

THE BILLBOARD

MONTHLY

ISSUE 6 | DECEMBER 30, 2023



PRV NEWSLETTER

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About our newsletter

Welcome to The Billboard! Our PRV monthly digital newsletter.

This newsletter was created so that we can protect the identity of the justice involved youth we work for while creating a bridge of awareness and transparency to the community of what is possible when we empower youth in their pursuit of a better life and provide them with adequate support to get there.

In addition to highlighting PRV intern achievements, this newsletter shares information about community partner collaborations and is committed to bringing awareness to initiatives and events that build community and impact the greater Houston area in a positive way.

Each month we select one person or organization to receive "The Grammy" for their exemplary work creating positive change.

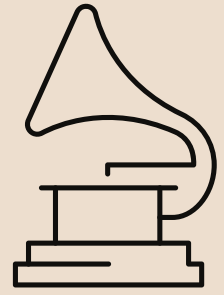
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THE GRAMMY

December 2023 RECIPIENT

JADE

@yourteachingbestie



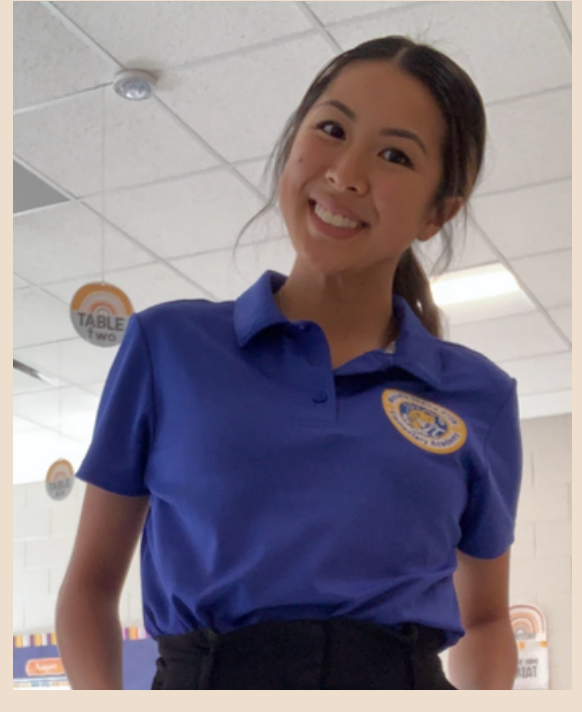
THE GRAMMY: TRANSFORMATIVE CLASSROOM PRACTICES

This month we are honored to award Jade as our recipient of The Grammy for transformative classroom practices. We first learned about Jade by coming across a [video](#) of her patiently helping two students resolve conflict while in class, empowering these students to practice healthy emotional regulation and confidently navigate health coping. We admire Jade for her transformative classroom approach that turns away from exclusionary practices that are harmful to youth development, criminalize behavior, and lead to future deviance and alienation.

Jade shared with us that her fifth grade teacher sparked her passion for teaching. Jade shared memories of feeling like, “we never did any ‘schoolwork’ because we were always having so much fun! I believe school should be an enjoyable experience for all students.”

Faced with the daily responsibilities and challenges of teaching; Jade shared candidly, “I care so much about my kids. My brain is always turning, thinking of ways I can engage my students and plan ahead for lessons - this took a toll on me at first”.

Committed to empowering her students, Jade shared that to overcome challenges she started to prioritize things on her to-do list and get serious about practice self-care; for example, by protecting spending quality time with her fiancé, “so that the never-ending list didn’t seem so overwhelming - in order to pour into my students, I take time to refill my own bucket.”



