

Naperville Community Unit School District 203

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**E X C E L L E N C E   I N   E D U C A T I O N   B A N Q U E T**

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**A P R I L   2 7 ,   2 0 0 9**

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Sponsored by the Board of Education and the Naperville Education Foundation  
with the support of John J. Matsock & Associates and Holiday Inn Select Naperville  
on behalf of outstanding academicians in the Class of 2009 and their influential educators

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# I N F L U E N T I A L E D U C A T O R S 2 0 0 9

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## SELECTED BY ACADEMICIANS AT NAPERVILLE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

**Eleanor Barbino** - Social Sciences, NCHS  
**Charlene Behrends** - First Grade, River Woods Elementary School  
**Kristina Bell** - Physical Education, NCHS  
**Mike Bochenski** - Social Science, NCHS  
**Jim Braun** - Mathematics, NCHS  
**Justin Burkholder** - Youth Pastor  
**Keith Carlson** - Communication Arts, NCHS  
**Suzanne Croco** - Project Idea Plus, Kennedy Junior High School  
**Peter Dong** - Church Mentor  
**Sue Feret** - Gifted, Elmwood Elementary School  
**Sharon Fischer** - Mathematics, NCHS  
**Theresa Funke** - Art, NCHS  
**Kathleen Gasser** - Spanish, NCHS  
**Kevin Hayes** - Computer Science, NCHS  
**Colette Henley** - Biology, NCHS  
**Aislinn Hicks** - Accounting, NCHS  
**Stacy Jahnke** - Latin, NCHS  
**Linda Kane** - Communication Arts, NCHS  
**Kathy Linder** - Social Science, NCHS  
**Dan O'Connell** - Instrumental Music Teacher  
**Richard Smith** - Judo Instructor  
**Megan Plackett** - Communication Arts, NCHS  
**Katherine Seguino** - Physics, NCHS  
**Randy Smith** - AP Government, Debate Coach, NCHS  
**Jane Thompson** - Social Science, NCHS  
**Sue Torsberg** - Communication Arts, NCHS (retired)  
**Jennifer Vollbrecht** - former Speech Coach, NCHS  
**John Wallbaum** - Mathematics, NCHS  
**Mary Weber** - 7th Grade, Kennedy Junior High School  
**John Weigel** - Mathematics, Kennedy Junior High School  
**Steve Wiesbrook** - Chemistry, NCHS  
**Gayle Zaininger** - Communication Arts, NCHS

## SELECTED BY ACADEMICIANS AT NAPERVILLE NORTH HIGH SCHOOL

**Mike Aldworth** - Spanish, NNHS  
**Maria Atienza** - former Spanish teacher, NNHS  
**Jeff Bedore** - Social Science, NNHS  
**Katie Biggs** - Communication Arts, NNHS  
**Emily Bishop** - Spanish, NNHS  
**April Brasel** - Communication Arts, NNHS  
**Tim Brown** - Mathematics, NNHS  
**Martha Connor** - Guidance Counselor, NNHS  
**Kermit Eby** - Social Science, NNHS  
**Beverly George** - Chemistry, NNHS  
**Helena Hitzeman** - Communication Arts, NNHS  
**Philip Hockberger PhD** - Associate Professor, Northwestern University  
**Brian Horner** - Gifted, Highlands Elementary School  
**Lisa Jacoby** - Psychologist, NNHS (retired)  
**Holly Lee** - Social Science, NNHS  
**Jerry Lindvall** - Foreign Language, Jefferson Junior High School (retired)  
**Sharon Martina** - Mathematics, NNHS  
**Gabriel Medina** - Spanish, NNHS  
**Dr. Chang Miao** - Professor, Northwestern University  
**Elizabeth Moore** - Mathematics, NNHS  
**Sandy Parato Toczylowski** - Communication Arts, NNHS (retired)  
**Karen Quinn** - Communication Arts, NNHS  
**Jeni Rogers** - 5th Grade, Prairie Elementary School  
**Mark Rowzee** - Chemistry, NNHS  
**Dr. Laura Semba** - Naperville Children's Facial Clinic  
**Stephanie Sullivan** - Social Science, NNHS  
**Julia Tsien** - Piano Instructor  
**Li Tai** - Youth Pastor  
**Maxine Wilverding** - Physics, NNHS (retired)

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## P R O G R A M

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The Excellence in Education Banquet honors the highest-achieving academicians graduating from Naperville Community Unit School District 203 and some of the educators who have influenced them on their way to excellence. This program is made possible by the Naperville Education Foundation through the generosity of Matsock Insurance and Holiday Inn Select Naperville. The Board of Education expresses appreciation to our generous benefactors and congratulates our honorees and their families.

