

OUR SCHOLARS

If I were to pick one characteristic that a school ought to have, it would be this – it would have students who love to enter its gates.

My journey began in the Philippines, on a Lasallian Leadership Training Camp. The purpose of this camp was quite clear. We saw first-hand the communities who are last in line when it comes to opportunities. We met boys and girls who are lost; their circumstances do not allow them to have dreams. And it was in Bagac, where I spent a night with a family living in a small hut, that I realized just what it means to have the least. They are the Last, the Lost and the Least, and yet happiness and contentment are not absent from their lives. From this experience, I gained something that I am quite sure life would not have otherwise shown me – the realization that maybe privilege is not found in having more, but instead in appreciating the little that we have.



When it comes to school, no doubt, IB is challenging. IB is challenging because there is recognition that realistically, life is not easy. The bonds which I fostered with my friends have become the foundation upon which our tightly-knit IB cohort stands. This unity and comradeship are crucial ingredients because you will soon realize that whether it be IB or life itself, it is so much more enriching to have people with whom you can share a journey and a purpose.

Your two-year journey will be in this special place – SJJIM. Not a week goes by without an exciting event or a performance led by our very own students. Firmly established in our student body is a common desire to contribute to the school and to our community. The 12-Hour-Run. The Lasallian Formation Camp. A dedicated assembly for every major festival of our country. Just recently, the Student Representative Council, of which I am a member, organized a beautiful singing performance of “You Raise Me Up” by the entire High School to show appreciation for all our teachers. All of these were initiated, led and organized by the Y12s and the rest of the student body. There is no limit to the initiative and experience from which you can grow.

On 25th July 2018, I received an email from SJJIM offering me the scholarship. I am sure all scholars will agree with me that the adrenaline in that moment cannot be put into words. You will start out being grateful for a scholarship, which is a great deal of money.

But you will soon come to realize that a scholarship at SJJIM is much more than financial aid.

It is an opportunity to find family in friendship that you can depend on.

It is an opportunity to develop skills that will help you decide your path.

It is an opportunity to realize priorities, direction and purpose in life.

Every school ought to have students who love to enter its gates.

And at SJJIM, I am one of those students.

John Marcus Liew Jin
2018/2019 SJJIM IBDP Scholar

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I am very grateful to have been offered a scholarship to further pursue my studies in SJIIM. It does not only provide me with the opportunity to study the vigorous yet prestigious IB Diploma Programme, but has also given me a chance to continue being a part of this warm community.



Throughout my years in SJIIM since its founding year, I have witnessed the growth of this school in many ways, including the building of an inclusive Lasallian community. At SJIIM, teachers are patient and passionate whereas students are personable and polite. We treat each other as if we are all a part of one big family. This has helped form a friendly environment for students to learn. For example, as a volleyball player, I am often absent from school due to my involvement in competitions outside of school. However, my teachers never failed to guide me through the work that I have missed in class and they made sure that I am always on track. My peers have also helped me a lot when I am at times of need.

Most of the activities in this school are also student-led and we, as Year 12s, play a major role in helping to organize these events, even if it is only a minute part. Besides augmenting our responsibility as students, these activities have also strengthened the bonds between us. For instance, on Teachers' Appreciation Day, a lot of preparation has to be made before that and some of the Year 12s who are not a part of the organization team did not hesitate to pull a helping hand to help, even though they do not know each other well.

SJIIM has also provided me with a lot of opportunities to learn skills that cannot be learnt outside of school. For example, in the first term of Year 12, students get to represent our school to compete in the South East Asia Math Competition held in Jakarta. Even though I did not win, I have gained a lot from this competition, such as different mathematical concepts and their applications in real life. Moreover, as a part of CAS, we get to do service projects outside of school. My service project was to teach Myanmar refugees English and Maths every Saturday. Through this project, I get to experience the importance of giving back to the society and truly understand the meaning of 'Enter to Learn, Leave to Serve'.

Aristotle once said, 'the roots of education is bitter, but the fruit is sweet'. Nonetheless, SJIIM has provided me with enough sugar to make my education experience a fruitful yet memorable one.

Ter Shin Huey
2018/2019 SJIIM IBDP Scholar