



# THE PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

proudly presents

## Meet the Seniors Class of 2015

April 14, 2015



**RIVERSTONE**  
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL





**Marie B**

**CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY**

**Hometown:** Montainville, France  
**Years at Riverstone:** 3

**Extended Essay:** *To what extent were the executions of soldiers during World War I in France legitimate?*

**Something that people may not know about me...** Music has been my passion since my childhood and I intend to make a career of it. I love traveling and discovering new cultures and people.

**The challenge at Riverstone have been...** Balancing everything. Sometimes the work gets overwhelming and there is no time for anything else. But it ends up working out.

**The highlights at Riverstone have been...** Backpacking trips: they always end with good stories to tell, include new experiences, and are lots of fun. I had never backpacked before Riverstone. Teachers: I was at a bigger school in France and I know how all of it feels. But Riverstone created an environment where I could always go to my teachers and have no worries. It made it easier to work and class was a lot more fun. They help us do the best work we can and succeed. They also help with life outside of school and having such support helped me through my time at Riverstone. I couldn't have asked for better teachers.

**Three words...** Unforgettable, Family, Outdoors



**Brian B**

**YALE-NUS COLLEGE**

**Hometown:** Boise, Idaho  
**Years at Riverstone:** 4

**Extended Essay:** *To what extent does the mise-en-scène affect the international viewer's perception of abortion within the diegetic of "4 luni, 3 săptămâni și 2 zile?"*

**Something that people may not know about me...** I am part of a DJ duo with Da-luxx aka Levi S. For better or for worse, I used to ballroom dance and I may or may not be obsessed with the show Dance Moms. And in the words of the great Tyra Banks, "I wanna be on top."

**The challenges at Riverstone have been...** Not getting lost in the vast amount of material in each class; there's too much to learn in the time given! Being efficient in such an absorbing and prodigious curriculum is a challenge in itself, as it is easy to be both overwhelmed and overworked.

**The highlights at Riverstone have been...** Befriending the coolest people ever, learning under incredible teachers, and being a part of a special, unique and personal environment found in no other place. And the trips *of course*.

**What gives you confidence for the next steps...** An ability to synthesize information with a global and humanitarian understanding, giving the ability to have meaningful and thoughtful academic conversations with confidence.

**Three words...** Pretty Dang Awesome



**Katrina C**

**LINFIELD COLLEGE**

**Hometown:** Tucson, Arizona  
**Years at Riverstone:** 2

**Something that people may not know about me...** 1) I have the best brother in the world and 2) I know what you're thinking...

**The challenges at Riverstone have been...** Finding my place.

**The highlights at Riverstone have been...** The outdoor program, pottery, and friends that accept me.

**What gives you confidence for the next steps...** I've learned to trust in myself and the handful of people who want me to succeed and ignore the rest.

**Words of advice to younger students...** "Your greatness is measured by your kindness; your education and intellect by your modesty; your ignorance is betrayed by your suspicions and prejudices, and your real caliber is measured by the consideration and tolerance you have for others."  
~William J.H. Boetcker

**Three words...** Strength, Independence, Cuba



**Kaitlyn C**  
**REED COLLEGE**

**Hometown:** Boise, Idaho  
**Years at Riverstone:** 5

**Extended Essay:** *To what extent did the modernization of society lead to the creation of the solitary practice of Wicca?*

**Something that people may not know about me...** I hate biographies.

**Tell us a little about your CAS experience?** Baking, crafting, and volunteering are big parts of my life.

**The challenges at Riverstone have been...** Because this is such a small school lack of resources sometimes causes issues.

**The highlights at Riverstone have been...** Most of our teachers are awesome, the outdoor program, being able to explore and question rules, and great opportunities.

**What gives you confidence for the next steps...** Riverstone has taught me writing skills, critical thinking, standing up for myself and questioning the rules which gives me confidence for the next step in my journey.