### WELCOME

Mark Trembacki, Chairman, Naperville Education Foundation

### INTRODUCTIONS

Suzyn Price, President, Board of Education

### SPONSOR RECOGNITION

Nina M. Menis, Director of Community Relations, District 203

### REMARKS

Grace Wong, Class of 2009, Naperville Central High School  
Diana Rechenmacher, Class of 2009, Naperville North High School

### PRESENTATIONS

Bill Wiesbrook, Principal, Naperville Central High School  
Ross Truemper, Principal, Naperville North High School

### CLOSING REMARKS

Dr. Alan E. Leis, Superintendent of Schools

# Naperville Central High School



## OUTSTANDING ACADEMICIANS 2009



### JASON WANG

**Major:** Economics  
**School:** University of Chicago  
**Educator:** Eleanor Barbino - Social Studies, NCHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society;  
AP Scholar with Distinction; National Merit  
Commended Scholar; French Honor Society;

4.0 Award - seven semesters; DECA, 1st place at State 2008; Math Team;  
Cross Country.



### MICHELLE IKOMA

**Major:** Biomedical Engineering  
**School:** University of North Carolina -  
Chapel Hill

**Educator:** Mike Bochenski - Social Science, NCHS  
Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society;  
AP Scholar; National Merit Commended Scholar;

Latin Honor Society; Rotary Interact; Human Rights Club; 4.0 Award;  
National Latin Exam, Maxima cum Laude; Gymnastics, Hardest Worker  
Award, National Qualifier.



### DENNIS ZHAN

**Major:** Economics  
**School:** Northwestern University  
**Educator:** Eleanor Barbino - Social Sciences, NCHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society;  
National Merit Commended Student; AP Scholar with  
Distinction; American Northeastern Chinese

Association, Youth Leader, Prominent Leadership Merit; Youth and  
Government, Attorney/Judge; Latin Club, Board Member; Ultimate  
Frisbee; Dodgeball; Tennis; Table Tennis; Track; 4.0 Award.



### JOSHUA KEYSER

**Major:** Political Science and History  
**School:** Northwestern University

**Educator:** Mike Bochenski - Social Science, NCHS

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar;  
National Honor Society; Speech Team, Executive  
Board Member; Senior Class Council; Youth and

Government; French Honor Society.



### ALLISON RZEP CZYNSKI

**Major:** Pre-Medicine  
**School:** University of Notre Dame  
**Educator:** Charlene Behrends - First Grade,  
River Woods Elementary School

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society;  
Spanish Honor Society; Senior Class Council

President; Student Advisory Council; Mr. NCHS Chair; NCHS Yearbook  
Copy Editor; Cheerleading Varsity Captain.



### EMILY SUSIN

**Major:** Mathematics; Secondary Education  
**School:** Illinois Wesleyan University

**Educator:** Jim Braun - Mathematics, NCHS  
Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society;  
French Honor Society; Cross Country Captain;  
Lacrosse Captain.



### ELIZABETH JAENSCH

**Major:** Neuroscience or International Relations  
**School:** University of Nebraska or  
University of Illinois

**Educator:** Kristina Bell - Physical Education, NCHS  
National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar;  
National Honor Society, Membership Chair;

Presidential Scholar Candidate; Wind Ensemble, Oboe Section Leader;  
Marching Redhawks, Saxophone Section Leader; IMEA District  
IX Orchestra.



### LAURA WINDES

**Major:** History  
**School:** University of Illinois or  
Arizona State University

**Educator:** Justin Burkholder - Youth Pastor  
National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar;  
National Honor Society; French Honor Society;

*Central Times*, Features Editor; Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Student  
Leader; Church Youth Group, Student Leader; Naper Settlement,  
Volunteer Interpreter; Northern Illinois Student Press Association Blue  
Ribbon Award for Excellence in Journalism; Ball State University  
Excellence in Design.



### NITIN GOYAL

**Major:** Medicine and Economics  
**School:** Northwestern University Honors Program in Medical Education  
**Educator:** Keith Carlson - Communication Arts, NCHS

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Speech Team, Captain; Business Professionals of America, 1st Place State Banking and Finance, 2nd Place State Financial Analyst; Tabla (traditional Indian drum) Senior Diploma; Indian Students Association; Spanish National Honor Society, World Unity Club; Tennis, Rotary Interact Club; Freshman Mentoring Program; Edward Hospital, Volunteer; National Forensic League Degree of Distinction; Rush Medical University Research; Published Research on Acute Myeloid Leukemia with Dr. Melissa Larson.



