



PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Dear Jaguar Nation,

Students work throughout the year perfecting their academic and technical skills while at the same time learning newer, more advanced skills. As members of our school community, students develop a greater sense of RESPONSIBILITY not only from an individual perspective but also from being a part of something bigger than themselves. Learning new skills and acquiring knowledge are essential keys to success. Equally important is expanding social awareness and practicing character education - learning to be responsible by holding one's self accountable and thinking about how our actions or words affect others. As a school, we consistently work on helping our students to see themselves beyond the classroom and to think of learning as a life-long action and not something that ends when their formal education concludes.

Wishing everyone a safe, fun, and relaxing Spring break!

School Spirit Alerts:

- May 6: Annual SkillsUSA Golf Classic at Raritan Valley Country Club in Bridgewater
- May 6-10: Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week
- May 8: County-wide Scholar-Athlete Ceremony
- May 9: National Technical Honor Society Induction Ceremony

On the Field:

Baseball and softball seasons have begun so remember to check out our sports schedule on our website and come on out in a show of support to cheer our teams on. Go Jags!

Sincerely,
Diane M. Ziegler



SCVTHS STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN YOUNG WOMEN'S CONFERENCE IN STEM AT PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

On March 22nd, ten students from the Academy for Health and Medical Sciences (AHMS) at Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School (SCVTHS) participated in the Young Women's Conference in Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics held at Princeton University.

During the Conference, the ten female students from the AHMS freshman and sophomore classes took part in a hands-on expo and a lecture session led by six female STEM professionals. The students had the opportunity to network and ask questions, as well as attend a chemistry presentation by a Princeton University professor. Following the morning sessions, the SCVTHS students heard keynote speaker Dr. Tammy Ma, a plasma physicist from Lawrence Livermore's National Ignition Facility and a 2018 recipient of the prestigious Early Career Research Program Award from the Department of Energy's Office of Science.

In addition to the ten SCVTHS students who attended the Conference, AHMS students Sharon Samuel of Hillsborough, Michelle Wilfred of Hillsborough, Vinitha Vivek of Hillsborough and Melissa Lam of Bound Brook took part as representatives of the International Youth Neuroscience Association (IYNA). The IYNA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization which aims to promote neuroscience education to students.

"At the event, we were able to interact with other students from grades seven to ten to inform them about the organization and the opportunities it has to offer. We also shared some activities at our station where students could learn to make a neuron model (out of pipe cleaners and beads) and see a 360 view of the inside of the brain using VR goggles," said AHMS sophomore Sharon Samuel.

Samuel went on to add, "The Conference offered a variety of educational opportunities for students to take



SCVTHS Academy for Health & Medical Sciences students (back, left to right): Melissa Lam of Bound Brook, Naimisha Vidavalapati of Somerset, Ananya Putta of Bridgewater, Fayrooz Abdelkader of Bridgewater, Natasha Mody of Martinsville, Rayhanah Ahmed of Bound Brook, Isha Shah of Hillsborough, Michelle Wilfred of Hillsborough, Vinitha Vivek of Hillsborough, SCVTHS Supervisor of Academics Randee Holz; (front, left to right): Kate Kinst of Hillsborough, Rachel Yuh of Somerset, Sharon Samuel of Hillsborough, Aarsha Shah of Bridgewater and Charlene Cai of Bridgewater at the Young Women's Conference in Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics held at Princeton University.

advantage of. Overall, it was a great experience and we plan on doing it again next year."

"It was a great Conference and learning experience for all involved," said SCVTHS Supervisor of Academics Randee Holz. Holz went on to add, "All the students were engaged with the content, had a lot of fun, learned a plethora, and want to attend again."✿

For more information on this story contact James Strickhart at (908) 526-8900, ext. 7169 or jstrickhart@scvts.net.

SOMERSET COUNTY VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

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JAGUAR NATION

MAY 2019

SCVTHS SOPHOMORE ACCEPTED INTO THE NEW JERSEY ALL-STATE ORCHESTRA

JAGUAR NATION

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First Place Winner - Newsletter Category

Alexander Chen of Warren, a sophomore in the Academy for Health and Medical Sciences at Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School, was recently accepted into the 2019 New Jersey Regions Orchestra (Region II) and the New Jersey All-State Orchestra.

As a member of the orchestras, Alexander will be performing multiple concerts around the state. He is a seven-year member of the New Jersey Youth Symphony and his favorite music to play is classical from the Baroque Period. Currently ranked 14th among high school violinists in the state, Alexander has been playing violin for about ten years and practices daily to sharpen his skills.

Alexander stated, "I believe that music is far from notes on a sheet. To me, music has been an outlet for me to not only relieve my stress but also as a way to connect to my community. Through this accomplishment, I hope that I am able to inspire others in representing our school in other areas."

Alexander went on to add, "Without the support of Ms. Ziegler and the staff at Somerset County Vo-Tech, none of this would have been possible. In general, I am extremely grateful for all the assistance and opportunities this school has provided me."



Alexander Chen, a sophomore in the Academy for Health and Medical Sciences at SCVTHS, was recently accepted into the 2019 New Jersey Regions Orchestra (Region II) and the New Jersey All-State Orchestra.

Although unsure of what exactly he wants to do in the future, Alexander knows it will involve "helping other people." Alexander is the founder of the Music for More Club, which is a community service based club most recently performing at the Abingdon Care & Rehabilitation Center in Green Brook.

For more information on this story contact James Strickhart at (908) 526-8900, ext. 7169 or jstrickhart@scvts.net.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Ariel Smith



Ariel Smith

Ariel Smith, a sophomore in the Health Occupations Program, has been selected as Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School's Student of the Month for April 2019. Ariel is the daughter of Robyn Hasty of Franklin Park.

SCVTHS English Instructor Rachel Miller nominated Ariel for the Student of the Month award because, "Ariel Smith has gone above and beyond this year in both English and Interact Club. As an Interact Officer, Ariel volunteers on a consistent basis to make all our fundraisers successful. Furthermore, Ariel is a pleasure to have in English. She always offers her opinions on the texts and submits her very best work. It has been wonderful to work with her this year!"

At SCVTHS, Ariel is a Student Ambassador, Treasurer of the Rotary Interact Club and a member of the SCVTHS HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America) and FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) Clubs. In addition, Ariel is a member of the SCVTHS Cheerleading Squad and a past recipient of the Stellar Student Award.

Outside of school, Ariel works at Meadows Frozen Custard and Café of Somerville and volunteers at senior centers. During her free time, Ariel enjoys spending time with her family and friends, watching new movies, cooking and volunteering.

Ariel's future plans including furthering her education at Emory or Rutgers University to pursue a degree in nursing, in order to become a nurse practitioner.*