



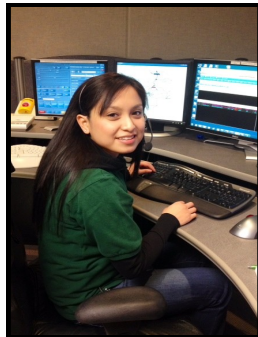
Celebrating the Success of Manson Graduates

Jonathan Martin - English Teacher, Japan Following graduation from MHS in 2009, Jon attended Central Washington University in Ellensburg, Washington where he obtained a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with a concentration in International Politics and an additional focus on French Language. While at CWU, Jon's social and professional relationships led him to realize his passion for communication and interaction with the international community on campus. Thus, Jon began volunteering his time at the university's English as a Second Language Center and gradually worked his way into employment. Jon currently teaches at an "Eikaiwa," which roughly translated into "English Conversation School" in Kyoto, Japan. "I serve 4-6 schools regularly per month in the greater Kyoto region providing after school lessons to Japanese students ranging in ages 18 months to 18 years old." Jon's long term goals include attending law school to become an international lawyer which is why Jonathan has chosen to live and work abroad after earning his Political Science Degree. A driven young man, Jon overcame obstacles in a difficult American jobs market by working with Canada to find employment in Japan. Jon feels blessed to have been a part of the Manson Community and to have such great teachers and mentors who were willing to assist him in his endeavors. Jon says, "Mr. Brad Soliday was my greatest support in reaching my full potential. He was able to make social studies classes enjoyable for me during high school and spark my passion for the political and historical world in which we live. His mentorship did not end in 2009 with my graduation, rather he continued to advise and assist me whenever possible. He truly is one of the greatest influences in my life." Jon also thanks Mr. Matt Brown who "also deserves credit for stirring passion in me. His kindness and passion for music and teaching made him a great role model; I often mirror him when interacting with younger students in order to be accessible and relatable." Mrs. Kelly Bell also influenced Jon's academic success. "Science never came easily to me, yet she was able to mentor me in a way that showed me that true academics are universal, rather than simply found in subjects one enjoys. Mrs. Bell also continued to mentor me throughout my college career." Jon believes it is crucially important to have a goal or a direction in which you are aiming for and moving towards. "It's okay, recommended even, to change that goal as you develop and your situation changes. Now is the time to find motivation to achieve something beyond yourself and what you think you are capable of. Find what YOU want to do or dream of doing, map it out, and begin your journey!"



Stephanie Valencia - 911 Police Dispatcher

After Stephanie graduated from Manson in 2006 she attended Eastern Washington University where she earned a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice and a minor in Sociology and Spanish. Currently, Stephanie is a Communication Officer (911 Dispatcher) at the Okanogan County Sheriff's Office where she receives and processes 911 emergency calls. Stephanie performs a full-range of radio, telephone and computer system operational duties, including assisting the public by dispatching EMS, law and fire responders to them. Stephanie also assists law enforcement with their needs, including vehicle registrations, driving records, warrants, etc... To prepare for her exciting career, Stephanie completed the Washington State Criminal Justice Training and Telecommunications Classes I, II, & III. The training program takes from six months to a year to complete. Upon completion, Stephanie received her certification as a member of the National Academy of Emergency Dispatch. She has continuous training every year after completing the initial training program to keep updated with current technologies and processes. Back in high school Stephanie says, Mr. Ken Nelson, Mrs. Susi Bennett and Mrs. Heather Teague all helped her shape her future in their own ways. "Mrs. Bennett became a second mom to me. She took care of me in and out of school and pushed me to be the best I could be in sports and in the classroom." She adds that Mr. Nelson never let her take the easy way out; instead, he made sure to prepare me for the "real world" with his guidance, support and drive to succeed. Finally, Stephanie says that, "Mrs. Teague taught me that passion, hard work and perseverance should be at the core of everything I do and to never give up!" With regards to current students at Manson, Stephanie recommends they take advantage of all the resources given to them in high school and use those resources to reach their goal.



