



**June is full of new beginnings!** June brings New Interns, New College Student Leaders, New High School Fellows, New College Plans, and New High School and College Graduates. As we close out Year 2 of MTB, we celebrate all we have accomplished together and look forward to all that is ahead of us in Year 3.

---



## **Welcome Joseph Batista, our New MTB Intern!**

We are thrilled to be hosting **Joseph Batista**, a Fellow in the [Governor's Hispanic Fellows Program](#), for Summer 2022. The eight-week paid internship program, sponsored by the New Jersey Center for Hispanic Policy, Research and Development, provides leadership and professional development opportunities.

Joseph is a recent graduate of **Fairleigh Dickinson University**, where he obtained his Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice. He will earn his Master's Degree from FDU in May 2023. At FDU, Joseph has held multiple leadership roles, such as President of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars and Vice President of Lambda Sigma Upsilon Latino Fraternity. He is a member of the Alpha Phi Sigma

Criminal Justice Honor Society. At FDU, Joseph also worked in the [Latino Promise Program](#).

Prior to interning with MTB, Joseph worked with non-profit organizations serving low-income families and young adults with autism.

*"Working with the minority populations has been a passion of mine, as I myself come from a proud Dominican background and intend to do my best in developing more underrepresented communities in education."*



Also - Joseph is launching the first-ever **MTB Graduation Cap Contest!**

In celebration of high school and college graduations, enter a picture of your graduation cap into our contest and inspire others!

- Your entry is **FREE**
- Votes cost **\$1**
- Winning entries will earn prizes and appear in our MTB graduation cap planner.

Spread the word and support Joseph's good work and MTB!

**ENTER THE CONTEST!**

## June's Featured Video



Many of you had the opportunity to hear our guest speaker, **Ingrid Renderos**, share her presentati in person at our graduation ceremony or over zoom.

But if you were unable to attend, here's your chance to experience her story and take in her words of wisdom. She is a motivational speaker on the first-gen experience, and Director of [CUNY](#)

***“All I know is no one's gonna tell me where I can't go and what I can't be. Keep Dreaming. And go where you want to go.”***

**- Ingrid Renderos, MPA**

## In Case You Missed It...

All four of our senior High School Fellows have chosen the colleges they'll be attending in the fall! We joined in on the national [#CollegeSigningDay](#) celebration on social media to share their exciting announcements.

Fun Fact: [#CollegeSigningDay](#) is a national celebration started by [Reach Higher's Better Make Room](#) initiative. **First Lady Michelle Obama** launched Better Make Room back in 2014. We love this piece of advice she gave:

***"Understand that getting help isn't a sign of weakness, but a sign of strength."***

**#COLLEGE SIGNINGDAY**

**MARISOL**

I chose to attend Passaic County Community College because I am able to save money and also have access to classes needed for my major. I plan to study studio art.

I am looking forward to getting to begin classes and explore my major more!

PCCC

#DREAMHIGHER2022 @MORETHANBOOTSTRAPS

**#COLLEGE SIGNINGDAY**

**JENNIFER**

I chose Montclair State University because it's the most affordable, and it's closer - no need for a car.

I'm going to study psychology. I'm looking forward to meeting new people and helping others in the future after college.

MONTECLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY

#DREAMHIGHER2022 @MORETHANBOOTSTRAPS

# #COLLEGE #SIGNINGDAY



“ I chose William Paterson University because it's closest to home, in my financial budget, and has the major I want - Criminology & Criminal Justice. ”

And because the campus is really welcoming, which makes me feel excited. ”

ASHLEY

#DREAMHIGHER2022 @MORETHANBOOTSTRAPS

# #COLLEGE #SIGNINGDAY



“ I have chosen to attend Passaic County Community College because it's closer to home and also affordable. I'm going to study business. ”

CATHERINE

#DREAMHIGHER2022 @MORETHANBOOTSTRAPS

## T-Shirts for Sale!

As first-generation students, your success is both a credit to and a result of your family's support. While parents who didn't attend college themselves don't know the college journey, they are rooting for you!

We're proud to celebrate both your successes and your families' pride in you.

All MTB families received these awesome t-shirts (designed by first-generation college graduate **Frankie Rodriguez**) at our recent graduation ceremony.

Pictured are the mother and brother (also a first-generation college student) of MTB Board Member and first-gen college graduate **Margarita Fuentes**.



Know someone who'd like to show their support with one of these shirts? **ALL proceeds benefit MTB!**

[SHOP HERE!](#)

## Coming Up Soon

**Save The Date!** Join us at the [Passaic Boathouse Cafe](#) on **Sunday, July 31, 2022** from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

We will celebrate the conclusion of **Summer Leader Training** for our newest cohort of MTB College Student Leaders and welcome our newest cohort of MTB High

School Fellows.

## Follow MTB on Social Media!



More Than Bootstraps | 421 Highland Avenue, Westfield, NJ 07090