

FELLOW RESIDENTS, MADAM CHAIR,
COMMISSIONERS.

GOOD MORNING TO YOU ALL.

IT'S MY PLEASURE TO BEGIN TODAY BY
RECOGNIZING THIS MONTH'S MAYOR'S SHINING
SCHOLARS...

WHERE WE HIGHLIGHT THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF
YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN IN OUR COMMUNITY IN
THE AREAS OF LEADERSHIP, SCHOLARSHIP, AND
OVERALL EXCELLENCE

AS WITH PAST WINNERS, THE PROFILES OF THIS
MONTH'S WINNERS ARE FEATURED ON MY
WEBSITE...

AND I INVITE ALL OF YOU TO VISIT AND LEARN
MORE ABOUT THEM.

NOW, WITHOUT FURTHER ADO, THE MAYOR'S
SHINING SCHOLARS FOR FEBRUARY:

OUR EMERGING LEADER IS FERNANDO RAMOS - A
SENIOR AT PINECREST PREPARATORY ACADEMY
CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL WHO LIVES IN SENATOR
SOUTO'S DISTRICT.

FERNANDO HAS MERGED HIS ACADEMIC TALENTS WITH HIS PASSION FOR ART.

HE WORKS WITH INDIVIDUAL STUDENT ARTISTS AND HELPS THEM COMPLETE THEIR PIECES THROUGH THE SCHOLASTIC ART AWARDS PROGRAM.

FERNANDO CONSIDERS HIS GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT TO BE HIS PARTICIPATION IN THE PEACE FLAG PROJECT...

ENCOURAGING US TO FOCUS ON THE GOOD THAT HAPPENS AROUND US EVERY DAY.

PARTICIPANTS HELP INSPIRE OTHERS TO DO KIND THINGS IN ORDER TO HELP MAKE THIS A MORE PEACEFUL PLANET.

FERNANDO HAS SPENT COUNTLESS DAYS COLLECTING TESTIMONIES OF PEACE AND BRINGING MESSAGES OF HOPE TO MANY AROUND THE COMMUNITY.

FERNANDO'S DEDICATION TO THE ARTS HAS CREATED A CULTURE OF LOVE FOR THE ARTS AT HIS SCHOOL.

HIS ABILITY TO INSPIRE OTHERS TO SEE ART AS A ROAD FOR PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL GROWTH IS EXTRAORDINARY.

OUR UNSTOPPABLE SCHOLAR IS CESAR CASTILLO – A SENIOR AT MIAMI SPRINGS SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL WHO LIVES IN CHAIRMAN SOSA’S DISTRICT.

AS A CHILD, CESAR SUFFERED FROM A SPEECH IMPEDIMENT, BUT HAS SINCE OVERCOME IT!

HE NOW SERVES IN A LEADERSHIP CAPACITY IN MANY ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS THE MIAMI-DADE AND THE FLORIDA STATE YOUTH COMMISSION.

AS A MIAMI-DADE YOUTH COMMISSIONER, HE PARTICIPATED IN THE MAYOR’S JOINT ROUNDTABLE ON YOUTH SAFETY WHERE HE PROVIDED INPUT ON THE SAFETY NEEDS OF OUR YOUTH.

HE ALSO SERVED AS THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CARDIAC RESEARCH INSTITUTE AT THE MASONIC MEDICAL RESEARCH LABORATORY AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE MISSING CHILDREN GLOBAL NETWORK HIALEAH CHAPTER.

CESAR IS AN AVID GOLFER AND PLAYS THE VIOLIN, WHICH HAS INCREASED HIS SELF-DISCIPLINE AND CONFIDENCE.

CESAR PLANS TO EARN A BUSINESS DEGREE WITH A FOCUS ON MEDICAL RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY.

HIS GOAL IS TO CONTINUE TO SERVE ON LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS IN ORDER TO HELP MAKE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY A BETTER PLACE FOR OUR YOUTH.

AND, OUR PURSUER OF EXCELLENCE IS CHRISTY CHARNEL - A SENIOR AT SCHOOL FOR ADVANCED STUDIES WHO LIVES IN COMMISSIONER MONESTIME'S DISTRICT.

CHRISTY HAS A 5.94 GPA AND WILL EARN AN ASSOCIATE IN ARTS DEGREE FROM MIAMI DADE COLLEGE BEFORE SHE GRADUATES FROM HIGH SCHOOL THIS JUNE.

SHE IS THE VICE PRESIDENT OF STUDENT GOVERNMENT AND THE FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS OF AMERICA...

AND, SHE IS A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY, KEY CLUB, FUTURE EDUCATORS OF AMERICA, AND SCIENCE HONOR SOCIETY.

CHRISTY FOUNDED THE LOVING BONDS FOUNDATION THAT BRINGS CHILDREN OF ALL BACKGROUNDS TOGETHER TO FOSTER HEALING THROUGH MUSIC, COUNSELING, AND MENTORSHIP.

IN HER FREE TIME, CHRISTY SHADOWS DOCTORS AND NURSES IN THE EMERGENCY ROOM AT JACKSON NORTH HOSPITAL...

SHE HOPES TO PURSUE A CAREER IN MEDICINE AFTER COMPLETING A DOUBLE MAJOR IN EDUCATION AND THEOLOGY.

CHRISTY WAS SELECTED BY THE POSSE FOUNDATION MIAMI AS ONE OF 40 MIAMI STUDENTS TO RECEIVE A FULL TUITION SCHOLARSHIP.

AS A RESULT, SHE WILL BE ATTENDING MT. HOLYOKE COLLEGE IN MASSACHUSETTS THIS FALL.

FERNANDO, CESAR, CHRISTY - YOU AND YOUR FELLOW SHINING SCHOLARS SHOW THAT OUR FUTURE IS INDEED BRIGHT.

WE WISH YOU MUCH CONTINUED SUCCESS!

MADAM CHAIR, PLEASE JOIN ME IN CONGRATULATING THIS MONTH'S MAYOR'S SHINING SCHOLARS!

