



The

# GATEWAY GOODS

September 11, 2023 | Issue 2



Alyssa Ussery, class of 2020, is studying fine arts at UMSL. Over the summer, Ussery interned with Cori Bush and got into “Good Trouble.”

Photo provided by Alyssa Ussery.



Class of  
**2020**

# Alumni

# Songbird Part Deux

By William Colston

Photos by Colette Morton

Katarra Parson is one of Gateway's very own and has made a full career out of her passion. She started performing music at open mic nights for lyrical therapy at UrbArts. Soon after she started performing, she was starting to make a name for herself. Being a musician required overcoming her anxieties which she had struggled with all her life.

Growing up and in school Parson struggled with social situations and self-doubts about her appearance. Now she's overcome those though and is a talented, accomplished musician.

She's performed for politicians like Cori Bush and Tishaura Jones. She recently performed at The Big Muddy Blues Festival and opened for a sold-out Boyz II Men concert. She's released an album and multiple singles. Katarra often sings about her story and issues with anxiety growing up and has channeled that story into a powerful voice.



Right: Katarra Parson Plays the Big Muddy Blues Festival on the Landing in Saint Louis, Missouri on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023.

Bottom Right: Parson is featured in Gateway Times in the October 2008 edition of Gateway Times. Zoom in to see what she up to then.

Class of  
**2010**

Activities 3

### Listening to the story of Gateway's Songbird



Not many teenagers enjoy opera these days, but Senior Katarra Parson is not your typical teenager. The aspiring musician, along with Michelle Spears, tried out for the Youth Artist in Training program last month sponsored by Webster University.

Her love for music began at the age of six. She started writing poetry and playing piano at the age of seven and began composing her own music in fifth grade. At fourteen Katarra started singing and playing piano at her church. At sixteen she received an internship with the Saint Louis Internship Program at Washington University.

Sierra Watson, friend of Parson, says "she (Katarra) is one of the most talented and gifted persons I personally know. Her voice is truly a gift from God. When I hear one of her songs I can personally connect with her lyrics and melodies. Not only is Katarra gifted but caring, sweet, ambitious, and a good friend."

Parson isn't just interested in opera, she enjoys drawing, shopping, reading and going out. She loves all types of music. "I like everything," Parson states. Some of her idols in music are Alicia Keys and Stevie Wonder. Although some may believe a career in music is impossible, Katarra wants to prove her goal isn't "unattainable."

"I see Katarra becoming a wonderful singer, who is can be very successful in the future," commented Jessica Naugles

By Eric Carroll, Alexis Jones Najma Nasiruddin, and Ayanra Reed

Drill, Baby, Drill!

ior Instructor, MSgt. Paine states. Freshmen cadet Muhdin Abdimalik is one of the energetic new members MSgt. Paine is referring to. "I like ROTC because of The neatness and organization. I'm ready to learn to master the movements and I'm excited about spinning the rifle. Plus,

Katarra Parson plays the piano while practicing her singing.

Photo By: Brandie Stevenson

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THE GATEWAY TIMES STAFF

The Gateway Times Staff



Autumn Manuel works part time at Diego's Cantina in University City. It is estimated that 30% of high school students have jobs.

Students who work not only earn money, they also learn the importance of budgeting and time management.

Left: Autumn Manuel is lighting Queso Flameado, cheese blend, spicy chiles, on fire, in honor of Momo's, the restaurant that once stood in the in that location.

Photo by Colette Morton

WORK, WORK WORK,  
WORK, WORK



# SPIKE IT!

Top: Emily Traylor  
serves the ball.  
Photos by Logan Allgood



By Emily Traylor

Photos by Logan Allgood

On Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, Gateway's Volleyball Varsity girls won against Soldan. The final score was 25 – 5.

Gateway's current record is 2-1

Top: The team huddles after scoring a point against Sumner. Ayanna Blanchard 8, Erendira Velazquez 7, Mariah Macon 13, Emily Traylor 9, Journey Riggs-Shorter 12 Right: Shkayla Dickson prepares to serve.

Story and photo by Jovon Spencer.

Antony and Angelo Nunez are more than soccer players on Gateway STEM's Soccer team. They are also brothers.

Both brothers fell in love with the game at a very young age. Anthony Nunez plays midfielder and Angelo is the goalie.

Anthony has a hard job out on the soccer field. Angelo, on the other hand, appears to have a kick back position, but when it's time to go then he has to go.

# Brotherhood



Nery Macias hits the ball  
as Coach Faszholz looks  
on in the September 6<sup>th</sup>  
game against GSA.

Photo provided by Nery Macias



Futbol es

# LIFE



Tylin Moore catches a football in the game against Normandy High School. Gateway won 36-20

Photo provided by Tylin Moore



Jack Anthony got to test out firefighting at school last week.

Photo provided by Victoria Leto

Alexis Sarau paints on Matthew Caruso's wall as way to express herself and feel more comfortable in the space. Students are all encouraged to participate.

Photo by Colette Morton

# create

## *Did you know:*

Your classroom environment is a blend of the social, emotional, and instructional elements of your class. Research shows that many aspects of your classroom environment can affect student motivation and that students who are more motivated, put more effort into learning activities.

[https://teaching.cornell.edu/teaching-resources/teaching-cornell-guide/teaching-strategies/classroom-environment-strategies#:~:text=Your%20classroom%20environment%20is%20a,activities%20\(Ambrose%2C%202010\).](https://teaching.cornell.edu/teaching-resources/teaching-cornell-guide/teaching-strategies/classroom-environment-strategies#:~:text=Your%20classroom%20environment%20is%20a,activities%20(Ambrose%2C%202010).)

