

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOUTH ORANGE & MAPLEWOOD

BOARD RECOGNITION

PUBLIC BOARD MEETING

January 22, 2018

The **2017 Edition of *Guildscript*** was awarded a **First Place with Special Merit** and **Best High School Literary-Art Magazine** by the American Scholastic Press Association! *Guildscript* was awarded 950 out of 1000 possible points highlighted as a "model for those up-and-coming magazines and an inspiration" for other schools.

The 2017 *Guildscript* student leaders were:

Editors-In-Chief: **Meredith Olin** and **Sophie Salvato**

Writer's Group Leaders: **Sophie Alvarez, Izzy Kalodner** and
Samantha Reichgut

Art/Photo Editor: **Emily Glynn**:

Design Editors: **Caroline Neri** and **Leonel Soares**

The 2017 *Guildscript* Advisors were CHS English Teacher **Ms. Tracy McNamara** and CHS Art Teacher, **Ms. Cindy Malhotra**.



The **National Merit Scholarship Program** announced the names of 30 academically talented CHS students who have been honored as part of the 63rd annual National Merit Scholarship competition:

CHS Senior **Sarah Braka** was selected as a **National Merit Semifinalist**. Semifinalists have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 7,500 National Merit Scholarships worth more than \$32 million that will be offered next spring.

Twenty-five CHS seniors were awarded **Letters of Commendation**:
Joshua Anthony, Julia Cataneo, Cameron Donald, Benjamin Doubek, Naomi Fisch, Sam Forman, Adam Friedman-Brown, Theodore Grayer, Joshua Haile, Eden Harel, Christopher Holowczak, Eleanor Jaworski, Jennifer Kret, Lauren Kret, Lucy Leonard, Luc Maynard-Parisi, Meredith Olin, Olivia Pryor, Nicholas Salvato, Sophia Salvato, Lauren Schwartzbard, Nicole Schwartzbard, Anna Torrey, Isabelle Wendt and **Nathan Wong**

These Commended students placed among the top 20,000 scorers of more than 1.6 million students who entered the 2018 competition.

CHS Seniors **Joshua Abdill** and **Gabriel Levin** received **Special Corporate Sponsored Scholarships**.

The **2018 National Hispanic Recognition Program** named three CHS seniors as **Scholars** referred to U.S. Colleges and Universities:

Zoe Crutcher

Samuel Gonzalez-Freedson

Eleanor Jaworski

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Eight Columbia High School musicians received the **Vanessa Pollock Music Initiative Awards** which will provide private music instruction and/or professional grade instruments this school year for each of the following gifted students: **Kamryn Coates, Kim Dorvil, Deshawna Exilus, Nia Grace Paton, Olivia Hirsch, Matthew Lintern, Mikayla Montano** and **Elsa Noel**.

CHS Band Director, **Peter Bauer**, Choral Director, **Jamie Bunce** and Orchestra Director, **Todd Van Beveren**, nominated the students for the Pollock awards, because of their extraordinary achievements in music to date.

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Columbia High School Sophomore **Jonathan Dalce**, photography student of Mr. Fisher, and Freshman **Shaine Hammarberg**, art student of Mr. Grayson, are included in the 2018 Emerging Artists Exhibition of the Art Administrators of New Jersey.

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South Orange Middle School's "**The Rolling Tones**" **A Capella Choir** has been selected by Disney Performing Arts to be part of the entertainment at Walt Disney World this Spring. SOMS Music Teacher **Jacob Ezzo** is the Choir Director.

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Maplewood Middle School Math Teacher **Jamie Felder** was chosen to be featured in the new **Weight Watchers "Freestyle"** commercials, alongside Oprah Winfrey. We commend her for modeling healthy habits for our students!

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Clinton Media Specialist **Jennifer Latimer** spoke at the **New Jersey Educational Computing Cooperative (NJECC) Conference** at Montclair State University on the Power of Positive Teaching.

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The New Jersey Department of Education has identified **Clinton School** as a **model of how to successfully exit from the State's Focus School list**. Dr. Andrea Lewis, Director of the USDOE's Comprehensive Support Network (formerly known as the RAC) is bringing a group of State staff and faculty from schools still on the Focus School listing to tour Clinton School, and hear from Principal Ann Bodnar about the school's philosophy, and the steps Clinton staff took to meet State requirements and exit from Focus School status.

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Seth Boyden Music Teacher **Leah Van Doornik** performed a family concert with the **Livingston Symphony Orchestra** on Sunday, January 21st. Ms. Van Doornik arranged for free tickets for Seth Boyden students, family and staff, so that students could not only experience a live classical concert, but also put to use the "Composer's Toolbox" which they have studied in school.

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South Mountain teacher **Brent Jones** received a grant to fund the purchase of problem solving games to enhance persistence and perseverance in math, logic and puzzles.

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South Mountain teacher **Michelle Ducharme** received a grant to fund the purchase of books to prompt deep conversations and raise issues for students to discuss as part of complicated and authentic conversations about American History.

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South Mountain Co-teachers **Tammy Murphy** and **Rebecca Ciuba** each received grants to expand flexible seating options in their classrooms in order to provide students choice in selecting the spaces that best suit their learning style.

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