### PRATEEK KUMAR

**Major:** Pre-Medicine  
**School:** Washington University  
**Educator:** Suzanne Croco - Project Idea Plus, Kennedy Junior High School

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society, Executive Board; Scholastic Bowl; DECA, 3rd in Nationals for Financial Analysis; Track & Field,; Cross Country, Captain; Drumshow; Steel Band; City of Naperville Financial Advisory Board.



### LEO LI

**Major:** Biomedical Engineering  
**School:** Washington University  
**Educator:** Peter Dong - Church Mentor

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Math Team; DECA; Track & Field.



### JEFFREY JOSKEN

**Major:** Science & Technology  
**School:** University of Missouri  
**Educator:** Sue Feret - Gifted, Elmwood Elementary School

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Freshman Mentoring Program; Rotary Interact; Rugby Team; U.S. Physics Olympics Quarterfinalist.



### MONA ADHAMI

**Major:** Biology  
**School:** Benedictine University  
**Educator:** Sharon Fischer - Mathematics, NCHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Spanish Honor Society; National Society of High School Scholars; 4.0 Award; Model UN; Multicultural Club President; Muslim Student Association Treasurer; DuPage Children's Museum Volunteer.



### COLLEEN KASTER

**Major:** Art, Music, Psychology or Neuroscience  
**School:** University of Rochester or North Central College  
**Educator:** Theresa Funke - Art, NCHS

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; French Honor Society; 4.0 Awards, seven semesters; International Thespian Society; French Club, Officer; Theatre Central; Water Polo; GSA; Symphonic Orchestra.



### NATHAN LIN

**Major:** Hospital Administration or Business  
**School:** Duke University or University of Notre Dame  
**Educator:** Kathleen Gasser - Spanish, NCHS

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society, Executive Board.



### ALESIA PRAKAPENKA

**Major:** International Business  
**School:** University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

**Educator:** Kathleen Gasser - Spanish, NCHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Spanish Honor Society; AP Scholar with Distinction; Theatre Central; Spanish Club; Fermilab Saturday Morning Physics Program.



### STEPHEN PRATT

**Major:** Computer Science  
**School:** Columbia University

**Educator:** Kevin Hayes - Computer Science, NCHS  
Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Debate Team, IHSA State Semifinalist; Captain; WYSE; BPA, National Silver Medalist in Software Engineer Team event.



### AMIT WALIA

**Major:** Biological Sciences  
**School:** Northwestern University  
**Educator:** Colette Henley - Biology, NCHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; AP Scholar with Honor; NCHS Executive Board, Service Chair; REACH, Vice President for Service; Freshman Mentoring Program, Executive Board; Youth and Government; Spanish Honors Society; DECA, State 3rd Accounting; Edward Hospital, Volunteer.



### ROBERT NELSON

**Major:** Accounting  
**School:** University of Notre Dame  
**Educator:** Aislinn Hicks - Accounting, NCHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; National Merit Commended Scholar; Spanish Honor Society; Rotary Interact, President; Soccer - Academic All Conference; Tennis Team.



### KELLY SWANSON

**Major:** Engineering Physics  
**School:** CalTech  
**Educator:** Stacy Jahnke - Latin, NCHS

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; AP Scholar with honors; Latin Honors Society; Latin Club Board Member; Rotary Interact; Spanish Club; Model UN; GSA Board Member.



### ANGEL YANG

**Major:** Physics  
**School:** Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
**Educator:** Stacy Jahnke - Latin, NCHS

National Merit Finalist, Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Siemens AP Award; National AP Scholar; Science Olympiad, Captain, 2nd Place State; JETS, Captain, 1st Place State; Math Team, Captain; WYSE, 3rd Place Chemistry; Latin Honor Society; Fermilab Saturday Morning Physics; University of Chicago, Young Scholars Program; Michigan State University, High School Honors Science/Mathematics/Engineering Program; ISMTA, 1st Place Regionals Piano, Honorable Mention State; Musical Competition in Honor of Confucius, 3rd Place Piano.



