

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOUTH ORANGE & MAPLEWOOD

**BOARD RECOGNITION**  
PUBLIC BOARD MEETING  
May 12, 2016

World Language and ESL students from Columbia High School and Maplewood Middle School competed in the **33rd Annual Orlando Saa Foreign Language Poetry Recitation Contest** at William Paterson University. Approximately 900 students from more than 60 schools and school districts throughout New Jersey came together to recite authentic poems they had memorized in Chinese, ESL, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Latin, and Spanish. Judges evaluated students for delivery, pronunciation, intonation and poise.

Two Columbia High School students were awarded trophies for their recitations: **Daniela Maquera - First Place** trophy in the **Latin Beginner category** and **Wigenlors Altenor - Third Place** in the **ESL Intermediate category**.

**Laurie Pham** is the CHS French Teacher, **Paul Roncagliolo** is the MMS Spanish teacher and **Katie Simpson** is the MMS ESL teacher.



The **Columbia High School Honors Wind Ensemble** was selected to perform in the **2016 New Jersey State Band Gala**. Columbia was one of only 12 high school bands chosen through a series of three competitive preliminary rounds in New Jersey from over 150 New Jersey bands that participated. **Mr. Peter Bauer** is the Director of Bands.



Listed are the following sports accomplishments for Columbia High School for the 2015-2016 school year.

**Baseball: Won the SEC Conference Title for the second year in a row**

Members of the Boys Baseball team are:

**Jake Altamore**  
**Zach Altamore**  
**Gabriel Bergman**  
**Sam Berkley**  
**Lyle Berkley**  
**Danny Boehmer**  
**Mike Burke**  
**Daniel Cotler**  
**Ryan Davis**  
**Jonathan Del Greco**  
**Eliot Dix**  
**Reid Evans**  
**Thomas Fetner**

**Caleb Gagne**  
**Elijah Glantz**  
**Luke Jackson**  
**Quinn Kraiss**  
**Palmer Kraiss**  
**Matt Kritzberg**  
**Jeremiah LaCon**  
**Daniel Lawall**  
**Jake Lefferts**  
**Rowan Marbury**  
**Aidan Mayberry**  
**Spencer Melee**  
**Ben Mintz**

**Michael Nitti**  
**Peter Nolet**  
**Lucas Peterson**  
**Christian Pierre**  
**Michael Roseman**  
**Ben Rostan**  
**Spencer Rubino-Finn**  
**Isaac Schmidt**  
**Josh Watson-Lewis**  
**Zach West**  
**Phil Whitney**

**Boys Tennis: Won the SEC Conference Title for the second year in a row**

Members of the Varsity Boys Tennis are:

**Adam Kaplan  
Ben Kaplan  
Jackson Wagner  
Kevin Tamayo**

**Seth Gordon  
Avery Lieber  
Ryan Perlee  
Seth Brand**

**Armand O'Keefe  
Daniel Pomper  
Jared Levi**

**Girls Track:**

- **Won the Essex County Relays on May 6<sup>th</sup> Ciara French, Lillian Williams, Dahria Lewis, Jessica Brice and Cheyenne Trigg** won gold medals for relay competitions.
  - **Jordan Fields** and **Jasmine Keegan** won individual events.
- **Won the Essex County Championships on May 20<sup>th</sup> at Montclair**
  - **Cheyenne Trigg, Catherine Jordan, Briana Reckling, Isadora Egypt** won gold medals as a relay team.
  - **Catherine Jordan, Jordan Fields** and **Jasmine Keegan** won individual gold medals.
- **Won the Group IV Sectional Title at Ridge HS**
  - **Ciara French, Cheyenne Trigg, Dahria Lewis, Lilian Williams, Briana Reckling, and Catherine Jordan** won gold medals for relay competitions.
  - **Jordan Fields** and **Jasmine Keegan** won individual gold medals.



Columbia High School Senior **Steevens Delices** was awarded the **Edison Award** by the CHS Math Department. The award after Edison due to his famous quote – that genius is one percent inspiration and 99 percent perspiration. Steevens is the first student that we have ever had to start out in level 2 math and get to and successfully complete AP Calculus.



Students from **South Orange Middle School** won awards for the exceptional scores achieved on the ACT/SATs or SCATs and qualified for the **John Hopkins Center for Talented Youth 2016 Talent Search**. The CTY Search identifies, assesses and recognizes students with exceptional mathematical and/or verbal reasoning abilities and offers them the opportunity to take the SATs in middle school.

SOMS students that received awards are:

**Andrew Brown  
Katharina Dowlin  
Brian Goodman  
Cameron Lipp**

**Sophia Carter  
Ben Fisher  
Olivia Jane Morgan**

**Benjamin Christmann  
Alex Goodman  
Julia Vitale**



**Maplewood Lacrosse Team 2020** won the **NJ AA State Championship** on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. The team is made up of SOMSD 8<sup>th</sup> graders:

**Will Charvala**  
**JJ Gillette**  
**Kyle Gonyea**  
**Hudson Grumieaux**  
**Kalman Kraham**  
**William Hoffman**  
**Ethan Mann**  
**Colin O'Mara**  
**Ben Peacock**  
**Kieran Reynolds**

**Ashri Settles**  
**Kiran Sharma**  
**Daniel Teitelbaum**  
**Phelan Thatcher-Keane**  
**Mack Turi**  
**Declan Weeda**  
**Jesse Whelan-Small**  
**Andrew Williams**  
**Chris Woods-Jones**  
**Samson Wolpov**

~~~~~

Members of the **South Orange Middle School “Students for Social Change,”** a new club that enables students to propose solutions to make positive changes within the community, traveled to **Rutgers New Brunswick** to present at the **Graduate School of Education’s annual Youth in Action Conference**. This was the first time SOMS students participated in the conference. 8th grade Social Studies teacher Stephanie Rivera, is the club’s advisor