**Words of advice for younger students...** Riverstone is a school for people who are self-motivated and want to do well. That doesn't mean you need to be perfect.

**Three words...** Unique, Serendipitous, Busy



**Emily D**  
**OCCIDENTAL COLLEGE**

**Hometown:** Boise, Idaho  
**Years at Riverstone:** 13

**Extended Essay:** *In what ways and to what extent is the Jewish faith impacted by often being a religious minority?*

**Something that people may not know about me...** I have a ridiculous amount of love for brownies and I've always wanted to learn how to pole vault.

**The challenges at Riverstone was...** Learning to cope and work with the same group of people for so long, even on days when I maybe didn't want to. Also, keeping up with athletics at the level I wanted to be at with such a small and newly started athletic program at the school.

**The highlights at Riverstone have been...** The friends I have made. The inspirational and supportive teachers. The incredible and memorable outdoor trips. Watching the volleyball team grow and improve.

**What gives you confidence for the next steps...** I learned how to properly structure arguments in papers, something that I know will help me as I enter college. Also, how to work well in groups, and also how to balance my time between academics, athletics, socialization, and relaxation.

**Three words...** Adventure, Home Development



**Marie H**  
**CLAREMONT MCKENNA COLLEGE**

**Hometown:** Bellevue, Washington  
**Years at Riverstone:** 9

**Extended Essay:** *To what extent is the state of Idaho competent in the handling and prosecution of rape?*

**Something that people may not know about me...** I love puppies and rollerblading.

**Tell us a little about your CAS experience?** I am the communications director for the Meridian Mayor's Youth Advisory Council. I have played on the Riverstone Fútbol Club since 6th grade.

**The challenges at Riverstone have been...** One challenge I faced at Riverstone was learning to conform to the IB guidelines.

**The highlights at Riverstone have been...** Riverstone has teachers and students that compare to none. The people that surround me are the highlights.

**What gives you confidence for the next steps...** Riverstone has given me confidence in composing my thoughts and making clear and coherent arguments.

**Three words...** Loyalty, Enlightenment, Cultural Understanding



**Susannah H**

**SEATTLE UNIVERSITY**

**Hometown:** Boise, Idaho  
**Years at Riverstone:** 3

**Extended Essay:** *To what extent is happiness, as described by positive psychology, defined more by memory than experience?*

**Something that people may not know about me...** I like lavender, a lot, in any form. I've received an award from the Idaho Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health for "Outstanding Youth Advocate."

**Tell us a little about your CAS experience?** Most of my CAS experience came from my involvement with the Idaho Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health, as a member of their board, and being the chairperson of Youth M.O.V.E., a mental health advocacy group for youth.

**The challenges at Riverstone have been...** Being in an environment where all my learning is dependent upon me and my willingness to do work. Which could be difficult, especially when Senioritis kicks in. Finding the balance between the rigorous education and my personal endeavors.

**The highlights at Riverstone have been...** The end of the day, because I went home knowing that my education meant something and that my hard work has paid off and will continue to pay off.

**Three words...** Unique, Family, Self-driven



**Kyle L**

**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ**

**Hometown:** Boise, Idaho  
**Years at Riverstone:** 13

**Extended Essay:** *What was most responsible for the North Vietnamese Victory in the Second Indo-China War?*

**Something that people may not know about me...** I was born in Spain.

**Tell us a little about your CAS experience?** I volunteered at the Boise Zoo and participated in Tae Kwon Do.

**The challenges at Riverstone have been...** Finding new and creative ways to express yourself in art and finding new ways to study history.

**The highlights at Riverstone have been...** Creating art projects.

**What gives you confidence for the next steps...** I learned how to write a proper essay.

**Words of advice to younger students...** Learn about the things that interest you.

**Three words...** Learning Vietnam War



**Sam L**

**UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO**

**Hometown:** Boise, Idaho  
**Years at Riverstone:** 5

**Extended Essay:** *The Effect of Varying Photoperiod on Plant Growth in Brassica rapa.*

**Something that people may not know about me...** I enjoy solving Rubik's Cubes along with riding and working on Off-Terrain Motorcycles in my free time.

