

Reader enjoyed article on HCC student

Thank you so much for your article on Armanis Fuentes. It highlights a brilliant young man born into difficult circumstances who achieved early notice at a young age, suffered from some of the discrimination this society imparts and was again "found" and supported in ways he needed.

I hope that your article helps Holyoke High School think deeply about the culture and the ways in which it supports, or does not support, its students.

I hope readers will applaud the teachers at HCC who created safe space for relevant involvement in the current issues of the day for their students.

I hope we can acknowledge the Holyoke Public Library for supporting and

highlighting this young man's interests and ideas.

Clearly all of the "mentors" and individual supporters and guides along the way were key. I give Armanis Fuentes credit for learning from every single tough experience he had. And I note that it took a village along the way to help him ultimately get to Williams for the education his talents deserve.

Thank you so much for your article. And I hope there will be more ways to credit the young people who struggle and those in our village who make space for them to find themselves.

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Holyoke