Carrie Lilly (Deisher) - Owner, Lilly Photography

Carrie has a unique story when it comes to her high school experience. She moved from Everett to Manson her sophomore year, but was extremely ill with Mono and missed a great deal of school between her illness and being a Type 1 diabetic. She entered Manson with a GPA of 1.9. As her health improved, she realized life in general was easier for her in Manson and school was more fun. She became involved with clubs and sports, activities she was unable to do in a larger urban school setting. As a result, her grades turned around and her life did too. Some of Carrie's favorite staff members at Manson were Mr. Mark Marney and Mr. Bob Johnson. "History was fun with Mr. Johnson; his teaching style really made a difference in the way I learned." Mr. Joe Teague also played a big role in getting Carrie on the right track, and Mrs. Andrea Jeffries, the school secretary at that time, was a positive and influential role model in Carrie's life. "I was able to bring my GPA up to a 3.2 with the support of the staff at Manson!" After graduation in 1991, Carrie attended Wenatchee Valley College, taking all the required courses for her AA Degree. Dovetailing on her initial passion for photography that emerged during high school, Carrie continued photographing friends skiing at Mission Ridge. After college, Carrie moved frequently, always finding herself back in the Chelan Valley working various positions within the restaurant industry. She moved up quickly to management where she learned invaluable skills such as organizing and bookkeeping. At the young age of 24, Carrie realized she needed a career that would provide her with benefits, so she moved back to the west side, attended Lake Washington Technical College, and earned a degree in architectural drafting. While in college, Carrie met her future husband, and after marrying him, they moved to Oregon. With a husband in the Navy, who was simultaneously earning a BS in Communication and becoming an Officer, they returned to Everett where Carrie decided to take photography classes at Everett Community College. With the excellent program at ECC, Carrie learned film development as well as the concepts and skills involved in photography and graphic arts. Two years later, she shot her first wedding in 2002 and was in love! Digital cameras came out a year later and Carrie made the switch and proceeded to build her business in the career she was passionate about. "I get to spend my time in Chelan throughout the year and work with some of my favorite people while meeting so many new ones." Carrie attributes her success to her restaurant experience and photography schooling. "I know that I couldn't be here doing what I love if it hadn't been for my life experience and the foundation of support that I received from such great people and such a great school like Manson." Carrie encourages students to enjoy every moment in high school and to take advantage of all the programs available. "Get involved! These moments are the times that mold us. If you love something, don't be afraid to try it, learn about it and ask questions!"





Doug England - General Manager, Manson Growers & District III County Commissioner

Upon graduating Manson High School in 1965, Doug enrolled at WSU, where he received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Botany and later a Master's Degree in Horticulture (Post-Harvest Physiology). When Doug graduated he enlisted in the Army as a Lieutenant due to his ROTC involvement while at WSU. He retired from the Military after 20 years as a Captain. Doug found college to be difficult, but a task that he was fully prepared to take on thanks to his high school preparation and motivation to succeed.

Due to a tragic helicopter accident that left his father unable to run the family business, Doug took on the duties necessary for apple production at an early age. Although he has been involved in the apple industry his entire life, Doug currently wears two hats. As the General Manager of Manson Growers, Doug supervises growing, packing, marketing and shipping apples, both domestic and export. He is also currently serving as the County Commissioner form District III here in Chelan County. Commissioners are the Legislative and Executive Branches of county government and his main duty is to supervise operations in the county. "I had many good examples to follow in school and from our community," Doug stated. As for current Manson students, he hopes they, "realize the tremendous opportunity they are provided with right now and do not waste their time and efforts on silly things. No one owes them anything other than the chance to be better."

Esteban Rodriguez - Optician's Apprentice

Esteban graduated from Manson in 2003 and attended Wenatchee Valley College and Latin American Bible Institute (LABI) in California. After college, he returned home and became a youth leader at the Christian Center of Manson. Esteban is currently a Dispensing Apprentice Optician in the State of Washington where he is completing a hands-on apprenticeship to become a licensed optician. His duties include verifying glasses prescriptions, helping patients choose glasses and assist them with questions about their prescriptions. His apprenticeship program takes 6,000 hours, or roughly three years to complete, whichever comes first. Esteban is currently halfway done with his apprenticeship and is preparing for his State Board Exam which he must pass prior to obtaining his license. Once he accomplishes that goal, he will be able to work in a private practice. Esteban contributes his success to his parents, all

the staff at Manson and his Pastor, Hilario Garza, who encouraged him to reach his goals and show respect to all. Esteban encourages students to, "Have respect for your teachers and parents; they are there to help you be great in the future."