### JUJU KIM

**Major:** Journalism  
**School:** Northwestern University  
**Educator:** Linda Kane - Communication Arts, NCHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; *Central Times*, Editor in Chief; Soccer; Wind Symphony; Wind Ensemble; Writing Center Peer Tutor; French Honor Society; IHSA Journalism Competition, 1st Place Sports Writing Sectional, 2nd Place Sports Writing State; National Scholastic Press Association High School Journalism National Convention, Excellent in Feature Writing 2007; Honorable Mention in Feature Writing 2008.



### GRACE WONG

**Major:** Print Journalism  
**School:** University of Southern California  
**Educator:** Linda Kane - Communication Arts, NCHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society, Publicity Chair; National Merit Commended Scholar; Spanish Honor Society; *Central Times* Head News Editor, Pacemaker Award - 5th Best of Show; Freshman Mentoring Program; Quill and Scroll; Badminton, Varsity Captain, DuPage Valley Conference undefeated 1st Place, 1st Singles; Urban Arts Club; Ray Chinese School Teacher's Assistant.



### RENEE CHENG

**Major:** Biology/Pre-Medicine  
**School:** University of Chicago  
**Educator:** Kathy Linder - Social Science, NCHS

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Spanish Honor Society; AP Scholar with Distinction; Badminton, Varsity Captain, Red and White Award, 6th Place State Finals Doubles; Math Team; Spanish Club, Officer; Class Council, 4 years; 4.0 Award; Edward Hospital/Naperville Pediatrics Mini Medical School; Ray Chinese School, Teaching Assistant; Cook County Hospital, Volunteer; Church Servant Team.



### NIRMIT DESAI

**Major:** Biological Sciences  
**School:** Northwestern University  
**Educator:** Kathy Linder - Social Science, NCHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; DECA, Scholastic Bowl; Cross Country.



### GREGORY RYDING

**Major:** Accounting  
**School:** University of Illinois  
**Educator:** Kathy Linder - Social Science, NCHS

National Merit Letter of Commendation; Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; AP Scholar; Film Club.



### ALBERT WANG

**Major:** Business  
**School:** New York University  
**Educator:** Kathy Linder - Social Science, NCHS

National Merit Scholar; Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Business Professionals of America; Urban Arts Club.



### CHRISTOPHER MCCARTHY

**Major:** Bioengineering  
**School:** University of Illinois  
**Educator:** Richard Smith - Judo Instructor

National Merit Finalist, Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; DECA, State Finalist; Marching Band; Jazz Band.



### LAUREN DRAPALIK

**Major:** Bioengineering  
**School:** University of Norte Dame  
**Educator:** Megan Plackett - Communication Arts, NCHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Swimming, Captain; Student Adversary Council; President (Sr.), Vice-President, (Jr.); Junior and Senior Class Council; Spanish National Honor Society; Freshman Mentoring Program.



### BRIAN GALLAGHER

**Major:** Biological Sciences  
**School:** University of Illinois  
**Educator:** Megan Plackett - Communication Arts, NCHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Speech Team, 4 years; Church Youth Group, Go and Serve Mission Trips, Praise Band.



### AMANDA TWADDLE

**Major:** Nuclear Engineering  
**School:** University of Illinois or Texas A & M University  
**Educator:** Katherine Seguino - Physics, NCHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; National Merit Commended Scholar; German National Honor Society; German Club; Orchestis Dance Troupe.



### ANUSHA BALAJI

**Major:** Biology/Pre-Medicine Track  
**School:** Northwestern University  
**Educator:** Randy Smith - AP Government, Debate Coach, NCHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Spanish Honor Society; 4.0 Awards, seven semesters; Model UN, Captain; Freshman Mentoring Program, Board Member; Model UN, Captain; Rotary Interact Club; Varsity Tennis Team.



### ANEESH NANDAM

**Major:** Neuroscience  
**School:** University of Illinois Chicato  
**Educator:** Randy Smith - AP Government, Debate Coach, NCHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Freshman Mentoring Program; Debate Team; Math Team; DECA; BPA, National Finalist; Science Olympiad.



### JACQUELYN RYAN

**School:** Indiana University Kelley School of Business  
**Educator:** Randy Smith - AP Government, Debate Coach, NCHS

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; BPA; Model UN; Track Team; Cross Country Team.



### FRANK ZHANG

**Major:** Business & Political Economy  
**School:** New York University  
**Educator:** Randy Smith - AP Government, Debate Coach, NCHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; AP Scholar with Distinction; Debate Team, IHSA Semifinalist State Tournament; Math Team; DECA, 1st Place Internet Marketing Team Decision Making; Edward Hospital Volunteer.



