

## **THIS IS ONEIDA MEET THE CLASS OF 2013**

Meet the Class of 2013, as introduced to the graduation congregation by senior class president, Beimnet Kebede.

“It’s finally here, the day we have all been waiting and working hard for. Who knew we all would end up here in the middle of nowhere, in a place called Oneida. The class of 2013 is one of a kind, . . . diverse in nationality, personality, beliefs and even friendships. . . . but at the end of the day, we all stand together as one, hold hands and pray to the Creator who has kept us together and who has also blessed us in great measures. Some of us have just met this year and some us have known each other for the past seven years. We have made so many memories together: that soccer game when our seniors cheered on the team while it was pouring outside, singing along to songs in circles at the cookouts, laughing at each other’s screams on roller coaster rides, running around in circles holding each other trying to play a game because Mr. Self wanted to do something traditional, stressing out about our scrapbooks . . . . We are going to miss Robert’s cricket noise when in awkward situations, Kyle saying ‘Sauce!’ in middle school. We won’t forget Brandon’s ‘you are a bum!’ statements, and all of us know it’s Lydia when you hear a big ‘Endae!’ in the crowd.

“Oneida will always be a part of us; we’ll miss the packed dining hall on chicken wing nights, Mrs. Belcher’s amazing glazed doughnuts, and who could forget Mr. Bishop’s five-minute-long applause, which were hilarious, and finally, the KBC mandatory fun trip, which actually turned out to be fun. We went as ‘Wreck-It-Ralphs’ and came back as ‘Fix-It-Felices,’ one as a class and as a family. We have grown and matured together, we’ve laughed, we’ve cried, we’ve lost people but now we’ve come to this point in our lives where we go our separate ways and take these precious memories with us.

“Parents and guardians, we are glad you came to celebrate with us today. We thank you for all of your hard work to make our dreams a possibility. Teachers, houseparents, faculty, and staff, thank you for making our futures brighter and guiding us in the way you know best. On behalf of the entire class, I would like to publically thank our class sponsors, Mrs. Stockton . . . and Mr. Self. You both are a wonderful blessing to us, I know we have not been the greatest or the easiest class to work with, but thank you for all of your effort to make our year unforgettable. You are greatly appreciated.

“My fellow classmates, it has been a great pleasure getting to know each of you. Each and every one of you are amazing; you have a great potential to go out into the world and make something of yourselves. Congratulations to you all, I love you very much and I thank GOD that He has kept us together this far! This is our class, this is who we are; this is the class of 2013!”



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