

Sycamore High School
2012 Senior Academic Recognition Ceremony
Thursday, May 24, 2012

José Cerdá Navarro
Software Development
Memorial Scholarship

To live on in the hearts of those we love is to truly live forever. It is in this spirit that tonight we honor the memory of José Cerdá Navarro, a student in the 2011 Sycamore High School graduating class, by awarding a scholarship in his name to a deserving Sycamore student who shares Jose's love of learning.

On October 26, 2010, José Cerdá Navarro passed away while pursuing his passion of swimming. And in his honor we have witnessed many magnificent expressions of our devotion to José, including the establishment of the José Cerdá Navarro Aquatic Foundation.

Last month the 2nd annual JCAF banquet was widely attended by José's family, friends, and teammates. In its inaugural year the JCAF served 210 student athletes from a wide variety of area high school and club teams. These programs included the Cincinnati "Shoot-Out" José Cerdá Memorial Water Polo Tournament held at Montgomery Swim and Tennis Club, and the Ohio Water Polo Camp hosted at the University of Cincinnati as well as the Jose Cerda Swim Clinic held at Xavier University.

We encourage all who might be interested to take advantage of these programs which will be again be provided through the Jose Cerda Aquatic Foundation in July and October later this year. Information is available on the JCAF Facebook page. All three programs aim at helping swimming and water polo athletes to improve their competitiveness and foster unity across teams.

As a young scholar Jose's talents impressed his teachers and classmates throughout his Sycamore career. This evening the growing legacy of José Cerdá continues to touch the lives of the Sycamore community, thanks to the tremendous generosity of his loving family, who have created the José Cerdá Memorial Scholarship to contribute to the education of José's Sycamore classmates as they embark upon their collegiate studies.

It was José's intention to study computer engineering in college. This scholarship is intended to encourage a promising Sycamore graduate to pursue these dreams. Therefore, tonight we recognize the winner of the 2012 José Cerdá Memorial Scholarship. He is an outstanding young scholar, who, like José, has a passion for the study of science and engineering, and in addition this student exhibits the excellence of character and compassion that José demonstrated. Congratulations to this year's recipient of the 2012 José Cerdá Navarro Software Development Memorial Scholarship, Sycamore senior, Nelson Pang.