

IN THE HOUSE

SELWYN HOUSE
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A NEWSLETTER FOR THE SELWYN HOUSE COMMUNITY

University preparation: a strategic reality

At Selwyn House, we identify university preparation as a key strategic initiative. It is written clearly in our Mission Statement, and it appears front and centre on our Strategic Map. In many ways, it is a big part of what we are all about.

It is important to note the term is not “university acceptance.” That would not be good enough. We are a university preparatory school, and therefore we must understand fully the concept of preparation. The academic, intellectual component is important. We are an academic institution, and thus we must ensure all our boys have the tools and background required to flourish at the university level.

By the time he leaves Selwyn House, each boy has begun to reach his own academic potential. They are all at different levels, on different parts of the path, but I remain convinced they are all heading in the right direction. No one has suggested it is a race. Part of our vision is that the elusive element of self-awareness, which is a major part of university preparation, should include the ability to understand one’s self and one’s capabilities.

That is where the other components of university preparation enter the picture. To be completely prepared for one’s university experience, one needs physical, social, emotional, and spiritual preparation. Ask university leaders, and the majority will tell you that this is the tough part. Parents must take responsibility for this attitudinal shift. I will never downplay the academic side of preparation, but if we do not support the boys’ physical, social,



The Class of 2012 on Graduation Day

emotional and spiritual growth we will be setting them up for some difficult times ahead. University success is about the ability to engage. In fact, if one is fully engaged in the university experience, it does not matter which school one attends. We can argue this point forever, but most

“University success is about the ability to engage.”

agree that engagement is crucial. And it is quite difficult, if not impossible, to engage without first having paid attention to all aspects of university preparation.

When we look at the Class of 2012, we can marvel at many of their successes. At the same time, we must understand that their journey is not

complete. Some will struggle through some very intense university programs. Some will change course and head in different directions. The boys who are still finishing CEGEP will begin to establish a direction, and the extra time they have taken will perhaps allow them to develop their true passions.

I believe their future success will be aided and supported through the lessons they have learned growing up, and I know that Selwyn House has played an important part. We are so proud of all they have done, but I know that we “ain’t seen nothin’ yet.” The journey has begun, and in the next eight years (when we will report on them again), it will be interesting to see how it has evolved. Trust me: we will be even more impressed.

Hal Hannaford, Headmaster

Josh DANNENBAUM



Josh Dannenbaum 2012 is currently studying Kinésiologie at l'Université de Montréal.

"The program is very interesting and I think I made the right decision to come to UdeM," Josh says. "The people in my program are very motivated and passionate, which creates a great atmosphere for work and socializing."

Josh was born and raised in an English environment, but after two years of studying at Collège Jean-de-Brébeuf, he finds the challenge of studying in French to be not as great as it once was.

"The complete immersion into a French school has helped me become almost completely bilingual, a skill that I believe is essential for living in Québec. In general, I am very pleased with my academic decisions after Selwyn House.

"I think the most important tool that I acquired through my years at Selwyn House was good organizational skills," says Josh. "The key to succeeding in post-Selwyn studies is keeping track of everything going on in your life. Selwyn does a great job of preparing you for that. Balancing sports, school, extracurricular activities and a social life throughout high school eases you into the CÉGÉP and university experience. Selwyn teaches its students how to set priorities and how to juggle a busy schedule while putting an emphasis on the process. These skills make

the university experience much less stressful and much more enjoyable.

"At the university level, the amount of time spent in class diminishes but the workload increases as you advance in your studies, says Josh. "After seeing my schedule at the beginning of this semester I was ecstatic: no school Thursdays and only an afternoon class on Monday and Friday. I soon realized that all this time I had outside of class was not a gift, but actually a lifeline. My Thursdays were soon dedicated to reviewing lecture notes and catching up on sleep and my mornings set aside for homework.

"That being said, university is a blast and I wouldn't have it any other way. It is just a question of balancing your schedule and staying organized."

Class of 2012 **ACADEMIC DESTINATIONS**

Name	School	Program
Nicholas Andrei	Marianopolis	Fifth Semester
J-C Azzopardi	McGill	Civil Engineering
Henri Barbeau	Concordia	History
David Barmish	Hamilton	Economics
Alexander Bassila	Marianopolis	Fifth Semester
Jamie Beallor	Centennial	CEGEP
B. Bécharde-Torres	Concordia	Economics
Eric-James Boffey	Marianopolis	Fifth Semester
Julien Bohbot	Centennial	Fifth Semester
Lias Borshan	McGill	Philosophy
Raphael Brassard	Queens	Math
Philippe Brock	McGill	Electrical Engineering
Louis Buckett	Marianopolis	Fifth Semester
Axel Buschmann	Dawson	Fifth Semester
Joshua Cape	Brown	Undeclared Major
N. Chabanne-Salbaing	University of Ottawa	Law
Edouard Charlebois	McGill	Microbiology
Ali-Reza Chattoo	Concordia	Exercise Science
Anthony Chow	Concordia	Math
Marco Covello	Concordia	Business
J-S. Dackiw	American University	Undeclared
Joshua Dannenbaum	Univ. de Montreal	Kinesiology
Noah Daoust	McGill	Political Science
David De Cotiis	Queens	Kinesiology
Alessandro Defazio	McGill	Mechanical Engineering
Antoine Duong	Univ. de Montreal	Pre-Med
David Dupont	Syracuse	
Joshua Fischlin	Concordia	Political Science
Jeffrey Fitzpatrick	Western	Mech Engineering
Daniel Fruchtermann	McGill	Management
William Gallo	Marianopolis	Fifth Semester
Matthew Goldbloom	Bishop's	Music
Xun Gong	Univ. of Toronto	Int'l Relations
Konstantinos Grillas	Univ. of Ottawa	Kinesiology
Cole Gurman	Univ. of Toronto	Business
Zissis Hadjis	McGill	Mech. Engineering
Reid Hannaford	NYU	Tisch Film School
Nicholas Jonas	McGill	Mechanical Engineering
Robert Joy	McGill	Mechanical Engineering
Adam Karpman	Concordia	Economics
John Kenny	Carleton	Psychology
C. Lacoste-Lépine	University of Toronto	History
Lesly Lam	Univ. de Montreal	Pharmacy

