

# FROM THE MGA FOUNDATION



Official Newsletter of the MGA Foundation

SUMMER 2016  
UPDATE



**SUMMER 2016** was a banner season for the MGA Foundation's outstanding **YOUTH DEVELOPMENT** initiatives.

The cornerstone **GOLFWORKS** program achieved record enrollment. Junior Championships, Caddie Academies, MetLife Youth Clinics and joint activities with The First Tee of Metropolitan NY all contributed to creating better educated and better prepared young men and women for the challenges ahead both in golf and in our communities. The MGA Foundation appreciates the long-term financial and energetic support of MetLife to help make a difference for this next generation.





# GOLFWORKS SPOTLIGHTS

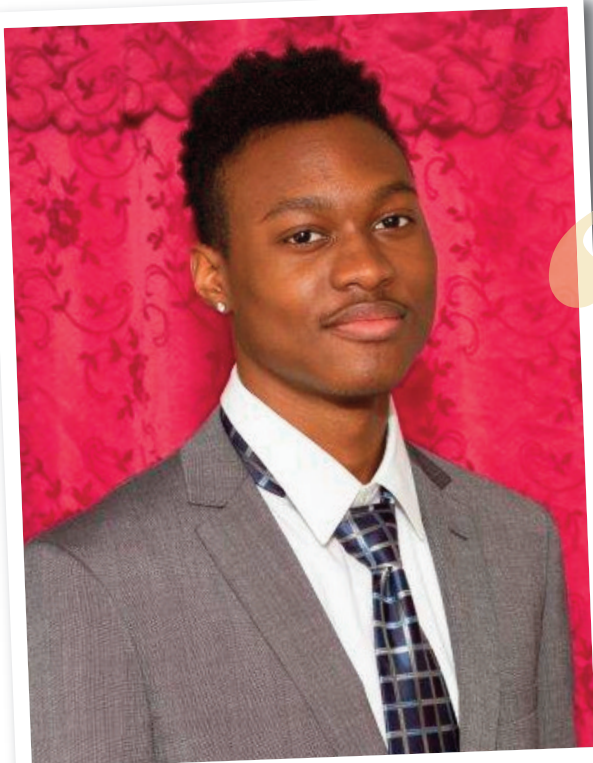
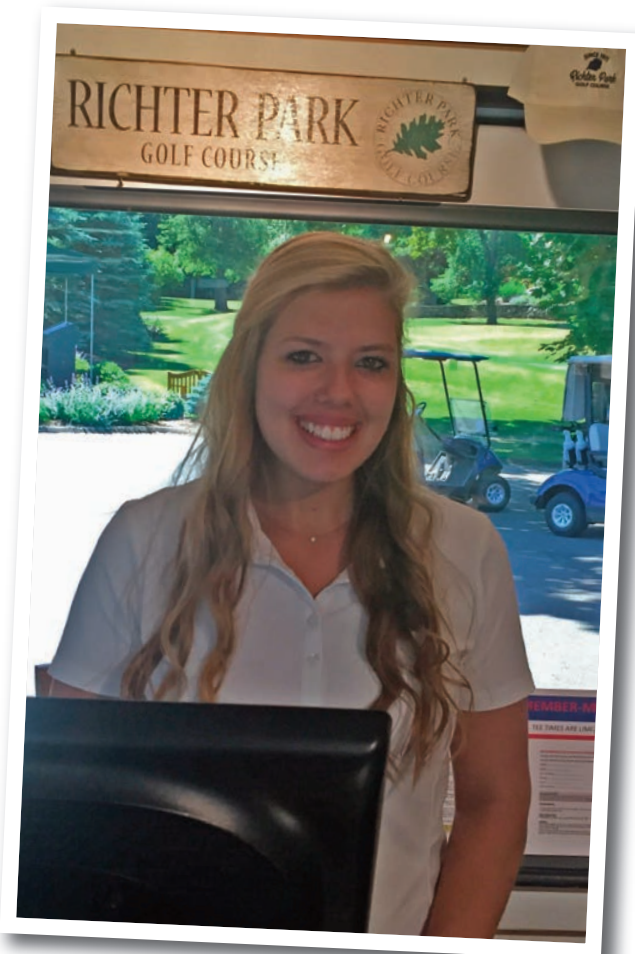
## Danielle Polinchock

*Richter Park Golf Course, 3rd year intern*

“This program has taught time management, especially when you have to be at a job really early in the morning. You have to accommodate your schedule when you have people waiting on you to do something. It’s a huge lesson that this program has taught me over the three years that I’ve worked here.

A great part about this job is that I can relate to people because I am a golfer myself and have been playing since I was 7. I try to play and practice as much as possible and would like to play in college. My dream job is to go into the medical field. I’m attending PENN STATE in the fall so hopefully my major in biology will direct me toward a career in medicine.

The staff at Richter Park is absolutely incredible and I am lucky to be part of such a great organization and club.”



## Brandon Clarke

*Century Country Club, 3rd year intern*

The most important thing I have learned as a GOLFWORKS intern is that golf is not only a competitive sport, but also a way of life that truly brings people together.

