# The School District of South Orange & Maplewood

## Board of Education Recognitions May 2020

### **Recognitions:**

NAME/SCHOOL	RECOGNITION
CHS Seniors:     Noori Zubieta     Abigail Strugger	CHS Seniors, Noori and Abigail were awarded by the Essex County School Boards Association (ECSBA) as Academic Award Honorees.  The annual award, hosted by the Essex County Office of Education, recognizes up to (2) seniors from each of the county's high schools, recognizes students who make outstanding contributions to their schools and communities but who are often overlooked by traditional student recognition guidelines.  Noori and Abigail were due to be honored at the 33 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Essex County Academic Awards Banquet that was scheduled to take place on May 6, 2020 (due to the current pandemic the ceremony was cancelled). Noori will be attending Princeton University in the Fall; while Abigail will be attending the University of Rochester.
CHS Senior:  • Dana Hugel	CHS Senior, Dana Hugel, was recognized by the Essex County School Boards Association (ECSBA) as an "Unsung Hero" Honoree. The honorees are our schools' "unsung heroes/heroines"—students who make outstanding contributions to their schools and communities but who are often overlooked by traditional student recognition guidelines. Dana will be attending the University of Pittsburgh in the Fall.
CHS:  Columbia's Parnassian Society Student Nominations: Jordan Muhammad	Montclair State University's Theatre Night Awards has nominated Columbia's Parnassian Society's November 2019 production of Fabulation Or, the Re-Education of Undine for five awards this year:  1. Outstanding Achievement in Contemporary Costume Design; 2. Outstanding Choreography or Movement; 3. Peter Filichia Award for 'Pushing the Envelope' in Academic Theatre; 4. Outstanding Achievement by an Acting Ensemble 5. Outstanding Performance by a Supporting Actress in a Drama - Jordan Muhammad for her roles as Allison & Grandma
CHS Senior:  • Riley Hubscher	Riley Hubscher received an award from the American Psychology Association for Outstanding Research and an Honorable Mention from the Mercer Science and Engineering Fair for her research project titled <i>Cambridge Analytica and the Future of Political Advertising</i> . She researched psychological persuasion tactics used in political advertising and their implications in the modern advertising landscape. Riley worked under the guidance of CHS teacher Mrs. Wade and Dr. Craig Stark of the University of California Irvine campus.  Riley is a CHS Senior in our Science Research class and will be attending Northeastern University in the Fall.
CHS: (See the recognition column)	Congratulations to CHS winners of the Montclair 2020 Emerging Filmmaker Competition. Montclair Film's annual Emerging Filmmaker Competition (EFC), is a film competition open to students from around the

world interested in submitting short films in the Narrative, Comedy, Documentary, and Experimental film categories.

#### Comedy: Special Jury Prize-TIE

Rock n' Roadie: Oh Road He Didn't

Zach Slavin, Aydan Braunstein, Henry Boehm, Courtney Plaza, Chris Woods-

Jones

Columbia High School

#### **Narrative: Grand Prize**

The Cougar Critic Eli Fishman, Chris Woods-Jones, Ashley Lucas Columbia High School

#### Action/Adventure: Special Jury Prize

Battle in the Forest

Samuel Koranteng, Columbia High School

Selected films were due to be screened at the 2020 Montclair Film Festival (MFF), from May 1-10, 2020, with awards given and a special filmmaker reception held during the MFF. However, due to COVID-19, the Festival, as well as all related festival events, will be postponed and rescheduled.

#### **CHS Students:**

- Ivor Clarke
- Oscar Fein
- Isasac Fleischer
- Kate Kampner
- Natasha Lyons
- Sabreen Matos
- Julia Roses
- Anna Roth
- Rava Stevens

CHS students, Oscar Fein and Natasha Lyons, have been selected to participate in a monologue project, entitled, "QUARANTEENS" which is led by, Sandy Rustin a local playwright and community member. CHS ELA teachers were solicited to ask students to submit monologues about their experiences as "QUARANTEENS."

The mission of QUARANTEENS is to provide content for teenagers to perform via video sharing platforms. This piece aims to celebrate and validate the teenage voice, in all of its complexity and diversity, by giving students a platform to express themselves during this unprecedented and impossible experience. The 25 pieces chosen will be adapted and edited to inspire *QUARANTEENS*, a series of monologues about the American teenage experience of quarantine in the midst of the 2020 COVID-19 global pandemic.

Ms. Rusting shared, regarding Oscar and Natasha's submissions, "I found their words inspiring, eye-opening, vulnerable, thoughtful, and sometimes even funny! Mostly, your students' pieces left me with a feeling of hope. The feelings and experiences these kids are expressing now, will surely shape the adulthood looming in front of them. After hearing their voices so clearly, I look forward to their generation of thought and leadership. They filled me with optimism for our future."

Students from three school districts were chosen to participate, among them: CHS, Northstar Academy of Newark, NJ, and Walnut Hill School for the Arts of Natick, MA

### **Staff Recognition**

#### CHS:

 Michael Steiner, Physics & Astronomy Teacher Michael Steiner, Physics teacher at CHS,was featured in a recent NJCTL (New Jersey Center for Teaching and Learning) newsletter for STEM education sharing how he's adapted to online teaching for his physics classes.

URL: https://bit.ly/2WxWu3d