

# Josie Gonzalez on the Go

By Lena Reeves



Josie Gonzalez is an original All Saints Eagle. She now attends Aquinas College and is majoring in elementary education and theatre and minoring in English Language Arts.

She wants to study these things because she has such fond memories of teachers at ASA. It is also her goal to incorporate theatre into the classroom. She thinks it's important to incorporate it because it would teach students public speaking, creativity, and confidence. After earning her degree, she'd like to be an elementary/middle school teacher and run a theatre club after school. She is very proud of directing different shows like "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" at West Catholic and "SchoolHouse Rock Live! Jr." at Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary School. Doing those shows made her realize she really loves working with kids.

Josie is in her second year at Aquinas College. She considers going there as one of her biggest accomplishments.

She explains, "I wanted to go to a smaller or private college because I didn't want to feel like a number on a campus, rather I wanted to be part of a community where I felt like I mattered, and I could make my mark on campus."

She loves her involvement on campus. She has been on the student senate as well as in the middle of creating a new acapella group called TakeNote.

Ms. Gonzalez thinks that she is really lucky to be able to go to a school that not only allows her to explore her Catholic faith, but implores her to. She finds the Catholic faith so beautiful that, "No matter how much pain, suffering, or sadness happens in my life, I can look to Christ to heal me and love me no matter what. Just knowing that my sins can be forgiven and I can go to heaven and be forever with God gives me immense strength to live my life every day for Christ." She believes adoration to be very moving and touching, especially after recently going on a retreat called SEEK2019. There were

17,000 students in attendance, and when going to adoration it felt so powerful and changed her life forever.

She has advice for future and current All Saints Academy students. "Foster your talents and pursue your interests. For many of you, you will be entering high school soon, and that brings so many amazing opportunities. It's okay to try new things, join new clubs, and make new friends. I would also say open yourself to your faith. Life will only get busier (and more stressful) from here, so enjoy all that life has to offer and glorify God while doing it!"

While at ASA she was able to foster her interest of theatre by writing plays and performing them for the younger kids. She was also able to foster her faith and find that music was the closest branch to connect her to God. Josie Gonzalez loved going to All Saints, West Catholic, and now Aquinas college. Her final thought? "I consider my whole Catholic education a blessing."