

## **Michelle E. Cruz, LAUSD/USC Mast High School**

At LAUSD/ USC Math, Science and Technology Magnet High School, teachers and staff have enthusiastically helped me. Since our school is considerably small, it is easy to bond and get along with the teachers and staff. Getting the help you want, when needed, is easier because they have more time to dedicate to each student individually. I have great teachers that expect and push you to produce good work, but also understand that it might not always be possible and help you when you do not exert your best work. Instead of pointing out the fault, teachers help me find solutions, which have helped me in my problem solving skills.

High School studies offered at my school have helped me prepare for college by greatly by helping me with my social skills which now in the 21<sup>st</sup> century come in handy when it comes to networking and building healthy relationships. Being that this school is so small I was forced to interact with the students and learn how to communicate my thoughts and opinions, no matter what others would think and say. In other words, I had to express what I felt in a way that people would take me seriously and not think less of my ideas and me.

At my school many programs are offered such as Advanced Placement classes, College Prep, SAT prep and tutoring. These programs have helped me to prepare for the challenges that the future will bring. Some classes have helped my test taking skills and prepared me for the SAT, and what is was going to bring. It also helped me review my math skills, which are always useful, now that we live in a country that is greatly focused on the economy and improving it, I also need to know it. In order for me to be able to help in improving the world and its economy, I need to familiarize myself with such skills that these programs have help become better at. Luckily, I have been blessed and information and opportunities at my school are at easy reach to me.

GPA- 3.4

List of Extracurricular activities:

- Member of Mesa Club- Treasurer for 12<sup>th</sup> grade year
- Leadership- 9<sup>th</sup> grade Student Body Vice President
- 12<sup>th</sup> grade Prom Committee Member
- SRLA (Students Run Los Angeles)- 9<sup>th</sup> grade year
- Volunteer at Immaculate Conception Church

“I honestly believe that Michelle possess the skills (academic, social and personal) to succeed in college. She has demonstrated a willingness to travel the extra mile in order to be successful in the classroom. In addition she has a tremendous work ethic and shows great determination in completing the task on hand.”

~ Mr. Jorge Rodriguez, Biology Instructor