

2019 PLAYER HIGHLIGHT

Jayvelle Davis



Jayvelle is was born and raised in Watts, a neighborhood in South Los Angeles. As a child and adolescent, you could find him at the local park, playing and practicing baseball with his siblings and father. Jayvelle started playing baseball when he was four years old and has played Dodgers RBI for the last six years. Now, a graduate from Verbum Dei High School in spring of 2020, Jayvelle has his sights set on the future. In the fall of 2020, he will be attending Clark Atlanta University, a historically black college/university, in Atlanta, Georgia.

Over the years, the social and leadership skills that Jayvelle developed on the field began to manifest in the classroom and throughout his life. According to Jovanni Gonzales, one of Jayvelle's teachers at Verbum Dei H.S., "Jayvelle is a smart kid. He's a leader. I think has to do with his home life and him being a part of a team. He brings that into the class all the time." Sports can be uniquely empowering for young people when it becomes a safe space for youth development. Sports are a space where youth can experience a myriad of emotions, challenges, failures, and successes. These experiences help youth learn how to grow and adapt in life. When asked about how baseball translates into his personal and academic life, Jayvelle stated,

"Baseball brings out the best of us. It teaches you confidence, and it teaches you leadership. It makes you a better student overall."

Jayvelle's success in the Dodgers RBI program was not measured in strikeouts or batting average, but in the in the positive experiences he had that have equipped him for young adulthood and college.

Last year, Jayvelle generously shared his and his family's story with LADF through a video.

LADF wishes the best for Jayvelle as he enters college this fall.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT JAYVELLE, WATCH "JAYVELLE'S STORY: BIGGER THAN BASEBALL" IN OUR MEDIA SECTION.