Luz Segura (Guerra) - Secretary, Manson Elementary School

Luz graduated from Manson in 2000 and attended Spokane Falls Community College the following fall where she took the required classes to become an office assistant. She also interned during college as an office assistant and was hired after her on-the-job experience in 2005 by Mrs. Joan Pauly, former Manson Elementary principal. At Manson Elementary, Luz participates in annual job training as the state makes frequent changes to both the attendance and food service aspects of her job duties. As Food Service/Attendance and Office Assistant, Luz has many different responsibilities, including sending out free and reduced lunch applications and entering students in the food service system. As for her attendance clerk duties, Luz calls parents when students are absent and prints attendance reports. In addition to these duties, Luz also fields phone calls, answers questions and maintains the busy operations of an elementary school. "I have enjoyed working at Manson Elementary School for the past 9 years. I love my co-workers and call them my work family." During her high school years, Luz had several teachers who helped her including Mr. Dan Reed, Mrs. Susi Bennett and Mr. Tom Alexander. "Mr. Reed helped me a great deal in geometry. I didn't understand it well, but he had me come in early to explain it to me before school." Luz also thanks Mrs. Bennett for her excellence in teaching biology, one of Luz's favorite classes in high school. She would like current Manson students to always do their best. "If you don't understand something, don't be too shy to ask. Manson teachers are awesome and are there to help you succeed!"



Jordan Johnson (Swain) - Elementary Teacher and Artist

After graduating from Manson in 1996, Jordan attended Washington State University where she majored in Fine Art (Painting and Photography) with a minor in Art History. "I loved WSU! I was a Delta Gamma and had the opportunity through the sorority to be a part of many philanthropic activities." Jordan graduated WSU in 2000 with a degree in Fine Art. After college she started her own business specializing in custom fine art, illustration and murals. "I stayed busy with that for ten years in the Seattle area, showing my work and painting a number of murals." Jordan's art has been featured on Evening Magazine, KING 5 and KOMO 4 News, The Home Team T.V. Show and most recently in The Seattle Times. She received a community service award from the Master Builder's Association of King County for philanthropic work. As well, Jordan ran a number of art classes and camps for children, worked for the Seattle Art Museum, and the Kirland Arts Center as an educator. "I realized I loved teaching, but wanted to remain a professional artist, so I attended Seattle Pacific University and obtained my Master of Arts in Teaching in 2011. I had an offer to teach art and photography at Redmond High School, so I took it. Redmond has about 2,000 students, so it is quite a change from Manson!" Mr. Phil Thomas and Mr. Mike Curry were Jordan's art teachers at Manson and she honestly doesn't think she would have become an artist without their teaching. "Most small schools don't offer art, and we had two great teachers who inspired me and gave me the freedom to create my own projects. Mr. Thomas had me working on independent projects after my sophomore year; he was very encouraging and let me try and learn all kinds of new media. He also encouraged me to enter many competitions, which taught me the value of follow through and self-marketing." Jordan adds, "Mr. Thomas was also an example as an artist because he used his talent outside of the classroom. He even set up a short internship for me to work on a mural in Chelan with a local artist!" Jordan appreciated attending a small school where everyone knew her as "the artist." "Manson teachers really differentiated instruction because they had known most of us since preschool. Her advice for future grads... "Success is a lot of networking. You have to be prepared to talk to people, talk about your work and remember people's names. Following through and being responsible for your own success is huge. Successful people don't procrastinate and keep trying after failure. They jump in and try things even before they think they're really ready. No one else is going to be as invested in your success as you are, so get to work!" Jordan's artwork can be seen online at www.jordanswain.com or at Allison's in Manson. As well, she will be published in a forthcoming coffee-table book entitled "Best of Photography 2013."



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