



Congratulations to the classes of 2017!



Eastside Academy Bellevue Campus



Eastside Academy Redmond Campus

This has been another incredible year at Eastside Academy. Energetic, creative, intelligent, beautiful kids were surrounded with the love and support needed for them to realize that they are wanted, adored, and capable.

But this year, more than any other so far, I have been reminded—challenged—to continue to **Believe For More**. It is our mission to journey with families and precious youth who are frequently in the midst of crisis when we meet them. In all honesty, we witness real pain. We are invited into heartache. But we are firm believers in the power of a God whose love knows no bounds, and whose power sustains every aspect of Eastside Academy.

This year, as we have seen addiction try to snatch away young lives, I have been reminded to **Believe For More**—to not only believe that a young man can get sober, but to also believe that he can then turn around and compel others to seek freedom. As we have supported young trauma victims, I have been compelled to **Believe For More**—to not only believe that a vulnerable young girl can heal, but to also believe that she can rise above her wounds to heal others. As we have taught, tutored and coached students to high school graduation, I have been prompted to **Believe For More**—to not only cheer as they walk across the high school stage, but to fight, urge and support each of them into further preparation for the life God has called them to.

As we witness miracles unfold, we are also boldly **Believing For More** in our communities. We have begun to share our plan with you, and our dream is that this powerful work can and must spread. We are currently working with a visionary woman from St. Louis who plans to take this model and **Believe For More** in her neighborhood all the way across the United States. We envision this work transforming the lives of children and their families in cities far and wide.

We can only **Believe For More** because we know that you are passionate and committed to this work. We partner with a strong group of people who help us believe that EVERY youth should know their value, EVERY teen should have the support needed to live safely and thrive. We can't wait to see what the next year holds as together we boldly **Believe For More**.

Sincerely,


Executive Director

Bellevue Campus



April Ames: Before coming to Eastside Academy, I had the dream of pursuing a career as an artist, but I lacked the motivation and self-control. I reached a low point in my life and I began to seek out answers in unhealthy places. Since joining Eastside Academy, I have been able to keep my grades above eighty percent. I've been sober since starting here and have learned positive skills to move forward with my recovery. I look forward to coming to school now. I feel safe and loved here. I have a relationship with my mom that is growing stronger every day. I'm really proud that I have learned how to put myself first and that I've gotten out of unhealthy relationships. After graduation, I plan to pursue art and photography.



Antonio Aguilar Espino: I was diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder due to trauma in my life. At Eastside Academy, I was able to focus on myself and not just on academics. I got to know myself. I realized that I am a giver. I also need to be challenged or pushed to do work. I have learned to open up and find trustworthy people. I'm really proud that I have been point guard on the EA basketball team. I joined Key Club and Student Government. I'm proud to be graduating with good grades. Next year, I plan to go to Northwest University to become a Psychiatrist.



Stephanie A. Calderon: I started Eastside Academy as a Freshman. I struggled in Middle School with bad grades and attendance. Now, I have good grades and EA has helped me think and prepare for my future. I've learned to never be afraid to ask for help and to use the support this school gives you. I'm really proud that I got into the Running Start program at Bellevue College and that I have the opportunity to take college classes. After graduation, I plan to move to California and go to Santa Monica College. I then plan to go to a university and become a Social Worker.



Sage M. Evans: My life before Eastside Academy was hard. I had damaged relationships with my family. I was failing all of my classes and had no hope for my future. Now, I have developed an awesome relationship with my family. I have 3 years clean and sober and I feel very confident about my future. I am proud that I've stood my ground and joined Student Government in order to improve our school. I plan to go to UW Bothell or Bellevue College to get some type of degree in Business, then go to Cosmetology School. My goal is to own my own business—either a salon or cosmetic company.



Eric Omar Jimenez-Cruz: I had the mentality that I could do anything on my own. Now, I am joyful, honest, humble, loving, and motivated. I'm trying to do my best. I'm making smarter moves and helping others. I am proud that I've been able to receive help from people around me, and that I have taken advantage of my surroundings for things like scholarships and experiences. I'm really proud that I stayed in school and volunteered with my school. I also got a job and started saving. I plan to go to Barber School or get a 2-year degree in construction. I might look into being a Firefighter. My goal is to be successful and ready for life with a family of my own. I will also stay clean.



Shawna-Joy Alexandria Locke: Before Eastside Academy, I was not myself. I took nothing seriously and figured I was invincible. I took my relationship with God for granted and leaned on my own understanding. The thing that has been most helpful is that teachers are real with me. They will tell you what's what without sugar coating information. My life is now very stress-free. Not having to lie about where I am and what I'm doing is refreshing. I don't have to worry about trouble because EA keeps me accountable for my actions. I'm proud of my ability to set boundaries and make healthy relationships. Next year, I plan to go to college and become a Social Worker. I want to help people who have been where I have been.



Phebe Valerie Martinez: Ever since being at Eastside Academy, I've been closer to my faith. I've been taking care of myself, and I have found a few career options. My time at EA has taught me that God has a purpose for every one. I'm proud of the fact that I've made friends who understand and have been through stuff, and that I've been able to listen to them. I plan to go to Bellevue College then transfer to a university. I'm also going on a mission trip. My goal is to become a lawyer and mentor. I want to help youth and adults who need it.



