



Baldwin School Honored with 2010 Presidential Scholar Award Recipient

For the third time, Baldwin School of P.R. is honored to have one of the selected Presidential Scholar Award recipients for Puerto Rico, **Mr. Alan B. Wagner Rodríguez**. Alan Wagner's academic trajectory at Baldwin School has garnered him many accolades, including: AP Scholar with Distinction Award, Merit Scholarship competition semifinalist, National Hispanic Recognition Program Scholar, and College Board recognition for being one of the overall top scores in the nation. In addition to these honors, he is Math club president; scholarship program tutor, a cross country, tennis and swimming varsity athlete, National Honor Society Parliamentarian, community service leader, and an overall excellent human being. He will be attending the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (M.I.T.) in the fall.

Alan has chosen Baldwin School Math teacher, Mrs. Nora Nido, to accompany him to Washington D.C and receive the Teacher Recognition Award for being the educator to have influenced him most. In return, Alan has also influenced Mrs. Nido. She says: "What I admire the most [of Alan] is his character. His creativity in problem solving, integrity, sense of humor, love of life, and stamina are qualities that best describe his character. Alan has changed my life by showing his peers and me what a mentor is really like. I will call him a hero. This modern hero is one that does not wear a cape; he is simply genuine and focuses on doing things he is good at, but most importantly showing others how to do the same. As a result, he inspires us all."

On May 3rd, the U.S. Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan announced the selection of 141 outstanding high school seniors as the 2010 U.S. Presidential Scholars. The students have demonstrated outstanding academic achievement, artistic excellence, leadership, citizenship, service, and contribution to school and community. U.S. Presidential Scholars will be honored for their accomplishments in Washington D.C., from June 19-22.

The 141 honorees include one young man and one young woman from each state, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, and from U.S. families living abroad, as well as 15 chosen at-large and 20 Presidential Scholars in the Arts. The White House Commission on Presidential Scholars appointed by the President selected the scholars based on their academic success, artistic excellence, essays, school evaluations and transcripts, as well as evidence of community service, leadership, and demonstrated commitment to high ideals.

For the past 46 years, this prestigious program has honored more than 6,000 of the nation's top-performing students. Of the three million students expected to graduate from high school this year, more than 3,000 candidates qualified on the basis of outstanding performance on the College Board SAT and ACT exams, or by nomination through the nationwide YoungArts™ competition conducted by the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts.

The U.S. Presidential Scholars Program was created in 1964 to honor academic achievement. It was expanded in 1979 to recognize students who demonstrate exceptional talent in the visual, literary and performing arts.

Since 1983, each Presidential Scholar has invited his or her most inspiring and challenging teacher to travel to Washington, D.C., to receive a Teacher Recognition Award from the U.S. Department of Education and to participate in the recognition events.