

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOUTH ORANGE & MAPLEWOOD

BOARD RECOGNITION

PUBLIC BOARD MEETING

December 18, 2017

Mr. Paul Marigiliano's students swept the 2017 Ramapo College of New Jersey High School Film Festival in the following categories:

Best Documentary - Village To Village (Directed by **Max Goldstein**)

Best Animation - Super Convention (Created and Animated by **Sophie Goodman-Merel**)

Best Film of The Festival - Max's Candy Crush (Directed By **Aidan Romanaux and Max Goldstein**)

Finalist Trophy - Fosamiso (Created and Animated by recent graduate **Andrew Campbell**)

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Thirty-one CHS student athletes earned **All-Conference Awards for the Fall Season**:

Football - Trey Harris, Cordell Provilon and Luke Hayes

Boys Soccer - Sam Maidenberg, Joe Dente, Avery Coreschi, Alex Lauder, Julian Lyons, Frederik Hoffmann and Cameron Donald

Girls Soccer - Hannah Williams, Naomi Joseph, Michelle Aguerro, Cecilia Munoz and Meredith Meyer

Girls Volleyball - Maya Goldner, Shayla Keegan, Sri Taylor, Maggie Davis and Georgia Longstreet

Field Hockey - Annie Pasternak, Sarah Wolf, Sam Waldon, Zoe Gonzalez and Erin Lackey

Cross Country - Sari Rosenberg, David Ives, Tim Depue, Jon Salinardo, Ricky Hankey and Edward Martinez

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CHS Senior **Will Pettigrew**, CHS Freshman **Anna Pettigrew** and SOMS 8th Grader **Katie Trzaska** performed multiple soloist roles in the New Jersey Dance Theatre Ensemble production of the beloved holiday classic “**The Nutcracker.**”

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Fifteen Columbia High School students participated in a **Model UN Conference** at New York University. **Elijah Glantz** and **Christopher Trzaska** both won best delegate awards. **Valerie Houghton** and **Danielle Samake** were given honorable mentions. **Zachary Singer** was awarded with a certificate for best position paper.

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Columbia High School's **Cougar Stars Sophomore Robotics Team** is advancing to the **State Robotics Championship Tournament** in February. Team members include: **Zubin Kremer-Guha, Lily Mencarini, Sofia Mencarini, Ben Roberts, Jason Pagan, Alex Glynn, Alex David, Michelle Koenig** and **Evan Fagan**.

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Columbia High School Seniors **Ricky Hankey, Patrick Lahey** and **Gavin Wentworth** and Junior **Cole Donat** recently earned the coveted rank of Eagle Scout and were honored at a Boy Scout Court of Honor ceremony on December 2nd.

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Vanguard Theater Company is Bringing 'Broadway to the Burbs' with a Production of **The Music Man in Concert** co-sponsored by South Orange Middle School, featuring professional actors, pre-professional talent, real SOMA families, and members of the SOMS community.

South Orange Middle School Sixth Graders **Rowan Wechsler** and **Justice Muhammad** will play the two principal child roles in the cast. They will also be joined by SOMS students **Silas Silverman** and **David Harper**, and by SOMS alumnae **Sylvie Schuetz** and **Jacob Tall**.

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Clinton Fourth Grader **Eve Johnson** is performing the role of Tessie in the Papermill Playhouse production of **Annie**.

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Clinton Third Grader **Rianna LaVerdiere** is performing in **A Christmas Carol** at the Geva Theatre Center.

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The **Jefferson School Choir** has been invited to sing by the **Maplewood Dicken's Village** Committee on December 16, 2017. 75 5th grade members of the Jefferson choir will be performing at 1:30 and an incredible 120 4th grade members of the choir will be performing at 3:00. Jefferson Music Teacher **Risa Yesowitz** will be leading the students in singing a selection of winter and seasonal songs.

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South Mountain Fifth Grader **Phoebe Handelman** was the driving force behind a new ordinance passed by the South Orange Village Trustees on December 11th making it legal to raise and keep chickens in South Orange. According to Village President Sheena Collum, Phoebe provoked the drafting and approval of the backyard chicken ordinance when she “wrote a very compelling letter to the The Village Green back in July advocating that backyard chickens should be legal and the law needed to be changed in South Orange.”