Madelaine Marie McSherry: My life before EA could only be described as a hot mess. I was over-worked and overly stressed. I could barely focus on anything let alone myself. Every day was the same: school, hibernation, and then homework until ungodly hours in the morning. The anxiety attacks were almost every day and tears fell every night. Since being at EA I have found who I truly am and I love it. I'm learning to open up to myself and others. Sitting back and taking time to reflect on myself has been the most helpful thing I've learned here. I've dedicated my life to sobriety. I plan to pursue my dreams of being a Veterinarian by attending WSU. This is a big dream for me; so I'm starting at Bellevue College for my freshman year.



Samantha Marie Schroeder: In all honesty, my life before EA wasn't the best. I didn't really do much and I mostly stayed in my room and cried. I was depressed and didn't know how to deal with my depression. I did not take care of myself. Since being at EA, I've learned to better deal with my depression and I have found healthy and supportive people to be around. This has helped my overall mental health and has helped me gain confidence in myself. I am proud to say that I have made friends here. After I graduate, I plan to attend the Gary Manuel Institute (beauty school) so that I can get a job that makes other people feel beautiful. I can also be the person that is there to listen to people when they need it.

Overlake Campus



Christian Vander Weide: Things were pretty bad before Eastside Academy. It was a lot of being alone and not having many friends. I was depressed and had to hold in my emotions. I didn't know who I was or what I would turn out to be. Since being at this school, I have learned how to cope with depression, anxiety, and self-harm. I have learned a lot about myself and how to be happy even in hard times. I have made a few good friends here and I have spent time with them. I feel that I know who I am at this moment. I've learned to ask for help through really difficult times and that I don't have to face things alone. Next year, I plan to go to Lake Washington Technical College. My dream is to get married and have a family. I would also like to adopt a child. And have really nice cars.



Joseph Robert Henry Stanger: I used to be much less confident and I didn't feel connected to people. Relationally, things with me were pretty complicated and I didn't have the tools to navigate the ups and downs of relationships. I've grown a lot at Eastside Academy. There have been ups (friendships, opportunities after high school) and downs (learning how to work through issues). I've gained confidence and have pushed myself to try new things. I'm really proud of doing Running Start at Shoreline Community College. Next year, I plan to attend Central Washington University to study film and become a film critic. My goal is to get hired by a company where I can be a film critic. My dream is to eat the world's biggest Chimichanga.



Arianah Estelle Robinson: Before Eastside Academy, I had been in and out of rehab. I was on drugs and did not go to school for three years. I mostly used my family as a place to stay and was not close to them. Now, I have been sober for over two years. I've made friends that care about me. I have learned that I can do anything that I put my mind to. I'm proud that I have gotten my license and my first job and that I'm finishing high school! After Eastside Academy, I will work for six months and then I plan to attend college at Skagit Valley Community College. My dream is to earn a degree, have a career, and own my own house.



Johnny Quintana: Before this school, I was dealing with anxiety but I didn't know what it was. I was a below-average student who was skipping a lot of school. Because of the support I've had at EA I've learned how to deal with my anxiety. I've become a healthier person and have healthy relationships with the people in my life. I've made close friendships here with people I can really trust and rely on. I'm so proud to have been accepted to Seattle Pacific University and I plan to attend there next year in the fall to explore my options for career paths. I really want to travel since I have not been able to so far. My goal in life is to buy my mom a mansion and to have a job that brings me joy. In the future I hope to help others like EA has helped me.

Thank you to our photographers: Joshua Wong, Overlake Campus and Elena Cherneychuk, Bellevue Campus

I want to Believe For More for Eastside Academy Students

Please accept my investment of \$_____ to be used to provide marginalized teens with the education and treatment they need to receive a high school diploma.

EA is a 501(c)3 — Tax ID #60-2157596

Name : _____ Email: _____

Street Address: City, State, Zip _____ Phone: _____

Enclosed is my check to "Eastside Academy" Mail to: Eastside Academy, 1717 Bellevue Way NE, Bellevue, WA 98004

I authorize Eastside Academy to debit/charge my credit card for the amount indicated above.

Visa/MasterCard #: _____ Expiration date: ____/____ 3 digit security code: _____

(last 3 digits on back)

Name as it appears on Card: _____



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Eastside Academy 2017 Summer Activities (both campuses)

EA Bellevue

6/21 BBQ at EA
7/05 Movie
7/12 Meet at EA for Ice Cream
7/19 Mariners Game
7/26 BBQ at the Beach
8/02 Roller Skating
8/09 Family Fun Center
8/16 End of Summer Luau
8/24 Back to School Night

EA Redmond

6/21 BBQ at EAO
7/05 BBQ at EAO
7/12 Gameworks,
7/19 BBQ at Grasslawn Park
7/26 Mariners vs. Red Sox
8/02 Boating at Idyllwood
8/09 Mini Golf at Willows
8/16 BBQ at EAO
8/24 Back to School Night