Columbia High School Senior Jared Kofsky has been recognized for his reporting of local news and his photography. Jared’s work was featured in Local Beat, NJ News Commons' for his reporting in Essex County Place. In addition, Jared’s photograph was a semifinalist in the Gateway National Recreation Area Photo Contest and he also won 1st place in the youth category of the Essex County Nature Photography Contest.

* * *

South Orange sisters Emma Joy (Columbia HS 10th grader) and Quinn Joy (South Orange Middle School 7th grader) launched “Girls Helping Girls. Period” (GHGP),” a campaign to collect feminine hygiene products — and cash donations to purchase them — for girls and women in need. GHGP also seeks to raise awareness of the issue, and to encourage others to find ways to collect items. So far there were enough donations collected for over 100 women to use for a year.

* * *

Under the direction of Maplewood Middle School Music Teacher Regina Bradshaw, the 7th/8th grade Select Chorus attending High Note Festivals and was awarded the top rating of Superior.

* * *

Tim Beaumont, 4th grade teacher at Jefferson Elementary, Sandra Smith, 5th grade teacher at Seth Boyden and Melissa Butler, Teacher of Language Arts at South Orange Middle School were recently inducted into the Alpha Epsilon Lambda Graduate Students Honor Society at Montclair State University. These teachers were inducted in relation to their graduate studies in Educational Leadership.

* * *

Kate Dodd, Art Teacher at Columbia HS, attended an AP Art History Institute in Rome this past summer at the John Cabot University, courtesy of an AP College Board Fellowship Award.

* * *
April Intile and Heather Merrigan, Kindergarten Teachers from Marshall Elementary School were profiled in an article published in The National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), a professional membership organization that works to promote high-quality early learning for all young children, by connecting early childhood practice, policy, and research. Their article profiled the importance of block play in the classroom and how to incorporate math and science standards.

* * *

Laura Kruglinski, Teacher of Art at Jefferson Elementary School, organized an art fundraiser which raised $1,392 for the Jefferson Art Department!

* * *