### ALEX MENTER

**Major:** Business  
**School:** University of Illinois  
**Educator:** Jane Thompson - Social Sciences, NCHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; National Merit Commended Scholar; Student Advisory Council Secretary; Senior Class Council; Junior Class Council; Freshman Mentoring Program; Varsity Cheerleading; Snowball Staff.



### WENJIE FU

**Major:** Business  
**School:** Washington University in St. Louis - Olin School of Business  
**Educator:** Jane Thompson - Social Science, NCHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; French Honor Society Member; National Merit Commended; DECA, International Conference, 3rd Place Financial Management; BPA; Debate Team; Science Bowl; Math Team; District 203 Board of Education Certificate of Recognition for Outstanding Achievement.



### ADAM SUAREZ

**Major:** Undecided  
**School:** Truman State University  
**Educator:** Sue Torsberg - Communication Arts, NCHS (retired)

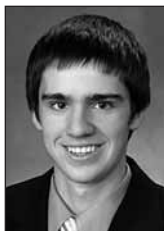
Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; National Spanish Honor Society National Hispanic Recognition Program Scholar.



### STEPHANIE RUSSELL

**Major:** Speech Pathology  
**School:** University of Illinois  
**Educator:** Jennifer Vollbrecht - former Speech Coach, NCHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; 4.0 Awards; Speech Team, Captain, 13th in State for Original Oratory; Freshman Mentoring Program; Special Olympics Track Peer Coach; Theater Central; Red Rage.



### CHRISTOPHER BARRY

**Major:** Business  
**School:** Indiana University  
**Educator:** John Wallbaum - Mathematics, NCHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; National Merit Commended Scholar; 4.0 Award.



### BRANDON RIVERA-MELO

**Major:** Biomedical Engineering  
**School:** Northwestern University  
**Educator:** John Wallbaum - Mathematics, NCHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society, Tutoring Co-Chair; National Hispanic Recognition Program Scholar; National Merit Commended Scholar; Rotary Interact, Central Services Chairperson; Writing Center Peer Tutor; Spanish Honor Society; Volleyball, Varsity Team Manager; Tennis; NCTE Writing Competition, Nominee and Participant; National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine.

**REBECCA JOHNSON**

**Major:** Undecided  
**School:** William Jewell College  
**Educator:** Mary Weber - 7th Grade, Kennedy Junior High School

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Spanish Honor Society; Freshman Mentoring Program; Model UN.

**KEVIN MURPHY**

**Major:** Entrepreneurship/Business  
**School:** Indiana University  
**Educator:** John Weigel - Mathematics, Kennedy Junior High School

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Spanish National Honor Society; 4.0 Award, five semesters; Track & Field; Cross Country, Captain.

**MICHAEL ASHLEY**

**Major:** Chemical Engineering  
**School:** University of Notre Dame  
**Educator:** Steve Wiesbrook - Science, NCHS

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Nelson's Today Magazine Top Student; AP Scholar with Distinction; *Daily*

*Herald* All-Academic Team Nominee; Student Advisory Council; Baseball; Class Council; Adapted PE.

**KEVIN LIND**

**Major:** Biomedical Engineering  
**School:** Undecided  
**Educator:** Steve Wiesbrook - Chemistry, NCHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Scholastic Bowl; Track & Cross Country Captain and Academic All Conference; Lead America Medical

Conference at Georgetown University; National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine at University of Illinois Chicago.

**VIKAS NATESH**

**Major:** Biomedical Engineering/Neuroscience  
**School:** Undecided  
**Educator:** Steve Wiesbrook - Chemistry, NCHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; 4.0 - seven semesters; Spanish National Honor Society; Science Olympiad; Scholastic Bowl; Tennis Team.

**IVAN WU**

**Major:** Chemistry  
**School:** Texas A & M or University of Pittsburgh  
**Educator:** Steve Wiesbrook - Chemistry, NCHS

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; AP Scholar with Distinction; Math Team; Science Olympiad; Science Bowl; WYSE.

**WILSON ZHEN**

**Major:** Pre-Medicine & Economics  
**School:** Duke or Amherst  
**Educator:** Gayle Zaininger - Communication Arts, NCHS

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Presidential Scholar Candidate; Math Team; JETS; Urban Arts Club; Financial Advisory Board; Leadership in the Business World at University of Pennsylvania Wharton School of Business.