**Tell us a little about your CAS experience?** Weekly chemistry tutoring at Riverstone, two independent musical groups, and athletics such as Riverstone Ski Team and hunting.

**The challenges at Riverstone have been...** The main challenge at Riverstone that I have faced has been time management between academic and extra-curricular interests.

**The highlights at Riverstone have been...** The wide academic scope and the ability to independently create clubs and other activities within the school community.

**What gives you confidence for the next steps...** The large range of academics has definitely given me the confidence to approach new tasks and ideas and more easily tackle academic tasks using more than a single perspective.

**Three words...** Insightful, Fun, Memorable



**Ava M**

**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

**Hometown:** Boise, Idaho  
**Years at Riverstone:** 13

**Extended Essay:** *To what extent did nationalist sentiment precipitate ethnic violence in Bosnia (1991-1995)?*

**Something that people may not know about me...** I'm potentially interested in minoring in American Sign Language because of a soap opera featuring deaf characters.

**Tell us a little about your CAS experience?** One Stone, an organization which originated at Riverstone, has cultivated my leadership and organizational skills. I have also participated in multiple Riverstone sports, and student council throughout all of high school.

**The challenges at Riverstone have been...** Riverstone is a family and so there's always potential for dysfunction!

**The highlights at Riverstone have been...** A highlight has been the opportunity for discussion and further inquiry into learning material and the connections to current events.

**What gives you confidence for the next steps...** Riverstone has given me confidence in composing my thoughts and making clear and coherent arguments.

**Three words...** Diverse, Community, Trek



**Trang N**

**SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY**

**Hometown:** Ha Noi, Vietnam  
**Years at Riverstone:** 2

**Extended Essay:** *To what extent is Vietnam Airlines pricing strategy affected by elasticity of demand?*

**Something that people may not know about me...** I love playing Just Dance! I like to memorize and recite movies.

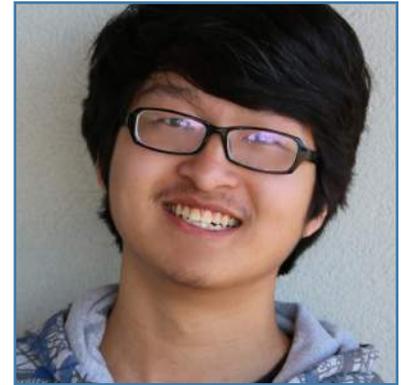
**Tell us a little about your CAS experience?** Music and aerobics camp, piano, rock climbing, photography, and cooking

**The challenges at Riverstone have been...** Taking classes I have never taken before like Music HL or Economics. Pushing myself to make friends and communicate in my second language.

**The highlights at Riverstone have been...** Making friends from all over the world, learning about music from different time periods, and experiencing an education that pushed me to do the best I can.

**What gives you confidence for the next steps...** I learned to communicate and study in English and I discovered my love for music and business.

**Three words...** Unforgettable, Joyous, Inspiring



**Jiazheng "Max" R**

**UNIVERSITY OF TULSA**

**Hometown:** Shanghai, China  
**Years at Riverstone:** 2

**Extended Essay:** *To what extent is Quinn's idea for saving humanity realistic?*

**Something that people may not know about me...** I play on a semi-professional raid team in World of Warcraft. I play for Uber.

**Tell us a little about your CAS experience?** Volunteering in Thailand, rock climbing, mountain biking, learning to play the violin

**The challenges at Riverstone have been...** The language and different values.

**The highlights at Riverstone have been...** Traveling with Mrs. Jane during breaks to Yellowstone and Southern California.

**What gives you confidence for the next steps...** I met all types of people and I'm glad I met them early in my journey of my life. I will know how to deal with different kinds of people. This is so important.

