

# SCHOLARS' SCROLL

FOR THE SCHOLAR BY THE SCHOLAR

SEPTEMBER 2023

## SCHOLAR OF THE MONTH



Matthew Parasick is currently a second year student planning to attain his degree in social studies secondary education. Last year, he worked hard to attain a 4.0 GPA and from this he received several rewards at the end of the year celebration. Currently, Matthew is a PSA mentor and works to help guide his mentees through their freshman year. Recently, he discovered that he enjoys traveling around the world and is considering joining an RSO related to world cultures. Outside of work and academics, he enjoys playing video games, watching anime and attending sports games. His advice to his fellow students would be to ask questions, most things can be resolved by simply asking questions. Keep up the outstanding effort Matthew!

## BECOME CONFIDENT

Confidence is an important factor in a student's path to success. It involves not just self-belief but also the courage to step outside of one's comfort zone. Studies indicate that confidence positively impacts learning, leadership, communication, and social skills. Some ways to develop confidence include, accepting failure, setting goals, and maintaining a healthy lifestyle. Overall, confidence can positively impact your experience as a student.

## STUDY ABROAD



Interested in study abroad?

- Attend the study abroad session 10/6
- Visit the study abroad office in wickes 230
- Ask a fellow student for information on how their experience was!



**PUBLIC SCHOOL  
ACADEMY**  
Scholars Program



# SCHOLARS' SCROLL

FOR THE SCHOLAR BY THE SCHOLAR

SEPTEMBER 2023

## STUDY ABROAD

If you are a student who is interested in the study abroad programs that SVSU offers I would encourage you to read the article below written by our very own PSA student Matthew Parasick. It highlights his educational stay in Ghana, African and how the experience changed his view on different cultures.

### Akwaaba & Medaase

In July of 2023, I took a trip to the beautiful nation of Ghana with PSA. Looking back on the excursion, I am shaken by an unrelenting feeling that my visit there was a life-altering event. It was my first time fully experiencing a culture not my own, and I was completely immersed. On our journey through the country, we saw natural beauty incomparable to what we have back home, a diverse collection of cultural traditions, and remnants of colonial activity that had been totally reclaimed by Africans. However, throughout this new and intriguing place I explored, what remained consistent was the caliber of humans I met at every turn. Not once during my time in the country did I feel like my presence was met with any sort of abrasion. Virtually everyone I met, from the first Ghanaian airport security guard I spoke with to the king of our sister city Amonakrom, was a kind soul who welcomed my colleagues and me with open arms. I believe that is what stands at the heart of my time spent in Ghana, the feeling of being welcomed, the reassurance that wherever I went I would always hear "Awaaba." This unyielding kindness and acceptance of the Ghanaian people made me profoundly question how our own society treats those deemed as outsiders. For years I have heard that people in Africa could be considered uncivilized or needy, but after witnessing the strength and kindness of every man and woman I met in Ghana, I would personally like to meet and educate whoever planted that silly idea in my head. The people of Ghana, and Africa in general, do not have less than us. I would argue that they have more, as their whole country is as kind, strong, and debt-free as I could ever hope to be. So I would like to extend a "Medaase" to the people of Ghana and the PSA Scholarship Program for facilitating this amazing learning experience and for changing the trajectory of my life forever.



PUBLIC SCHOOL  
ACADEMY  
Scholars Program