**MICHAEL TEUFEL**

**Major:** Computer Engineering  
**School:** University of Illinois  
**Educator:** Sue Feret - Gifted, Elmwood Elementary School

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Rotary Interact Club; Soccer.

**JOHN LEWIS**

**Major:** History; Psychology; Economics  
**School:** Illinois Wesleyan  
**Educator:** Kathy Linder - Social Science, NCHS

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; AP Scholar with Distinction; Indoor Track; Drumshow; Steel Drum Band; Dynamite Shark Percussion Ensemble.

**NATHAN JOHNSON**

**Major:** Music Performance  
**School:** Undecided  
**Educator:** Dan O'Connell - Instrumental Music Teacher

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; AP Scholar; Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra.

**ZACHARY PETERSON**

**Major:** Industrial Management  
**School:** Purdue University  
**Educator:** John Wallbaum - Mathematics, NCHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; German National Honor Society; German Club; Freshman Mentoring Program; Cross Country; Volleyball; Lifeteen Music Ministry.

**ELIZABETH KIM**

**Major:** Engineering  
**School:** U.S. Military Academy

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society.



**BRITTNEY FIORELLO**

**Major:** Chemical Engineering  
**School:** University of Illinois  
Illinois State Scholar; Theatre Central; Rotary Interact Club.



**ANDREW SUTHERLAND**

**Major:** Biblical Studies & Psychology  
**School:** Westmont College  
National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society.



**VENKAT BODDAPATI**

**Major:** Biological Sciences  
**School:** University of Chicago  
Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Science Olympiad, Varsity Captain; WYSE, Varsity Captain; Freshman Mentoring Program, Executive Board; REACH, Executive Board.



**KIARAN DAVE**

**Major:** Physics  
**School:** University of Illinois  
National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; WYSE - Captain; JETS; Math Team, 1st place 2008.



**REBECCA HARTLEY**

**Major:** Engineering  
**School:** Undecided  
Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Model UN; Volleyball; Track & Field.



**ERIC XIA**

**Major:** Biology  
**School:** University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar



**WILLIAM ERLAIN**

**Major:** Business Finance  
**School:** Illinois Wesleyan  
Illinois State Scholar; 4.0 Award - seven semesters; Freshman Mentoring Program; Track & Field; Cross Country; Theatre Central; Men's Choir; Special Olympics.



**ANNA GACA**



**ERIC KIM**

**Major:** Biology  
**School:** Saint Louis University  
Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Science Olympiad; Track & Field.



# Naperville North High School



## OUTSTANDING ACADEMICIANS 2009



### KEVIN DOHERTY

**Major:** Finance  
**School:** Undecided  
**Educator:** Mike Aldworth - Social Science, NNHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society, President; AP Scholar; District 203 Board of Education, Student Ambassador; Student Government Executive Board, Representative 4 years; JSA; Midwest Cabinet, Debate Officer; 4.0 Award/High Honor Roll, eight semesters; Best Speaker Award, Midwest and National JSA Conventions; Top Caddie Award, Butterfield Country Club.



### MAGDALEN ANDREONI

**Major:** Undecided  
**School:** Skidmore College  
**Educator:** Katie Biggs - Communication Arts, NNHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; First Class Leader; Literacy Center Tutor; PE Leader; NNHS Volleyball, 3 years; Scott Harper's Campaign, Intern; JSA; Girl Scout Gold Award; You Make a Difference Award; AP Art History Award; Art Achievement Award (Painting II); National Youth Leadership Forum on National Security.



### SHENGXIONG HU

**Major:** Mechanical Engineering  
**School:** University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
**Educator:** Mike Aldworth - Social Science, NNHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; All-American Scholar; Mandarin Club, President; Math Team; WYSE, NSML; Literacy Center Tutor; Key Club; Track and Field; 4.0 Award; National Merit Commended Student; Foreign Language Award, Spanish I, Spanish IV.



### SCOTT ROMBERG

**Major:** Political Science and Economics  
**School:** Georgetown University, Rice University or Washington University in St. Louis  
**Educator:** Emily Bishop - Spanish, NNHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; AP Scholar; National Merit Recommended; Naperville Park District, Volunteer Camp Counselor; Supervised Open Study After School Tutor; YMCA, Volunteer Coach; Ultimate Frisbee Club, Captain; JV Tennis; Hessed House Homeless Shelter, Volunteer; Washington Junior High, Summer Tutor; Naperville Youth Service Award; Alumni Legacy Award; Outstanding Foreign Language Award; Outstanding Humanity Award; 4.0 Award, all semesters; JSA Summer Program.