I have received a lot of advice from some of the members here who are successful in their own field and they advised me to take college seriously and make a lot of friends while I am there. They also told me to stay positive through the ups and downs of life.

My dream job is to become a physician. With the knowledge I aspire to gain along the road, I want to help rid the world of debilitating diseases. My inspiration behind this goal is simply my desire to help those in need.



# WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



## Marisa Messer *The Patterson Club*



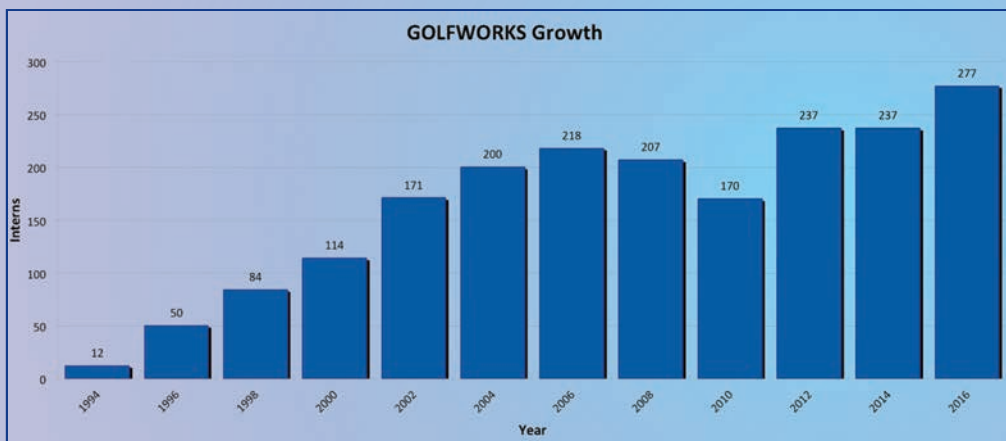
"I'm a nursing major at the University of Rhode Island. I want to go and get my masters and doctorate so I'll be able to prescribe medication and start working at a hospital in ER or trauma nursing. I would love later on down the road to go to an underdeveloped country and stay there for a year and do some nonprofit work.

This program has taught me a lot about how I want to carry myself working in the nursing field. It teaches you to follow up and to take responsibility. It teaches you just how to work as a team which is really important. That's something I've taken from here and I'll take with me in the nursing field.

I was in the First Tee program when I was 8 or 9 at Fairchild Wheeler and my parents had always wanted me to get into golf. So I started playing there and I loved it. I was really close with my coach Randy Taylor and Rodean Minto and I expressed to him, that I was looking for a job and that I was interested in something in the golf industry. He got me connected for an interview with Chris Kenney and I've been here ever since.

The most important thing I've learned as a GOLFWORKS intern is to work like it's your own company or your own business, so I treat the pro shop like it's my own. I do things the way that I would want them to be done if I did own it. It teaches you to have a lot of responsibility and to follow through with things you say you're going to do. Also to just be friendly, warm, and welcoming and keep a great work environment with the people that you work with."

## BY THE NUMBERS



# 277

GOLFWORKS interns in the 2016 season - a record high for the program.

# 162

new GOLFWORKS interns were welcomed into the program.

# 8

new MGA members club joined efforts with the GOLFWORKS program in 2016.

More than  

# 3,300

students have gone through the GOLFWORKS in its 22 years.



## Don Cervantes

**Assistant Superintendent, Glen Oaks Club**



Former GOLFWORKS intern Don Cervantes started his journey into the golf world back in 2010 when he worked for Golf Course Superintendent Russ MacPhail at Garden City Country Club. “I joined GOLFWORKS because I wanted to get involved with golf and I wasn’t sure how to get started”, Cervantes reflected. It was there that he was encouraged to pursue education in Turf Management at SUNY Cobleskill. From there, he traveled to Oak Tree Country Club and Los Angeles Country Club, ultimately returning to the Met Area at Glen Oaks Club in Old Westbury, N.Y. Today, Cervantes works as an assistant to the world-class superintendent Craig Currier as they prepared for the 2016 Met Open Championship and the lead-off event of the FedEx Cup playoff in 2017. Cervantes is a prime example of the good that GOLFWORKS brings to the Met Area and what your support can bring along for student’s as they look towards their future.



Cervantes (middle) stands with Manager of Foundation Operations, Lou Cutolo and his Foundation recruiter Jerry Kalko at 2011 *Day of Golf* at the Stanwich Club.



Cervantes and Craig Currier at the 101st Met Open Championship, hosted by Glen Oaks Club.

## Because of You!



The MGA Foundation, a 501(c)3 organization, relies on your contributions in order to continue our important work. The MGA would like to thank the many members of the golf community who have given so generously to this cause and who continue to ensure that “Golf Grows Here.”

*Here’s how to give to the MGA Foundation:*

- Cash – 100% tax deductible.
- Appreciated stocks, bonds or real estate.
- Bequests – cash, securities, property designated to the Foundation in your will.

*Donations of these items can be easily accommodated through the MGA Foundation office.*

MGA Foundation • 49 Knollwood Road • Elmsford, NY 10523 • 914-347-4653 • [www.mgagolf.org](http://www.mgagolf.org)



Founding Partner of GOLFWORKS