



C E A A D



Highlights from the Universal Orlando Foundation Team serving at Memorial Middle School



B A A A



Coming into my second year I was excited to see my students from last year and have the chance to meet new students. I remember one student in particular in my sixth period class. Anna* was a ball of energy, very independent but refused to let herself receive help. She was strong-willed and determined to do it all on her own. As a second year AmeriCorps

member, I already knew that you can't force anyone to ask for help. I kept checking in on her and after a couple weeks of failing assignments, growing frustration and getting in trouble for disrupting class, I let her know that I was there to help her. After the first report card came out and Anna's grades were not what she hoped for. I was finally able to break through and she allowed herself to get help on her work in class. Whenever she needed to, with the permission of my awesome partner teacher, Mrs. Pierre, she'd make the effort to scoot her desk all the way across the classroom to put it next to mine and ask me to go over the assignment with her or check her work. Through getting to know her, she was appreciative of me being her ear and helping hand. She finally knew I was there to stay and she entrusted me to help in her school work and personal growth, outside of grades and assignments. ***=Student Pseudonym**

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Alberto Partida proudly serves on the Universal Orlando Foundation board.



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