### MICHELLE STRATTON

**Major:** Kinesiology  
**School:** University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
**Educator:** Maria Atienza - former Spanish teacher, NNHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Varsity Cross Country, Captain, MVP, All-State, All-Regional; Varsity Track, Captain, All-State, Sectional Champion; Varsity Soccer; Key Club; Newton Award for Physics; Foreign Language Award; Naperville Cross Country Club, 4th Place Nationals.



### SOPHIE CHUNG

**Major:** Biological Engineering  
**School:** Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
**Educator:** April Brasel - Communication Arts, NNHS

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; National AP Scholar; Math Team, Captain; Concertmistress of NNHS Symphonic Orchestra, Pit Orchestra and Bella Corda; Scholastic Bowl; Science Bowl; Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra 1st Violinist and Student Council; Encore Chamber Orchestra; IMEA All-State 1st Violinist; NSML, 4th Place; WYSE State Math 3rd Place, Physics 2nd Place; JETS Regionals 2nd Place; Saturday Morning Physics; Korean-American Scientists and Engineers Association Scholarship.



### LAILAA MAHMUD

**Major:** Anthropology  
**School:** Trinity University  
**Educator:** Jeff Bedore - Social Science, NNHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; NNHS Varsity Soccer; CEC/Adaptive PE; Literacy Center Tutor; Murchison Scholarship; Trinity University.



### TAYABA AZHER

**Major:** Pre-Medicine/Biology  
**School:** Undecided  
**Educator:** Tim Brown - Mathematics, NNHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Indian Student Association, Vice President; Spectrum, Vice President; CEC; Peer Student; Muslim Student Association; Key Club; Freshman Board; FYI Mentor; First Class Leader; Literacy Center Tutor; Track; Outstanding World Cultures Student; Outstanding Spanish Student; Teacher of English to Refugees, Arabic to First Graders.



### **PARTH SHAH**

**Major:** GPPA Medicine  
**School:** University of Illinois at Chicago  
**Educator:** Tim Brown - Mathematics, NNHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; AIDS Awareness Club, President/Founder; Indian Students Association; Tennis, Awards of Excellence; Debate Team; Distinguished Honor Roll; Academic Achievement Award; Dean's Honor Roll; Published Author, *The Quest: The Sword of Mastery*; Northwestern University, Research Internship.



### **RACHEL VON ARB**

**Major:** Mathematics  
**School:** Olivet Nazarene University  
**Educator:** Tim Brown - Mathematics, NNHS

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Marching Band, Section Leader; Band Librarian; Track and Field; Symphonic Wind Ensemble; Jazz Lab; Tech Crew; Pit Orchestra; 4.0 Award; Athlete of the Meet; Crawford Scholarship, Olivet Nazarene University.



### **DENNIS YUAN**

**Major:** Electrical Engineering  
**School:** University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
**Educator:** Tim Brown - Mathematics, NNHS

National Merit Commended Scholar; AP Scholar; Orchestra Council, Vice-President; Latin Club, Vice-President; Cross Country, 4 years; Literacy Center Tutor; State Math Team; Math Circle; Fermilab Saturday Morning Physics; Grainger Scholarship.



### **RUCHI NANDA**

**Major:** Biological Sciences - Neurobiology and Behavior  
**School:** Cornell University  
**Educator:** Martha Connor - Guidance Counselor, NNHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; AP Scholar with Distinction; REACH, Vice-President; Sophomore and Junior Boards, Vice-President; Scholastic Bowl; DuPage Children's Museum, Volunteer; Nichols Library Summer Reading Buddy; First Class Leader; Literacy Center Tutor; PE Leader; Spanish Club; National Merit Letter of Commendation; 4.0 Award, seven semesters, Badminton; Fermilab Summer Target Internship Program; North Central College Summer Lederman Scholars Program; Careerworks Program; Accomplished Cook.



### **ETHAN MEREL**

**Major:** Political Science  
**School:** Northwestern University  
**Educator:** Kermit Eby - Social Science, NNHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Debate Team, Captain; Junior Statesman of America, Vice-President; Spanish Club, President; Jazz Lab; First Class Leader; Literacy Center Tutor; Excellence in World Cultures; Spanish II Award; ICDA Debate Team, Critics Choice Award Recipient; Junior Statesman of America, Best Speaker Recipient; Scott Harper Congressional Campaign, Field Intern.