**Words of advice to younger students...** Smile and accept all the different people you meet. You can choose how to face life.

**Three words...** Hardcore, Unforgettable, Thankful



**Mackenzie R**

**STANFORD UNIVERSITY**

**Hometown:** Boise, Idaho  
**Years at Riverstone:** 13

**Extended Essay:** *Public Space in Modern Protest Movements: Tahrir Square and the Egyptian Revolution*

**Something that people may not know about me...** I desperately want to learn how to squirrel-suit dive.

**CAS experience...** One Stone, whitewater kayaker, and kayak instructor

**The challenges at Riverstone have been...** Riverstone is an amazing school, and I have been challenged by the DP and the rigorous courses. Balancing personal and academic lives has been difficult, and the decision to work on a paper instead of driving up to the river has been often been a difficult one.

**The highlights at Riverstone have been...** the amazing outdoor with friends. From the infamous Long Walk crew to the amazing trips with just our class, the outdoor trips have been a memorable and truly unique aspect of my experience here. Oh, also the super cool, amazing, rad teachers we get to spend the day with.

**What gives you confidence for the next steps...** Riverstone has given me the confidence to pursue whatever I am passionate about, no matter how disparate or challenging.

**Three words...** Long, Spectacular, Unforgettable



**Levi S**

**CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY**

**Hometown:** Freiburg, Germany  
**Years at Riverstone:** 5

**Extended Essay:** *From a secondary and tertiary educational perspective and considering the vastly different types of education, is a United States or German student more likely to succeed in the labour market later in life?*

**Something that people may not know about me...** I went to Kindergarten in Boise, but moved back to Germany before I was old enough to attend Riverstone. I used to play piano, but as my skills were lacking I decided to pick up the drums instead.

**CAS experience...** Riverstone snowboard team, orienteering club, creative set drumming

**The challenges at Riverstone have been...** The workload and difficulty of the classes is quite challenging, but what was most challenging to me was time planning. I learned that it is wise to take a little time each day to work on a project instead of waiting for the last few days to complete it. Sadly, it took me a long time to realize this.

**The highlights at Riverstone have been...** Instead of working as individuals, Riverstone works as a team to create the most terrific outcome.

**Three words...** Engaging, Convivial, and Cosmopolitan



**Melody S**

**ST. OLAF COLLEGE**

**Hometown:** Boise, Idaho  
**Years at Riverstone:** 3

**Extended Essay:** *Steve Biko, the Black Consciousness Movement, and the Soweto Uprising of 1976*

**Something that people may not know about me...** I ate a tuna sandwich almost every day for lunch for about two years. I love education, and different ways in which people can learn.

**Tell us a little about your CAS experience?** My main activities for CAS were piano, a Socratic seminar/creative writing group, and swim team.

**The challenges at Riverstone have been...** The challenges I have faced at Riverstone have been balancing the academic load with the rest of life.

**The highlights at Riverstone have been...** The highlights at Riverstone have been the community, the teachers, the outdoor program, and the love for learning.

**What gives you confidence for the next steps...** I have learned many things at Riverstone, among them the art of balancing life, critical thinking skills, and advocating for myself.

**Words of advice for younger students...** Procrastinate wisely! Also, always appreciate the gift of an education.

**Three words...** Adventure, Rigorous, Priceless



**Benedikt T**

**LINFIELD COLLEGE**

**Hometown:** Boise, Idaho  
**Years at Riverstone:** 7

**Extended Essay:** *In what ways has the United States military's position on treatment structures for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder changes since its recognition in the 1980s?*

**Something that people may not know about me...** 1) Bubby!! 2) I didn't lose to a spatula!

**Tell us a little about your CAS experience?** Volunteered at a non-profit farm, worked on a classic car, and played various sports.

**The challenges at Riverstone have been...** Remaining motivated throughout my time here.

**The highlights at Riverstone have been...** Pottery, the outdoor program, and my friends and teachers who accept me for who I am.

