

## COMMENDATIONS & RECOGNITIONS

February 2022

### HIGH SCHOOL

Four Upper St. Clair High School students successfully auditioned to participate in the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) All-State Orchestra. PMEA's 2022 All-State Festival and Annual In-Service Conference will be held April 6-9 at the Kalahari Resort & Convention Center in the Poconos. Congratulations to the following musicians:

- Leona Chen, grade 10, violin
- Sophie Chen, grade 12, violin
- Miriam Gutensohn, grade 10, violin
- Joe Phillips, grade 12, cello

Four Upper St. Clair High School seniors were recently named candidates in the 2022 U.S. Presidential Scholars Program.

- Milan S. Giroux
- Alex J. LeKachman
- Sambhav Saggi
- Daniel J. Wang

The students were identified for their outstanding performance on the SAT or ACT exam.

Four members of the Upper St. Clair High School Speech & Debate team as well as a team coach were recently recognized by the National Speech & Debate Association's Honor Society. The students listed below recently earned the degree of Outstanding Distinction and coach David Watson earned his second Diamond Award.

- Scott Cheung
- Saif Durrani
- Rushikesh Kulkarni
- Nitish Sharma

A team from Upper St. Clair was one of just 18 high school STEM teams from throughout the United States to earn recognition in the REACH Challenge. Receiving Special Recognition was the team of:

- Priyasha Itani
- Aditri Thakur
- Anisha Patel
- Ansh Goyal
- Danny Shanholtzer
- Priyanka Palayekar
- Susan Liu

The Upper St. Clair students worked collaboratively to solve the design challenge Shoe Support, to assist individuals with putting on a shoe when faced with limited foot mobility. To better understand the issue, the team enlisted the expertise of classmate Danny Shanholtzer, who faces physical challenges and navigates the high school via a wheelchair and forearm crutches. Award-winning teams will receive STEM grants, a special banner to display at their schools, and/or supplies to support their STEM program from Harbor Freight and Maker Maven.

Nine Upper St. Clair High School seniors were recently named Finalists in the 2022 National Merit Scholarship Program.

- Bear K. Bottonari
- Phoebe M. Chen
- Sophie C. Chen
- Alex J. LeKachman
- Eden L. Ma
- Molly C. Maher
- Kaelyn G. Moran
- Nivedha A. Suresh
- Daniel J. Wang

The students were selected on the basis of their SAT scores, grades, essays and letters of recommendation.

The following High School students made the Director's List of Honor Students for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2021-2022 at Parkway Career and Technical Center:

- Ariana Braughler – Veterinary Assistant
- Rachale Caskey – Veterinary Assistant
- Andrew Gialames – HVAC
- Michael Gualtieri – Auto Tech
- Donovan Hanson – Auto Tech
- Jacob Lowe – Diesel
- Zachary Musser – BCT
- Aleksandr Opalenek – BCT
- Skyler Wenk – Auto Tech

## **BOYCE AND HIGH SCHOOL**

Teams from Boyce Middle School and Upper St. Clair High School were recently selected as finalists in the 28th Annual Shakespeare Monologue & Scene Contest at the Pittsburgh Public Theater. The following Upper St. Clair students will perform their scenes in the Showcase of Finalists on Monday, Feb. 28 at the O'Reilly Theater:

Boyce Middle School, "A Midsummer Night's Dream"

- Claire Dietiker (Hermia)
- Lindsey Fitzgerald (Helena)
- Anvi Vaishya (Demetrius)
- Mira Murthy (Lysander)

Upper St. Clair High School, "Merry Wives of Windsor"

- Opal Miller (Mistress Paige)
- Armen Pettit (Mistress Ford)
- Ishaan Sharma (Falstaff)