

Baseball and School: 360's impact on Adrian Martinez

By Sebastian Germosen

Adrian Martinez is a 17-year-old from the Bronx and has two parents and a younger brother. Despite not being able to have it all, he's a very grateful person for what he has and is a hard worker who excels in the classroom. "My family is everything to me. They push me everyday, I do my best in making them proud, whether it's doing chores, going to school, baseball, or anything," Martinez said. With college decisions approaching, Martinez and his family thought long and hard about where his future lies. "I am going to attend The College of the Holy Cross and with many bumps in the way, one being the death of my grandmother, I continue to stay humble and push past the circumstances to make this important decision." Many things in Adrian's life helped him get to this point, but one major factor was him joining 360.

Martinez's initial interest in 360 stemmed from his mom and being introduced to the opportunity. "I immediately wanted to enjoy the experience and offerings of extra baseball training as well as a summer program. 360 provided all of it." 360's programs are focused on pushing young men as student-athletes to attend great schools that will set them up for success, whether they pursue a professional baseball career or a job in their field of study. Martinez was excited for the opportunity to grow more in both baseball and academics. His favorite activities at 360 are the summer camp classes. "Those classes are amazing, I love them. Sure it's the summer, but what's a better time to get ahead of the competition, you know? Not many kids my age are doing that." Each year, Martinez and his teammates get to build new connections and have a lot of fun practicing and growing together as athletes. 360 prides itself in building a family with the organization, so everyone knows everyone. "After baseball training in the morning, we have classes in the afternoon like statistics and English, but the summer courses are more fun, especially when I'm surrounded by my baseball friends."

360 has impacted Martinez by allowing him to grow as a person. "Seeing new sides to baseball through the showcases we do taught me to continue pushing and to continue striving. I was motivated to succeed throughout high school and be the best student-athlete I could be." 360 Academic Sports Academy has assisted Martinez throughout this process and if it wasn't for 360, he wouldn't have been able to "go through many different experiences of growth and learned perseverance." Martinez would not have all the connections and experiences he has today. While he still would have pushed himself toward a bright future, he would not have been prepared for the entire college application process. "Thanks to 360, I was able to handle my senior year and college process better as it was a familiar pathway which has allowed and supported me to be where I am now."