



# Samantha Mae S. Antiquerra

I am Samantha Mae Sarenas Antiquerra, born on November 01, 2006. I'm from Brgy. PNR 2, New Lower Bicutan, Taguig City. I came from a small, humble, and lowly family. I am currently studying at the Sisters of Mary of Banneux, Inc. My mother's name is Myleen Gregorio Sarenas and my father's name is Samer Dela Torre Antiquerra. My mother and fathers were already separated. So my mother, as a single parent to us, works hard to sustain my siblings' education and daily needs. Since I was young, I learned that life is not that easy, it is full of uncertainties. I saw how hard life is, and so I put in my mind, I should work hard and strive for a better future though a lot of times life gives me a lot of reason to stop and give up, I found my own refuge, and that is the Sisters of Mary. I really dream high and took the test and passed it. I know that every problem that comes to my life was only a challenge to me, to test how patient I am, and what else can I do to fight back the unfairness of life. I learned to stand up on my own feet, think for the best and how can I lift up my family because I know that as a daughter to my mother, I am her breadwinner. I am her pride. And so, I never give up to do my best, and though I fail sometimes, I still take the risk to try again because I know in my heart that nothing will be lost in me if I try and one day, I know I will be a successful woman.

When I came to know the Sisters of Mary School, it gives me a lot of opportunities and so I grab it. I work hard and study hard to reach where I am now, by being an outstanding honor student, and by being a compassionate and caring friend, fellow student, and dormmate to my companions. They know very well how I work hard to get what I have now, they know my strengths and weaknesses and they are the ones who support on what I am achieving. The inspirations of my family, friends, and dormmates give me more courage to aim higher and better. As what my interviewer once said, "Never stop dreaming. Dream more because it is free. Don't forget to believe in yourself, because we know, you are exceptional." By those words of encouragement, I was moved and ready to face my future with a smile.

All that I achieved now is what the Sisters of Mary School gave me. Of course, by the grace and blessings of God, I got the precious scholarship from Bona Via Foundation. Now, I truly knew that my college life is well-secured. This is all thanks to the kind hearts of the founder down to the members of the Sisters of Mary and Bona Via Foundation. Because of their kind hearts, I was given this great privilege to pursue higher education.

When I get into college, I want to pursue Bachelor of Science in Tourism and become a flight attendant in the near future. But I know that my career would not only stop there, I know that many doors will open for me and I am willing to grab it. Now, I am looking forward to face my future and help my family and also to give back and honor my Alma Mater, the Sisters of Mary. My favorite motto in life is “If that makes you happy, then it is not a waste of time” – all of the things that you love to do are not a waste of time, do it and be dedicated in doing it until you achieve what makes you happy and make you satisfy.