



Photo courtesy of the Young family

Amanda and Thomas Young watched their daughter graduate from Fairview High School last week.

HS student graduates, and is already a college junior

By BRIAN LOVE

It was in the fall of 2019 that Amanda Young had a frightening thought: "I was thinking, 'What have I done? I just dropped my 14-year-old daughter in the middle of Cleveland State,'" she said.

Four years later, she realizes it

was worth it. Daughter Amalea Sanabria not only graduated from Fairview High School last week, but has 78 credits toward a bachelor's degree at CSU.

"I started checking into it when I was in the eighth grade," Sanabria said. "There was a little presentation about the College Credit Plus

program. My little kid brain thought it would be the perfect opportunity to get my college paid for a little bit more and also to advance my academics."

Her mom wasn't as enthusiastic about it.

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"She came to us in the eighth grade, and said she wanted to take the ACT and go to Cleveland State," Young said. "I told her no. Then it was actually somebody at the school that said, 'Just give her a chance and see how it goes.' So we did and it's been great. I mean, I was really nervous. Really nervous."

Not only did she take advantage of the CCP program, but Sanabria now also has the rest of her time at CSU paid for thanks to the Glasscock Scholars Experience Program. It will pay for books, tuition, room and board, along with other things.

But it was not given to Sanabria, who has a 4.4289 grade-point average in high school, as a result of being a high school student taking college courses. She had to apply for it.

"I didn't think I was going to get it at all," she said. "The interview process was kind of long. I applied for it with an essay of what experiences made me the person I am today. But then there was an online interview. I think the lady had done so many that it was kind of rushed through. It was so funny, too, because at the end, she asked me, 'Do you have any questions?'"

"Instead of asking her, when will I hear back?, I literally asked, 'How was your day?' I thought I blew it."

During her freshman year, most of the college courses were required classes, so she split most of her time between the two campuses. As she went along, the time spent at the college grew more and more.

But that doesn't mean she wasn't involved at Fairview.

"I did do cross country at the high school," she said. "I was in the National Honor Society. So I guess with that keeping organized and making sure work is done by that time to organize."

Taking college classes as a 14-year-old was tough, mainly due to the age difference between Sanabria and the other

students. But that gap has closed as time has passed.

"I made some friends since I was a junior or senior," she said. "College students don't want to hang out with a 14-year-old."

It takes about 120 credits to graduate from Cleveland State, so Sanabria is more than halfway. She's still debating her major between business finance and engineering. She has taken courses in both majors.

The college experience has been one that has been very positive, even for a 14-year old, her mother said.

"She just really blossomed," Young said. "She's got a really good friend group. When she started, she was able to meet a lot of freshmen who were coming in. It was great."

Contact sports at sports@westlifeneews.com or 440-871-5797.



In Memoriam

ROBERT "LEE" HART III

It is with great sadness we announce the passing of Robert "Lee" Hart III, 65, of Redondo Beach, California. Lee passed away surrounded by family on May 5, 2023. He was born on April 28, 1958, in Charleston, West Virginia to the late Robert L. Hart Jr. and Ruth Hart; long-time residents of North Olmsted. Lee will be deeply missed by his beloved wife of 38 years, Janet; his loving sons Robert and Daniel; and a host of extended family and dear friends.



After graduating Arizona State University, he relocated to California to pursue a career in healthcare at UCLA. Lee served in several administrative rolls and earned his MBA during his tenure. He retired as the CAO of Pathology, and was valued for his calm, rational demeanor and superior intellect.