**What gives you confidence for the next steps...** how to be totally sincere.

**Words of advice to younger students...** "There's no point in being grown up if you can't be childish sometimes." ~The Fourth Doctor

**Three words...** Learn to follow directions.



**Drew T**

**UNDECIDED**

**Hometown:** Austin, TX  
**Years at Riverstone:** 1.5

**Something that people may not know about me...** I love unicorns. I even have unicorn socks.

**The challenges at Riverstone have been...** Adapting to the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme.

**The highlights at Riverstone have been...** Time spent in the pottery room where I learned to create art, which was something that I had never had the opportunity to do before.

**What gives you confidence for the next steps...** the outdoor skills I learned during the fall trip and senior trip.

**Three words...** Insomniac, Zeppole, Procrastination



**Karoline W**

**LEHIGH UNIVERSITY**

**Hometown:** Boise, Idaho  
**Years at Riverstone:** 13

**Extended Essay:** *To what extent did Nikita Khrushchev's 1956 'Secret Speech' influence anti-communist uprisings in Poland and Hungary?*

**Something that people may not know about me...** I have (almost) weekly breakfast dates with my grandmother! We always go to the same restaurant and we order the same thing every time!

**Tell us a little about your CAS experience?** Teaching younger students basketball and kayaking, Idaho Meth Project

**The challenges at Riverstone have been...** Time management has been a big issue for me over the years, constantly trying to juggle classwork and extra-curricular activities. I was able to work everything out and find a happy medium where I could do what I loved and succeed in school.

**The highlights at Riverstone have been...** Riverstone's outdoor program has given me the confidence to be my own person. The close relationships that I have formed over the years have been some of the best. I have gotten so much love and support from my teachers and classmates throughout the years, and I don't know where I would be without them.

**Three words...** Challenging, Transformative, Supportive

## COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES FOR THE CLASS OF 2015

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Boise State University Honors College       | St. Mary's College of California (3)       |
| Brown University                            | St. Michael's College                      |
| California Polytechnic State University (2) | Stanford University                        |
| Carnegie Mellon University                  | Swarthmore College                         |
| Carroll College                             | University of Arizona                      |
| Chapman University (2)                      | University of California, Berkley          |
| Claremont McKenna College (3)               | University of California, Los Angeles (2)  |
| College of Idaho (2)                        | University of California, San Diego        |
| Colorado College                            | University of California, Santa Cruz       |
| Colorado School of Mines (2)                | University of Chicago                      |
| Cornell University                          | University of Colorado, Denver             |
| Creighton University                        | University of Denver                       |
| DePauw University                           | University of Idaho Honors Program         |
| Fordham University                          | University of Maine                        |
| Hult International Business School          | University of Michigan                     |
| Illinois Institute of Technology            | University of Montana                      |
| Ithaca College                              | University of Oregon Clark Honors College  |
| Jacksonville University                     | University of Puget Sound (5)              |
| Lehigh University                           | University of the Redlands (3)             |
| Linfield College (3)                        | University of Rochester                    |
| Montana State University                    | University of San Diego                    |
| Muhlenberg College (2)                      | University of Southern California (2)      |
| New York University                         | University of Texas, Austin Honors Program |
| New York University, Abu Dhabi              | University of Tulsa                        |
| Occidental College                          | University of Vermont (3)                  |
| Pacific University (4)                      | University of Washington                   |
| Purdue University                           | Ursinus College (2)                        |
| Reed College                                | Whitworth College                          |
| San Diego State University                  | Willamette University (3)                  |
| Santa Clara University (2)                  | Yale University                            |
| Seattle University (2)                      | Yale-NUS College                           |
| Seattle Pacific University                  |  |

### OUR MISSION

Riverstone International School inspires courageous journeys  
of academic and personal exploration  
that enable our students to leave purposeful lives.

