

NJSIAA congratulates former Arts athlete Michael B. Jordan on his Academy Award for Best Actor

The Academy Awards and trivia go hand-in-hand, and after Sunday night, there's a new question to answer: What Oscar winner for Best Actor was also a standout New Jersey high school athlete?

The answer is Michael B. Jordan, a Newark native who was a basketball and track star while attending Arts High School, where he graduated in 2005.

Having been an actor for most of his life, he's now the recipient of his profession's biggest honor after winning the Best Actor award for his dual portrayal of twin brothers in the film *Sinners*.

Michael actually had a major part on *All My Children* at the same time he was attending Arts.

During his senior year, he averaged 21 points, and even had a scholarship offer to play basketball at Delaware State. In the spring, he was a jumper on the track team, and was the Colonial Hills Conference champion in the long jump, all while simultaneously playing the role of Reggie Montgomery on the TV show.

"My adult side is to be very serious about my acting," he told *The Star-Ledger* on the day he won the CHC title with a jump of 19-9. "But my young side is to spend a lot of time playing basketball and working on the long jump."

"I've got to ride out the acting career and see where it goes," he added that day.

Congratulations Michael for taking your acting skill to the top of the profession, and for being a role model for so many student-athletes in the pursuit of their own dreams!

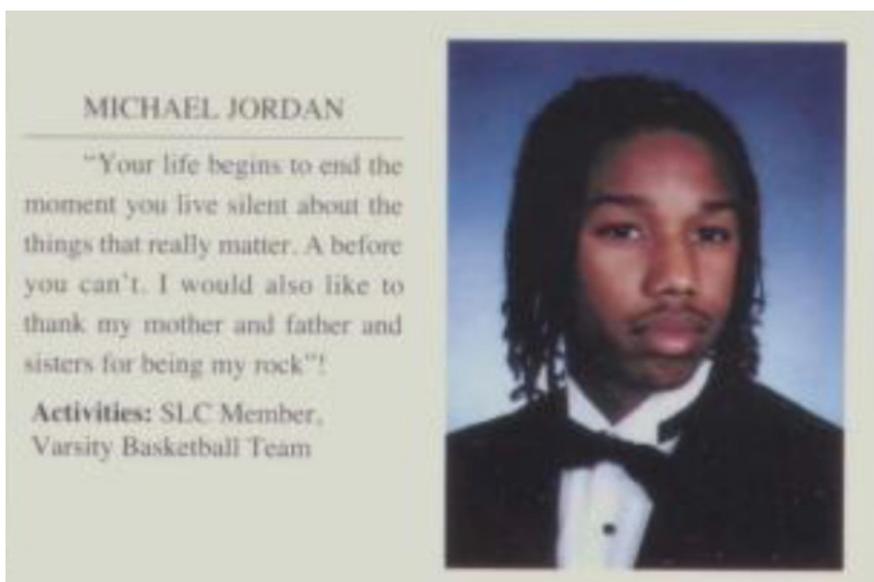


Photo credits: Arts High School yearbook

