classmates’ practice essays, her feedback was meaningful and helped other students organize and develop their ideas. I believe that Dorena will bring the same academic ability and level of motivation to her college studies.”

Inna Reznik, ELA / History Teacher
About College Now

College Now is a nationally recognized “enhanced dual enrollment program,” and provides multiple pathways to college-readiness for NYC public high school students by connecting dozens of high schools with a CUNY college campus to offer supported college experiences. Each year, more than 21,000 students participate in College Now representing over 400 NYC high schools.

The primary goal of College Now is to improve the academic preparation of NYC public high school students by ensuring that they are ready to do college-level work upon graduation. In addition, College Now aims to serve students who have been historically underrepresented in higher education and provide pathways for all participants to build skills proficiency and develop a strong college-going identity. Qualified students have the opportunity to take college-credit courses, preparatory courses, and workshops; participate in experiential-based summer programs; and access campus facilities while in high school.

College Now Program Staff

**Baruch College**
Maziely Crisostomo
Clemente Diaz

**Borough of Manhattan Community College**
Peter Williams
Diamond Brooks

**Bronx Community College**
Susana Rivera

**Brooklyn College**
Pieranna Pieroni
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**The City College of New York**
Andrenetta Collins
Alejandro Lazaro Roman

**College of Staten Island**
Rebecca McClure

**Hostos Community College**
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Travaras Geter

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Erlyn Mendez
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**York College**
Les Raphael
Letitia Bridgeman

**CUNY Central Office**

College Now/K-16 Initiatives
Cass Conrad
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