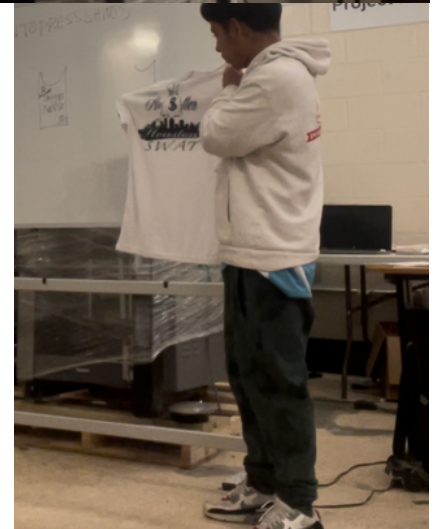
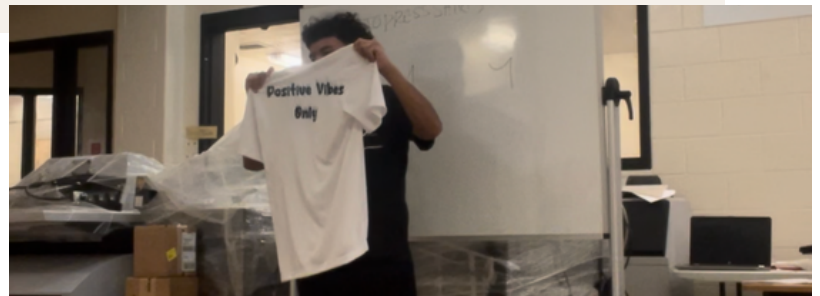
Jade hopes to inspire others to consider how compassion and patience teaches youth to be resilient and prepares them to overcome future challenges with confidence. To quote, “I hope they remember all the silly laughs we shared and also the tears that we worked hard to get through together”.

In closing, Jade shared a quote from Nelson Mandela that says, “Do not judge me by my success, judge me by how many times I fell down and got back up again.” Stating that to her, “resilience is what you will do to help yourself get back up after falling down”.

PRV NEWS

Sales Pitches

On December 7th, our first cohort of students in our entrepreneurship class successfully completed the course by presenting original designs and apparel they created over the 9-week course to a panel of community partners and school personnel. This cohort demonstrated a commitment to creativity, and learning foundational elements of entrepreneurship including digital design, product development, branding and marketing, and financial literacy and planning.



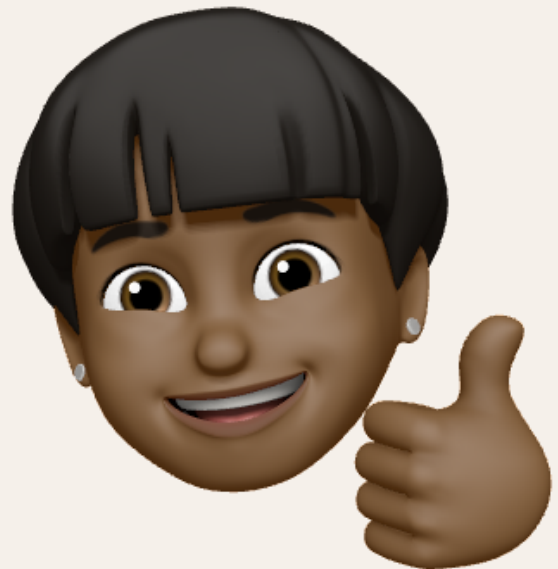
VERSE VAULT

UNLOCKING THE UNTOLD STORIES OF OUR YOUTH - THESE ARE THEIR VERSES.

This month we highlight reflective thoughts of our Winter break interns:



When I think about 2023 I feel like I dedicated my life into the streets and made bad decision through the year. when I think about 2024 I know I will become I better person and focus on better things that matter in life. ~Flacco



when i think about 2023 i feel like its taught me a lot and for the better because because i was lead on a path of destruction and it was unacceptable to my family. When i think of 2024 i know i will be blessed for trying be better for my self because my family is important - Nuno

COMMUNITY NEWS:

On December 11th, Spring Branch ISD trustees voted 6:1 to close five campuses – that service a student population that’s “over 90 percent Hispanic and 80 percent economically disadvantaged” (Dunlap M., 2023). Community members raised concerns about these closures favoring more affluent neighborhoods in the area while disproportionately impacting underserved families; noting, decision makers are not representative of the community or their needs.

These closures are expected to negatively impact more than 2,000 students who will be displaced to surrounding schools.

HAPPY NEW Year

**We want to take this opportunity to thank you ALL for your support in 2023, and look forward to accomplishing great things with your continued support in 2024! This is the year to #bedisruptive and create change!
-the PRV team**