

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOUTH ORANGE & MAPLEWOOD

BOARD RECOGNITION
PUBLIC BOARD MEETING
January 27, 2014

THE COLUMBIAN, the national-award winning newspaper of Columbia High School received a **Silver Medal** from the **Columbia Scholastic Press Association** for 2013. Cindy Malhotra, Teacher of Fine Arts and Jan McGrane, retired Teacher of English are Co-Advisors for the paper.

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THE GUILDSRIPT, the national-award winning art and literary magazine of Columbia High School received 2 awards from the **American Scholastic Press Association** for 2013.

- ❖ **First Place with Special Merit**
- ❖ **Most Outstanding High School Literary Magazine for 2013**

Cindy Malhotra, Teacher of Fine Arts and **Lauralee LuBrano**, Teacher of English are Co-Advisors for **THE GUILDSRIPT**.

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Four Columbia High School students were selected as members of the **2013-2014 North Jersey Area Symphonic Band**. The students are:

- **Ryan Morey**, Member of the CHS honors wind ensemble and joining the Area wind ensemble for the third consecutive year.
- **Spencer Pearce**, Sophomore Member of CHS symphonic band – auditioned on flute; accepted into the Area symphonic band
- **Aijah Raghnaal**, Junior Member of the honors wind ensemble – auditioned on flute; accepted into the Area symphonic band
- **Matthew Schilling**, Junior Member of the honors wind ensemble - auditioned on Alto, Bass & Contrabass Clarinet; accepted into the Area wind ensemble on bass clarinet but also earned a qualifying score on both alto clarinet and contrabass clarinet.

Their selection comes after months of diligent practice and a successful audition.

In addition, eight Columbia High School Chorus students were accepted into this year's **NJSMA Honors Chorus (Region Chorus)**. The students are:

Vivienne Longstreet, Junior
Hannah Nye, Junior
Natalie Dix, Junior
Ali Pease, Junior

Siobhan McLennon, Senior
Russell Pinzino, Junior
Autumn Jones, Sophomore
Isaiah Thomas, Sophomore

These students were chosen via a blind audition pool of hundreds of student and will perform on January 25th. **Jamie Bunce** is the Director of Choral Activities.

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Three Columbia High School students have been selected as members of the **2013-2014 North Jersey Region Band** ensembles. The students are:

- **Nathanial Pham**, Senior – auditioned on Alto Flute – accepted on Region Flute Choir. Nathanial's score also earned him a first place standing among all students who auditioned on alto flute.
- **Ryan Morey**, Senior – member of the CHS honors wind ensemble – joining the Region Symphonic Band on trumpet.
- **Matthew Schilling**, Junior member of the CHS honors wind ensemble, accepted into the Region Symphonic Band on bass clarinet and qualifying for acceptance on alto and contra-alto clarinet.

Six other students also auditioned and placed well:

Michael Ferranti
Gabriel Kaufman
Russell Pinzino

Maddy Jones
Mariella McCool
Aijah Raghnael

Peter Bauer is the Director of Bands.

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The **CHS Concert Chorus** and **Excelsior Singers** both received the highest possible rating in the **North Jersey School Music Association Choral Festival** at Chatham High School.

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Jared Kofsky, a Columbia High School sophomore, received many recognitions in 2013 for his photography, including winning the **Baltimore Sun's "The Big Apple" Contest**, and earning first place honors locally in the **Somerset County Park Commission Photo Contest**, the **Essex County Nature Photography Contest** and the **Explore Chatham Photo Contest**.

His photos appeared on **Yahoo News**, **Washington Post**, and **Environmental Protection Agency websites**, on the cover for the late **Senator Lautenberg's facebook page**, were exhibited at the **Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania**, as well as being highlighted on television newscasts in New York and Washington, D.C.

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Kandice Point-Du-Jour, Dance Educator at CHS and current 2013 New Jersey Dance Educator of the Year as awarded by the New Jersey Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreational and Dance (NJAPERD), has been recently named the **Eastern District Dance Educator of the Year** by the **Eastern District of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (AAHPERD)**. Mrs. Point Du Jour will be honored at a ceremony in February in Newport, RI and is now in a pool of 6 candidates being considered for the National Dance Educator of the Year.

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Lisa MacPherson, Teacher of Art at South Orange Middle School, **Laura Kruglinski**, Teacher of Art at Jefferson Elementary, and **Todd Van Beveren**, Teacher of Music & Orchestra at Columbia High School were selected to participate in the **NJ DOE Model Curriculum Assessment Project in the Arts**. The aim of the project is to develop model curriculum that supports the NJCCSS through unit-based student learning objectives, supported by unit assessments. The model curriculum will serve as exemplars for districts and schools throughout the state.

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Jacob Ezzo, Teacher of Music at South Orange Middle School, recorded a Naxos CD 'Annelies' as a part of **Williamson Voices** and was nominated for a **Grammy**.

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Stephen Myers, Music Teacher at Tuscan Elementary performed as Timpanist with the **New Jersey Conservatory** and with the **Yonkers Philharmonic**.

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Larry McKim, Teacher of Art at Columbia High School's AP Studio Art class has an exhibit at the **1978 Gallery in Maplewood** that opened Sunday, January 5th and will run through the month.