Reid HANNAFORD

Reid Hannaford 2012 is studying Film and Television Production at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts.

He says he finds the professors resourceful, the courses engaging, and the facilities state-of-the-art; and he feels he is making real progress in developing his filmmaking abilities.

"It's great to be surrounded by people who are truly passionate about the same things as I am," says Reid, "and I've already been able to network in order to build working connections with my peers.

"I'm definitely in the right place, and it doesn't hurt that it's New York City. It's an unbelievably diverse place full of inspiration, and I am very lucky to be here.

"There is a misleading amount of free time in university, as there has been a shift in the amount of studying and work I must do on my own schedule rather than during class time. I believe attending CEGEP helped me prepare for this. The majority of my classes are during the day, but I do have several evening sessions, and alongside my course load there are ongoing events here and there for Tisch and film

production students to attend. Apart from these screenings, performances, and exhibits, as well as time spent working on student film crews, most of my weeknights consist of completing course work.

"I try to get out and experience the city on weekends. I live in an NYU residence, so I'm constantly surrounded by people and there's always something to do or people to see.

"I came to Selwyn House at the beginning of Grade 9. At the time, I was just starting to explore filmmaking, and the resources Selwyn House has in its media department are remarkable. Bill Bedard and J.P. Trudeau were instrumental throughout my years at Selwyn in guiding me and facilitating this journey. I also played the drums in Mr. McMillan's extracurricular jazz band in high-school, and it was such an amazing experience that I continued playing in the Old Boys Blues Band for two years after I graduated. Music is a major part of my life and has helped me expand my education in the arts.

"Additionally, Selwyn House promotes an active learning environment and a work ethic that



is essential in university. The small classes at Selwyn encourage students to develop good relationships with their teachers, something I strive for whenever possible at NYU. While some of my courses are large lectures that do not allow adequate direct communication with the professors, I do my best to get to know them and have them get to know me. I also feel that Selwyn House's Grade 11 writing classes are particularly strong and gave me skills I continue to use to this day. Selwyn House lays the foundation for exceptional work prowess."

Class of 2012 **ACADEMIC DESTINATIONS** cont'd

Leonardo Lamanuzzi	McGill	Civil Engineering	Colin Sequeira	Concordia	Business
Joseph Lapenna	Marianopolis	Fifth Semester	Liam Shannon	Univ. Edinburgh	Classical Studies
Andrew Lowther	McGill	Electrical Engineering	Stephan Smirnov	Northeastern Int'l	Business
Nicholas Millot	McGill	Biochemistry	David Smith	Dartmouth	Liberal Arts
Sterling Mitchell	Queens	Mining Engineering	Dev Sumbly	Concordia	Behavioural Neuroscience
Dat Nguyen	McGill	Biology	Dan Ton-That	McGill	Law
Devin O'Donnell	McGill Mechanical	Engineering	Jonathan Trafficante	Vanier	Fifth Semester
Max Rahuba-Pigeon	Marianopolis	Fifth Semester	Alexander Trudeau	Harvey Mudd	Applied Science
D. Rosenthal-Romagnolo	Concordia	Music	Nicolas Vit	Univ. of Edinburgh	History & Politics
Matthew Rossy	Concordia	Business	Justin Vézina	Univ. of Guleph	Real Estate Studies
Jake Schwartz	Georgetown	Human Science	Noah Wade	Univ. of Ottawa	Political Science
M. Schwartzman	Univ. of Toronto	Economics	Spencer Wuest	Bowdoin	Liberal Arts



University Counselling Workshops



Thursday, October 30, 2014

Grade 10 Resumé and Portfolio-Building Workshop

1:45 p.m. Rossy Agora

Tuesday, November 4, 2014

University Information Evening

Open to all students and parents from Grades 9-11

7 p.m. in the Rossy Agora

With Nick Van Herk, Director of University Counselling,
Royal St. George's College, Toronto

Mr. Van Herk is one of Canada's leading university
counsellors, and has knowledge of the university scene in
Canada, the U.S. and abroad.

Wednesday, November 5, 2014

Annual Grade 10 Trip to Bishop's University

**Wednesday, November 12, 2014, 6-9 p.m.,
Coristine Hall**

Prep School Fair

Meet representatives from Canadian and U.S. prep schools.