

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOUTH ORANGE & MAPLEWOOD

BOARD RECOGNITION

PUBLIC BOARD MEETING

June 16, 2014

Five sophomore **Columbia High School** students received a **score of 800 on their SATs** (the highest possible score) in the following categories:

William Chang – Physics, Reading and Math Level 2

Serin Feldman – Writing

Sam Peers Nitzberg – Reading

Henry Conrad-Poor – Reading

Kelsey Moore – Reading

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The following ensembles from **Maplewood Middle School** attended **High Note Festivals** with their music ensembles and were awarded trophies and a "Superior" rating.

The 7th and 8th grade Select Chorus are under the direction of music teacher **Ms. Regina Bradshaw**; the 8th Grade Wind Ensemble are under the direction of music teacher **Mr. Christopher Balas**; the 7th and 8th Grade String Orchestra are under the direction of music teacher **Ms. Jennifer Dodge**.

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The following ensembles from **South Orange Middle School** attended the **High Note Music Festival** to perform for adjudication and received comments and ratings:

- **Superior** – 7th Grade Concert Band and 8th Grade Symphonic Band, both under the direction of **Don Tighe**, Director of Bands
- **Excellent**– 7th Grade String Orchestra; and
- **Superior** – 8th Grade String Orchestra, both under the direction music teacher **Bill Cook**
- **Superior** – 7th and 8th Grade Select Choir, under the direction music teacher **Jacob Ezzo**

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Cassidy Moskowitz, a fourth grade student at **Jefferson School**, was awarded an **Honorable Mention** in the **Essex County "My County"** poster contest. This is an annual contest sponsored by the Essex County Clerk's office for fourth graders around the contest. As an Honorable Mention, Cassidy's winning poster will appear in an Essex County calendar along with the other winning posters.

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Three Columbia High School students competed and won at the **William Patterson Poetry Contest**:

Pierre Moise Vincent - 3rd Place ELL Beginner
Soraya Silverne - 2nd Place ELL Advanced
Jean Didier Ernest - 3rd Place French Native

Columbia High School teachers Laurie Pham and Christine Witter are their teachers.

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Jefferson Elementary School is a winner of the **Celestron Binocular** give-away, awarded by **The Cornell Lab of Ornithology's BirdSleuth K-12** initiative, for their **Avian Friends** project. "BirdSleuth is an inquiry-based science curriculum that engages kids in scientific study and real data collection through the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's citizen science projects." Jefferson will receive 15 pairs of Celestron Binoculars and one curriculum kit for their Nature Club.

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Columbia High School students **Kristen Richardson**, sophomore and **Julia Galante**, senior won **First Prize** in the **High School Category** for their film "**Shark Attack!**" at the 40th annual **New Jersey Young Filmmakers Festival**. The New Jersey Young Film and Video makers is the most prominent and oldest film competition in the state.
Mr. Boris Gavrilovic is their teacher at Columbia.

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Columbia High School freshman, **Olivia Winters** with the assistance of her teacher, applied for and won a **scholarship** through the **Italian American Committee on Education (IACE)** to travel and study in Italy for 2 weeks this summer. She will travel with 2 teachers and 20 students from the tri-state area this July where she will participate in Italian language lessons before exploring some of Italy's historic and cultural locations.

Ms. Felice Iannuzzi Stadlinger is her Italian teacher. Olivia and Ms. Stadlinger traveled to the Italian Consulate in NYC last month and were honored for their achievement by the Italian Consulate General of NY.

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The **Student Council** received the **Standards of Excellence** award at the **State Student Council** meeting. *Standards of Excellence* is the most prestigious award given by NJASC, awarded every 5 years. It requires our Student Council to be evaluated by another school. Our group has won "Top 10 Projects" in the State of NJ since 2007.

The Student Council took on the project, "Goat Project," for the Village of Bassein Bleu in Haiti. The Achieve Foundation decided to award a donation to this project and Beth Dalzell spoke about the project at Achieve's reception.

Columbia High School teachers **Beth Dalzell** and **Hannah Edelman** are advisors to the Student Council.

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After two years of rigorous study, eight SOMSD teachers earned their **Orton Gillingham Certification** through Fairleigh Dickinson University. This program meets the standards of The International Multisensory Structured Language Education Council (IMSLEC) and is New Jersey's only university program that is recognized by The International Dyslexia Association (IDA). The teachers are:

Suzanne Fein – Special Education, Seth Boyden

Joanna Leach – Special Education, Clinton

Karon Newman – 4th Grade, Jefferson

Jaclyn Raviola – 2nd Grade, Marshall

Rosemary Jessell – Special Education, Jefferson

Robin Margent – Academic Intervention, Marshall

Whitney Owens – 3rd Grade, Jefferson

Barbara Tsioni – Special Education, South Orange Middle

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The **Columbia High School Girls Track Team** won a 5th **straight Group IV Championship** in Egg Harbor. **Olivia Baker** won 3 gold medals in the 200 meter dash, 400 meter dash (breaking a meet record), and 800 meter dash. **Kayla Richardson** won 2 gold medals in the long jump and triple jump. **Yosuah Nijman** also won a gold medal for the boys in the shot put.

Lisa Morgan is their coach.

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