

## Lessons Learned at IWHS!



Ms. Yolanda Borrego, an Incarnate Word High School Alumnae from the class of 2007, is a Public Relations major at the University of Texas in Austin. Ms. Borrego credits her success to lessons learned at IWHS! Please, read on.

Reflecting on my time at the University of Texas at Austin, I seem to be more appreciative of what I learned while attending Incarnate Word High School. Amidst the chaos of homework assignments, modular schedules, practices, student council meetings, and various service projects, IWHS taught me the essential skill of time management. I have used this vital skill to be a successful student at my university by effectively using office hours with my professors and any free time that I am given in between classes to help me stay on top of my workload. The level of education that I left with from IWHS allowed me to be competitive with the best in my major of public relations. Writing is the most important skill that a PR practitioner can have, and IWHS prepared me well for these courses. Aside from academics, IWHS helped shape me into the outgoing and determined person that I am today. I find myself taking opportunities to apply for internships, scholarships, and study abroad programs based on the foundation, skills and confidence that I gained at IWHS. The encouragement that IWHS gave me as a student to take on leadership roles within my school and community has encouraged me to take leadership at my university. At the University of Texas at Austin, I am a member of the Public Relations Student Society of America as well as a member of a student run public relations firm, Texas Tower PR. I will be taking part in a study abroad program this summer in Dublin, Ireland and will also be applying for internships for my junior year. The confidence and determination that I first gained at IWHS has led me to fully take advantage of my college experience. While independent advancement is important, IWHS also taught me the importance of community. I have taken that lesson into my sorority of Alpha Xi Delta where we are a community of women encouraging one another to live up to the national fraternity's motto to "realize your potential." Together we take on service projects and hold social events very similar to life at IWHS where we are encouraged to grow spiritually and academically together. My college experience is only half way through as I am currently finishing my sophomore year, and I know that much of the success that I have had started with IWHS. I am grateful to my family for the sacrifices they have made and continue to make for my education and hope that the gratitude I feel toward IWHS is felt in every student's heart as they take what they learned in high school and apply it wherever their lives may take them.