~~~~~

**Briana Anderson** is a sixth-grader at **South Orange Middle School** and is one-third of a group called “**BAM**,” a social network formed by Briana and two other girls and exists as a social support for adolescent girls who like to laugh, play and give back. Through the social action project, called “**#RoomForChange**,” Briana has adopted six bedrooms on the sixth floor of the Newark YMCA, which temporarily houses unaccompanied minors. These children are usually placed at the Y by the Essex County Court because their parent or guardians are unable to care for them. Throughout the year, the girls participate in fun adventures together including beautifying the bedrooms of unaccompanied minors at the Newark YMCA.

~~~~~

Two 7th grade MMS students, **Anna Paul** and **Liv Knutsen**, started the **Blue Nile Club** as a YouthNet after school program in 6th grade with Ms. Miller as their advisor, and with Mr. Mantes stepping in to extend the project. The students did research regarding the various global issues impacting the world today, and started a three month money raising campaign with **Charity: Water** with a goal of raising \$10,000 -- the cost of one well. To date, they currently have raised approximately \$12,000, which will provide clean drinking water to over 300 people.

~~~~~

South Orange Middle School 7<sup>th</sup> graders, **Daisy Andrejco** and **William Griffith** placed second in the **World of 7 Billion International Sustainability Video Contest**. During the 7<sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies unit on sustainability, students were asked to explore the concept of population growth and its impact on water supply, forests and public health. Students chose a topic to research further and developed a 1-minute video explaining the problem. William and Daisy's video is currently featured on World of 7 Billion's website. Click the link below to view their video.

<https://www.worldof7billion.org/student-video-contest/2016-winners/deforestation/>

~~~~~

**Seventh and Eighth Grade Select Chorus** from Maplewood Middle School went to **High Note Festivals** and achieved a “**Superior**” rating. This ensemble has maintained this rating for over a decade. The adjudicators expressed praise for the musical proficiency of the singers, the skill of the student accompanist, **Lily Grinhauz**, and the instructional excellence of **Mrs. Bradshaw**, the choral director.

The **Eighth Grade String Orchestra** from Maplewood Middle School, under the direction of orchestral director **Annamaria Chilimintris**, participated in the **High Note Music Festivals** and received the highest ranking of '**Superior**'.

Eight South Orange Middle School students auditioned for the **Region I Band and/or Orchestra**. Of those students, three were selected -- **Joseph Lintern**, an 8<sup>th</sup> grade trumpet player, Violist **Imogen Pranger**, an 8<sup>th</sup> grader, and bassist **Jason Meusel**, a 7<sup>th</sup> grader.

Six 6<sup>th</sup> grade students were selected for, and played in, the **Elementary Honors Band**. The students were **Lucas Dalvi** on percussion, **Vivienne Frederick** on oboe, **Jake Gewirtz** and **Lauren Kasdan** on French horn and **Andrew Lintern** and **Jared Dussman** on clarinet.

~~~~~

**The Quintessentials**, a quintet of five SOMS 7<sup>th</sup> grade string players, recently played at **the Library Volunteers Celebration at SOMS**. They are violinists **Daisy Andrejco** and **Sophia Carter**, violist **Alex Klint**, cellist **Tess von Brachel** and bassist **Jason Meusel**.

~~~~~

165 South Orange Middle School students, along with their music directors and chaperones participated in the **High Note Festival**. The **SOMS 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band**, **8<sup>th</sup> Grade String Orchestra**, **Select Choir**, **Early Morning Chamber Orchestra** and **The Rolling Tones** each performed for a panel of judges and achieved the highest possible rating of **Superior**. The festival director further noted that, by achieving **five Superior** ratings, SOMS had eclipsed the former record of four such ratings by a single school in one day.

~~~~~

Three South Mountain Superstars were among just 15 winners of the "**My Essex County**" 4th Grade Poster Contest:

**Shaylan Patel**

**Margot Rosenband**

**Julia Saurborn**

The annual contest included 977 entrants this year and asked students to express their appreciation for the history, beauty and people of Essex County through art.

~~~~~

**Seth Boyden 5<sup>th</sup> grade students'** exhibition "**Facing Racism**" is on view at the **Chhange Museum** in Lincroft NJ,

~~~~~

CHS English teacher **Stacey Lawrence** received a scholarship to the prestigious program in **Poetry and Teaching and Writing Intensive** at **The Frost Place** in Franconia. The Frost Place is now a museum and writers colony but it was originally the home of poet Robert Frost.

~~~~~

CHS English Teacher **Line Marshall** was offered two **National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)** grants to take part in professional workshops this summer. She has chosen to attend *Gullah Voices Traditions and Transformations* in Savannah, GA, in July, and looks forward to using the workshop to enrich the ELA Dept.'s Literature of the African Diaspora course

~~~~~

CHS Principal **Elizabeth Aaron** is part of a panel at NJPAC tonight, as part of the celebration of the **350th anniversary of Newark**, presenting research about Newark, schools, and citizenship in the Progressive Era.

~~~~~

Clinton Media Specialist **Jennifer Latimer** was selected to attend **Edcamp US DOED**. The Edcamp Foundation and the United States Department of Education have teamed up for a day of learning and "solution-focused conversations that will change learning practices in our schools."

~~~~~

Seth Boyden Art Teacher **Nancy Ring** will be an artist-in-residence at the **Millay Colony** in Austerlitz, NY for a July 4th weekend intensive. Ms. Ring's artwork has also been accepted to the **Big Ink** at the **Noho Book** and Print Fair in Northhampton, Massachusetts and by Kenise Barnes Gallery in Larchmont, NY.