

The School District of South Orange & Maplewood

Board of Education Recognitions

February 24, 2022

Student Recognitions:

NAME/SCHOOL	RECOGNITION
<p>Columbia High School:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lindsey Minor, Junior 	<p>Lindsey Minor a junior at Columbia High School, is now the #3 women's high school épée fencer in New Jersey. Minor won third place in a grueling competition Sunday, February 13, at Morris Knolls High School, squaring off against a field of 38 other épée women fencers. Congratulations to Lindsey Minor.</p>
<p>CHS Model UN Club:</p>	<p>The CHS Model UN Club attended their first overnight conference since 2020 at the end of January 2022 and their success at the Ivy League Model UN Conference (ILMUNC) was a collaborative effort which culminated in a fantastic weekend for the Model UN club. The students competed against about 1,200 students from 70 schools who traveled across the country for ILMUNC. Model UN Club Advisor, Greg Tuttle was very proud of the CHS Model UN students for their growth and participation. The following students particularly excelled and won awards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Javier Casella & Alex Crosby - Verbal Commendations ● Sabrina Mannion & Molly Mendoza - Honorable Mention ● Max Kravitz & Owen Holt - Honorable Mention ● Eileen Conway & Lyra Graff - Honorable Mention ● Noah Morros - Outstanding Delegate ● Piper Davenport - Honorable Mention ● Daria Gordan & Jesse Cherins - Best Delegate ● Jem Weiner - Verbal Commendation ● Charlotte McCourt - Best Delegate <p>Mr. Tuttle shared, the hyperbole "it takes a village to raise a child" has many truths. Our collective work created the village that was necessary to give this opportunity and amazing experience for 40 of our CHS students. He shared his thanks to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mr. Zona and the Cougar Boosters for their continued financial support to the club; ● Principal Sanchez, Mr. Mullen, and Mr. Preston for their continued administrative support; ● Ms. Holmes for assistance in completing the paperwork needed for the trip; ● Mrs. Ellis for continued support of the club and help with the club's finances; ● Nurse Shook and Nurse Crigler, for their medical clearance for the students; and ● Ms. Pierce, Ms. Faison, and Ms. Solimon for their assistance and serving as chaperones/faculty advisors on the trip
<p>Mapelwood Middle School (MMS) & South Orange Middle School (SOMS) Model UN Club:</p>	<p>On Saturday, December 11, the SOMS & MMS Model UN Club participated virtually in an international Best Delegate Training Conference. The conference topics were</p>

	<p>"Climate Change," "Indigenous Rights," and "Access to Clean Water." Each delegate (club member) had spent three weeks researching one of those topics as part of a committee.</p> <p>A total of 16 SOMS and MMS delegates participated in the conference, and two of them received awards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SOMS 8th-grader Blake Gordon received an Honorable Mention for the Access to Clean Water Committee; ● Maya Kurland, also an 8th-grader at SOMS, received the Most Outstanding Delegate Award for the Climate Change Conference. <p>Congratulations to our winners and all of our delegates!</p>
<p>South Orange Middle School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Madeleine Benson, Violinist, 8th grade</i> ● <i>Estelle Olive, Violinist, 8th grade</i> ● <i>Maximiliano Mendoza, Bassist, 8th grade</i> 	<p>Three of our SOMS 8th grade students - violinists Madeleine (Maddie) Benson and Estelle (Stella) Oliver and bassist Maximiliano (Max) Mendoza – recently auditioned for the North Jersey School Music Association's Region I orchestra. All three played very well. Max Mendoza was fortunate enough to make it into the orchestra.</p> <p>Congratulations to all three for a fine effort, and to Max for making into the regional orchestra. He will participate in several rehearsals, as well as a concert on Sunday, March 6th. He is now eligible to audition for the New Jersey All-State Orchestra.</p> <p>Special thanks to String Teachers Mr. Bill Cook and Ms. Claire Wilson for their coaching efforts and continual support of students.</p> <p><i>(From, Supervisor Fine Arts, James Manno)</i></p>
<p>Columbia High School Band:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Jackson Pellegrino, 9th grade</i> ● <i>William Wheeler, 9th grade</i> ● <i>Max Coey, 9th grade</i> 	<p>Jackson Pellegrino, a freshman tenor saxophonist, and William Wheeler, a freshman mallet percussionist, were selected as members of the Intermediate Symphonic Winds. Both Jackson and William earned the highest scores for their instruments, placing them in first place above all other students who auditioned on those instruments. Max Coey, a freshman percussionist, was accepted as a member of the Intermediate Concert Band.</p> <p>They will join the best intermediate band students from all of North Jersey in rehearsals that will culminate in a gala concert on Sunday, March 13th. These students represent the very best of the Columbia High School band program and we are happy to celebrate their accomplishment with the entire SOMSD community.</p> <p><i>(From, Supervisor Fine Arts, James Manno)</i></p>
<p>Columbia High School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Seth Peiris, Senior</i> ● <i>Sophia Franklin, Junior</i> 	<p>Seth Peiris, a senior bassoonist and member of the CHS Honors Wind Ensemble has been accepted as a member of the 2022 New Jersey All-State Symphonic Band. His acceptance comes after his successful participation in auditions that took place this past Saturday at J.P. Stevens High School in Edison, NJ. We also want to recognize the efforts of Sophia Franklin, a junior percussionist, who also auditioned but did not earn a score high enough to be accepted.</p> <p>We are happy to celebrate his accomplishment with the entire SOMSD community.</p>

	Special thanks to CHS Band Director Mr. Peter Bauer.
Columbia High School: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Office of Visual & Performing Arts 	<p>The Art Administrators of New Jersey Members presented this year's 34th Annual High School Emerging Artist art Exhibit in partnership with Kean University. Students from across New Jersey produced a wonderful collection of artwork showcasing their amazing talents!</p> <p>Two students from Columbia High School are represented this year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Samuel Taber-Kewene (Ms. Kandice Stewart, Art Educator); and Quinn Raines (Mr. Jon Fisher, Art Educator)

Staff Recognitions:

Clinton Elementary School: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kate Fearon, ELL Teacher 	<p>We congratulate Mrs. Fearon, ELL teacher at Clinton Elementary school, for having been selected to participate in The Fullbright Teachers for Global Classrooms Program. Mrs. Fearon was selected to participate in the Program in 2019. After successfully completing the program, Mrs. Fearon was going to travel to Morocco for a short-term exchange program to continue to develop skills to prepare students for a competitive global economy. This part of the program was cancelled due to COVID and Mrs. Fearon is now ready to finalize the program and work with fellow teachers in Morocco. Our District congratulates Mrs. Fearon on this great achievement.</p>
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