

### A Multitasking Master Thriving on Opportunity

# Raphael Garcia Jr.

Raphael Garcia Jr. is a young man from Haledon who's known for his foresight when it comes to managing his future. "I've always been good at working with my hands, so I decided to join the School of Construction Technology." Raphael set his focus on Plumbing, which has allowed him to help his father and uncles with work around the house.

He's about keeping his options open and planning for the future. Raphael's ambition in the academic realm has led him to take multiple honors courses and this year, he's embraced the challenge of enrolling in a SUPA American History class. He's received honor roll accolades throughout most of his high school career and was even selected as a previous Circle of Success member. Such accomplishments are well-deserved as evidenced by his rank in the top eleven percent of the Class of 2016 and a GPA of 3.89!

When not devoting time to his studies, Raphael can be found at Henry's Plumbing Supply in Hawthorne where he works an average of thirty hours a week. During vacations his schedule advances to a whopping sixty hours!

It takes a special brand of dedication to manage, not only a demanding course load, but a job as well. Raphael truly sets the standard for excellence in academics as well as in life.



In fact, he's already applied and been accepted into the University of New Haven. When asked what he plans to study, Raphael said, "I'm really interested in producing music." He elaborated that he has a few EDM projects in the works and is teaching himself to play piano, guitar, and even drums.

If, for some reason, the college route does not work out, Raphael has thought of that too. "I've already applied to two unions and plan on

applying to two more." He went on to explain that he's open to all areas of work, though he has the most experience in plumbing.

This advantageous Bulldog would love to combine the best of both worlds. "Apprenticing in the morning and going to school at night would be my top choice."

Raphael's can-do attitude is supplemented by the fact that he truly enjoys working and learning. One thing's for certain, embracing the idea of perpetual growth has served him well throughout his entire high school career.

When asked how he felt about being selected as a PCTI Student of the Month, Raphael said, "I never thought that would happen to me. It was a goal of mine, so I feel really accomplished."

Congratulations to this inspiring young man. Your work ethic is truly unparalleled!

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Ranked in the top 11% of his class
- Achieved great academic standing with a GPA of 3.89
- Enrolled in SUPA American History course
- Selected for Circle of Success
- Works at Henry's Plumbing Supply
- Goal: Attend New Haven University, receive an education in Music Production/ join a union and become an Apprentice