

BOARD RECOGNITION

PUBLIC BOARD MEETING

April 18, 2016

The South Orange Maplewood School District Received a [2016 Best Communities for Music Education Designation!](#) presented by **The NAMM Foundation**. The district received this designation for its “*Outstanding Support of Music Education and Enriching the Lives of Children and Advancing Student Achievement.*”

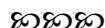


Columbia High School’s **Special Dance Company Senior Madelyn “Maddie” Cidlik**, choreographer of **MISCONCEPTIONS** has been selected to perform in the **National High School Dance Festival** that will be held at Point Park University in Pittsburg this spring. The Special Dance Company performers of MISCONCEPTIONS are:

Hannah Baker
Maddie Cidlik
Eleanor Cohen
Victoria Colon

Michael Hoey
Tahjanae Johnson
Ava Milanese
Dondrea Taylor- Stewart

Ms. Kandice N. Point-Du-Jour is their dance teacher.



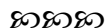
Three students won the **Montclair Film Festival Emerging Filmmakers** competition! The students are:

Declan Lynch

Nicholas Shires

Aidan Sullivan

Click on the [link](#) to read about the announcement. **Ms. Rivera and Ms. Kiina Dordina** are the social studies teachers for these students.



Nine 8th grade students at **South Orange Middle School** were published in **TeenInk** after they submitted their essays on the topic related to religion they were assigned in class.

The students are:

Deshawanna Exilus
Aleyah Fanfan
Jacob Kasdan

Margaret Lahey
Carly Lerman
Stephen Olaode

Mya Roman
Margot Tabakin
Lila Zinner

Stephanie Rivera is the social studies teacher for these students.



Fifty-two students of the **SOMS Model UN** recently attended the **Global Classrooms International Middle School Model UN** 3-day conference in New York City. The delegation represented the countries of Belize, Bangladesh, the Comoros and the Czech Republic and students grappled with multiple issues including the militarization of space and child labor. **Hazel Allison-Way** and **Abigail Ratner**, SOMS 8th graders won an award for their work in the **UNESCO** committee!



Seven students at Clinton Elementary School recently put together a **Book Talk for Read Across America**. The students were able to select an excerpt from a *Dr. Seuss* book and after practicing, their voices were recorded and their “Book Talk” was posted on YouTube and shared with the class.

The students are:

Arial Cabrera (2nd Grade)
Charles Johnson (2nd Grade)
Marcus Moxley (2nd Grade)
Sudan Jenkins (3rd Grade)

Schylar Curry (4th Grade)
Brandon Flashner-Heath (4th Grade)
Adam Quraishi (5th Grade)

Click on the link for the video: <https://youtu.be/vKENCUBUgPg>. Jon Korellis is their teacher at Clinton.



Seth Boyden Physical Education Teacher **Ria Favia** has gained national attention and has been asked to do videos of her physical education classes similar to the Danielson videos of teaching.



Seth Boyden Art Teacher **Nancy Ring** was the solo exhibitor paintings, collages and drawings which opened at the **Lippman Gallery**. She was the featured artist also on her studio building’s website: www.solosprojecthouse.com/sph-studios-nan-ring/

In addition, 63 participating fifth grade students in Ms. Ring’s class made artworks for the traveling exhibit “**Facing Racism**” at the **CHHANGE Museum** (chchange.org). Complete information can be found on the website: <https://chchange.org/art-exhibit-opening-event.html>



South Mountain Kindergarten Teachers J. Debbie Wright and Serena Watkinson, and their **Team W Kindergarten** students hosted their super successful **Team W 4th Annual Shoe Drive**.

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Columbia High School Principal **Elizabeth Aaron** has been invited to participate in the **5<sup>th</sup> Principals at ED event at the U.S. Department of Education** on May 20<sup>th</sup> and to meet with U.S. Secretary of Education John B. King. She was invited to this prestigious event following a very successful visit to CHS from several representatives from the USDOE including Alicia Perez-Katz, Principal Ambassador Fellow, and Ruthanne Buck, Senior Advisor to the US Secretary of Education.

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