

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOUTH ORANGE & MAPLEWOOD

BOARD RECOGNITION **PUBLIC BOARD MEETING** April 27, 2015

SOMSD was named one of the "**Best Communities in Music Education**" by the **National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM)**. The BCME program singles out districts for outstanding efforts by teachers, administrators, parents, students, and community leaders to make music education accessible to all students. This year, just 388 out of the 13,588 school districts throughout the nation received the BCME distinction.

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Twelve **Columbia High School** students received a **score of 800 on their SATs** (the highest possible score) for tests reported up to March 2015 in the following categories:

William Chang – Physics	Eleanor Engelhard – Writing
Michael Ferranti – Math	Emelia Gertner – Writing
Sarah Kleppe – Math	Nina Knight – Literature
Brigid Lynch – Math	Luke McPhillips – Math
Rocheny Noziere – French	Julia Oppenheim – Writing
Hannah Ratner – Reading	Rory Yarter – Reading

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Twenty-five members of the **MMS Model UN Club** attended the 3-day **UNA-USA Global Classrooms Model UN Conference** - the largest in the world, and attended by over 1,500 students from all over the world.

Four students won awards for **Outstanding Delegations**:

Max Bryant	Bryn Healy
Armaan Jahangir	Zoe Selesnick

Kenechukwu Amobi won an **Honorable Mention** for his work as a delegate.

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Allison Cahill, Physical Education/Health Teacher at SOMS, organized the district's first ever, "**SOMS Wellness Extravaganza**." The event, held earlier this month, was sponsored by two sponsors, **YouthNet** and the **Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse**, and included over 55 community vendors that offered free health screenings, cooking demonstrations, special performances, etc.

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Scott D. Cohen, Career and Technical Education Teacher at Columbia HS was inducted into the **Alpha Epsilon Lambda Honor Society** at Montclair State University. This honor society is based on the following principles:

- Confer distinction for high achievement
- Promote leadership development
- Promote scholarship and encourage intellectual development
- Enrich the intellectual environment of graduate education institutions
- Encourage high standards of ethical behavior

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Karen Deas, Child Study Team Social Worker at Columbia High School, received special recognition for their service to the community by the **Newark Mayor's Office of Arts, Cultural Development and Tourism**. Mayor Baraka acknowledged African American community organizations during the **2015 African American Heritage Month** at a reception held in February. Ms. Deas is President of the local chapter of **The National Association of Black Social Workers**.

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Ellen Hark's artwork has been accepted and will be on display at the **16th Annual Gaelen Juried Art Show**. The show runs from May 17th-June 21 at the Gaelen Gallery in Whippany at the JCC Metro West. Ms. Hark is an Art Teacher at South Orange Middle School.

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Judy LoBianco, Supervisor of Health, Physical Education and Nursing Services has been elected to the **Board of Directors of SHAPE America - Society of Health and Physical Educators**, the nation's largest membership organization of health and physical education professionals.

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Line A. Marshall, Teacher in the English Department at Columbia High School was awarded a **British University Summer School (BUSS) Scholarship** from the Princeton, NJ branch of the **English Speaking Union of the United States (ESU)** to study at **Shakespeare's Globe in London** this Summer. The intensive three-week **Teaching Shakespeare Through Performance** program, offered by the Globe Theatre in cooperation with the ESU, gives a handful of teachers across the U.S. a chance to study Shakespeare at its source, so to speak, and to return equipped with the tools to enrich and enliven Shakespeare studies at their schools.

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Kaitlyn Walker, Instrumental Music Teacher at SOMS and MMS, and **Jasmine Bloch**, 5th Grade Band Teacher, performed with **The Eastern Wind Symphony** in Princeton on March 21 in a concert that featured world-renowned trumpet soloist Allen Vizzutti.

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