

COMMENDATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS  
JANUARY, 2017

**High School**

Upper St. Clair High School junior Kevin Chen was recently selected as an American Medical Informatics Association 2016 High School Scholar, which earned him the opportunity to attend the AMIA 2016 Symposium Nov. 13-15, 2016, in Chicago. Kevin's research paper, "A Comparison of Methods for Identifying Direct Casual Influences" was admitted for a poster presentation at the symposium and reviewed by two members of the High School Scholars Program Review Committee for importance to the field, scholarship, methodological contribution, and overall organization of the presentation.

Congratulations to the following students for being named to the Parkway West Career & Technology Center Director's List of Honor Students for the first quarter of the 2016 - 2017 school year:

Alexis Boyko - Cosmetology II  
Lillian Caudill - Public Safety  
Elijah Edelmann - EST  
Jon Lester - Welding II  
Gary McChesney - EST  
Nikolaja Michlik - Culinary Arts II  
Alyssa Perry - Health Assistant  
Anna Perry - Digital Multimedia  
Julie Swiech - Veterinary Asst. II

Upper St. Clair High School's literary arts magazine, "Montage," recently earned a first place award in the 2016 Scholastic Yearbook and Magazine Awards for the eighth consecutive year.

The 2016 "Montage" was published through the work of several student leaders: Mahima Reddy, editor in chief; Devon Garcia, assistant editor in chief; Grace Eden, art editor; Alexa Rieger, literary editor; Aditi Chattopadhyay, treasurer; and Chris Abraham, public relations editor. English teacher Daniela Buccilli serves as adviser for the publication.

Two Upper St. Clair High School seniors are published authors as a result of their top-rated short prose submissions in the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's Ralph Munn Creative Writing Contest.

Mahima Reddy's piece, "Dear Thotappa," and Claire Zalla's, "Polonius Laboratories," are among the student writings published in the 2016 Ralph Munn Creative Writing Anthology, which is distributed to all Allegheny County public and school libraries. In addition, Mahima was the second place winner in the short prose category in which she was awarded \$100.

Upper St. Clair High School senior Amna Amin was recently named a 2017 Coca-Cola Scholar Semifinalist, one of 77 in Pennsylvania and 1,914 from across the country. The Coca-Cola Scholars program recognizes high school seniors who have demonstrated academic and civic excellence in their schools and communities. Amna will submit her application for review by the Program Reading Committee in which 250 Semifinalists will advance as Regional Finalists, with 150 becoming Coca-Cola Scholars.

Congratulations are extended to Liam Carse of Boy Scout Troop 228 for successfully obtaining Eagle Scout status. Liam's project included spending 125 hours collecting new and used soccer equipment, including nets, soccer balls, pumps, cleats, and other equipment, that were cleaned, packed and shipped to children in LaCroix, Haiti. Liam also participated in a medical mission trip to Haiti in 2016.

Nine works of art submitted by three Upper St. Clair High School students earned recognition in the regional Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. Ninth grader Vivian Li earned a Gold Key Award for her piece titled, "Nocturne," and a Silver Key Award for her painting, "Blackbird." Freshman photographer Lauren Teresi earned five Silver Key Awards for her work, "A Foggy Winter Morning," "Jellies," "Hearst Castle," "Muir Woods" and "Bixby Bridge" as well as an Honorable Mention for her photo, "Succulents." Sophomore Serena Luo was awarded a Silver Key for her artwork, "Spring Valley." As a Gold Key Award winner, Vivian has qualified to compete at the national level. Gold Key and Silver Key artwork will be on display at the Pittsburgh Art Regional exhibition from February 4<sup>th</sup> through the 19<sup>th</sup>, at LaRoche College at which time Vivian, Lauren and Serena will be recognized at an awards ceremony.