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The art work of CHS Art Teacher, and former SOMSD student, **Bisa Butler** is being featured in an exhibit in Miami.

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MMS Health and Physical Education Teacher **Karen Bonanno** is presenting at the **SHAPE America National Convention** for health and physical education teachers in March of 2018 in Nashville, TN.

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The work of the MMS leadership team, Principal **Dara Gronau** and Assistant Principals **Louis Brown** and **Dion Patterson**, was recognized by the NJDOE. Each school that is in Target or Priority status is required to create *School Systems Documents*, including climate and culture plans, school operations, observation best practices, master schedule, and administrator schedules. The documents created by the MMS team were so outstanding that the NJDOE has shared them as a model for first year Target schools.

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Seven Marshall staff members were awarded grants from the **Montclair State University Network for Educational Renewal**: **Yves Hart, Michael Wojcio, Skye Sardanopoli, Jaclyn Raviola, Bonita Samuels, Ilana Rakovsky** and **Vanessa Proietto**. These grants are intended for innovative projects in classrooms and throughout the school.



The Achieve Foundation has awarded sixty-nine teacher grants totaling more than \$64,000 to support outstanding, innovative education in all ten SOMSD Schools. The following teachers are receiving funding:

- **CHS – Peter Bauer, Noah Brauner, Jennifer Dalton, Jonathan Fisher, Debra Gomer, Tracy McNamara, and Chastity Tedeschi**
- **MMS – Michael Berezny, Kelli Dios, John Faherty, Suzanne Fein, Meredith Hansen & Brian Kaplan, Debra Hwang, Maureen O’Sullivan, Amy Pitucco, Michele Reisman, Nataly Riera, Samantha Selikoff, Debra Silva, Lorraine Sudol, Eleanya Uche, and Glen Wright**
- **SOMS – Caitlin Dennehy, Jacob Ezzo and Angela Forero**
- **Clinton – Lydia Frasier, Antoinette Gelin, Dawn Gordon, Jordyn Lachmund, and Jennifer Latimer.**
- **Jefferson – Alyssa Olsen**
- **Marshall – Erin Bolstad, Yves Hart, April Intile, Stephanie Rotondo, Jennifer Scates, and Laura Wood**
- **Seth Boyden – Kimberly Aquiles, Susan Brody, Dianne Canzonieri, Rosemary Connell, Maureen Davenport, Mary DeSaurno, Erica Dulny, Jillian Gergel, Kristin Goldsworthy, Benjamin Green, Lynn Kelly, Sheila Murphy, Julie Ann Nolan, Kristin Pei, Elana Ris, Shayna Sackett-Gable, Katherine Subbie and Sandra Smith**
- **South Mountain – Terri Paisner**
- **Tuscan- Tivoli Hunt, Amy Popp, Claire Sinclair, Claire VanTine and Rebecca Veza**
- **Montrose – Maura Edgington, Lori Smith and Karen Leary**



Tracey Woods has served as the chair of the **Maplewood Township Green Team** for a total of three years and has been an active member of the Maplewood Township Sustainability Committee and the South Orange Maplewood School District Green Team. Tracey developed a concept of collecting data from teachers through an online survey to help the district determine heat conditions in the classrooms. This concept was expanded by applying for a \$10,000 Sustainable New Jersey grant. The grant funds are being used to provide low cost portable monitors that record temperature in various instructional spaces. The information from this data is shared with the district facilities department. The data is used to help balance heat levels. A pilot was conducted in Tuscan elementary school where about a third of the classrooms saw an improvement in heat levels. We are looking forward to continuing this work in other schools within the district this year.



CHS 2008 Graduate **SZA** is the most nominated woman of the **2018 Grammys**, with nominations in five categories:

- Best New Artist
- Best Rap/Sung Performance for Travis Scott collaboration “Love Galore”
- Best R&B song (“Supermodel”)
- Best Urban Contemporary Album (*Ctrl*), and
- Best R&B Performance (“The Weekend”)

SZA (pronounced “Sizza”) was also recently nominated for an **MTV Video Music Award**, and performed on **Saturday Night Live** on December 9.