### **RAHUL NAYAK**

**Major:** Biomedical Engineering  
**School:** Duke University  
**Educator:** Kermit Eby - Social Science, NNHS

National Merit Scholar; Illinois State Scholar, National Honor Society; Presidential Scholar Nominee; AP Scholar with Distinction; NSML, All Conference; State Math Team; First Class Leader; JETS; Science Bowl; Science Olympiad; Literacy Center Tutor; Edward Hospital/Naperville Pediatrics Mini Medical School; NNHS Students for Barack Obama, Founder/Co-President.



### **ANNIE JAO**

**Major:** Accounting and Finance  
**School:** University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
**Educator:** Beverly George - Chemistry, NNHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Spanish Club, Vice President; First Class Leader; Literacy Center Tutor; DuPage Children's Museum, Volunteer; Zawadi Youth Group Leader; Outstanding Work in World Cultures; Foreign Language Award, Spanish; 4.0 Award, seven semesters.



### **CAITLIN RIEDERER**

**Major:** Chemistry and Economics  
**School:** Yale University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology or Stanford University  
**Educator:** Beverly George - Chemistry, NNHS

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; AP Scholar with Distinction; Chem Club, President; Science Olympiad, Captain; Science Bowl, Captain, National Qualifying Team; Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering; Junior Engineering and Technical Society; Chemistry Department Lab Aide; First Class Leader; Literacy Center Tutor; Scholastic Bowl, Captain; French Club, Public Relations Officer; Badminton; US Chemistry Olympiad National Qualifier; Bausch and Lomb Honorary Science Award; NSTA Exploravision Competition Honorable Mention; NCTE Achievement Award Nominee; SMART Challenge, 1st Place Business, 3rd Place English; Silver Test Tube Award; Outstanding French Student; Outstanding World Cultures Student; American Cancer Society Summer Research Program; Students in Technology and Engineering at Packer Internship; Relay for Life; NALCO Vision of Green Program; Saturday Morning Physics at Fermilab.



### **RACHEL YANG**

**Major:** Economics/Pre-Law/Finance  
**School:** Dartmouth College or University of Illinois  
**Educator:** Helena Hitzeman - Communication Arts, NNHS

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; Debate Team; Research Coordinator, Public Relations; JSA, WYSE, Co-Captain; Student Government, Chair for Blood Drive and Teacher Appreciation; First Class Leader; Literacy Center Tutor; French Student of the Year; Humanities World History Student of the Year; Brown Book Award, Excellent English Student; You Make a Difference Award.



### JULIETTE LOGAN

**Major:** Biomedical Engineering  
**School:** California Institute of Technology  
**Educator:** Philip Hockberger PhD - Associate Professor, Northwestern University

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; National AP Scholar; French Club, Vice President; Badminton, JV Captain; First Class Leader; Literacy Center Tutor; Science Olympiad; Scholastic Bowl; Math Circle; Math Team State Championship, DVC Champions, NSML Champions; Presidential Service Award Nominee, CoACH Care Center; Fermi Lab Saturday Morning Physics; University of Chicago Young Scholars Program; Stanford's EPGY; Northwestern University, Research Assistant; Edward Hospital, Volunteer.



### EMMA LODESKY

**Major:** Elementary Education  
**School:** University of Illinois at Chicago  
**Educator:** Brian Horner - Gifted, Highlands Elementary School

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Freshman, Sophomore, Junior and Senior Boards; Key Club; Children's Liturgy of the Word Leader; Colorguard; Winterguard; Gymnastics, 4.0 Award, eight semesters.



### LUCIA NOTARDONATO

**Major:** Pre-Medicine/Psychology  
**School:** Boston University  
**Educator:** Lisa Jacoby - Psychologist, NNHS (retired)

Illinois State Scholar; AP Scholar; NSA Rush Soccer, Captain; NNHS Soccer, three years; Habitat for Humanity; Distinguished Honor Roll; AP Government Student of the Year; Lead America Medicine and Healthcare Conference; People to People Student Ambassadorship to Japan.



### RYAN SHYU

**Major:** Economics  
**School:** Princeton University  
**Educator:** Holly Lee - Social Science, NNHS (retired)

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; Oasis Senior Leader; NSML, All-Conference; Math Team, 3rd Place State 2-Person Competition; WSYE; JSA, Literacy Center Tutor; Wheaton Chinese Alliance Church Youth Group, Student Leader; Scott Harper Congressional Campaign, Intern; Argonne National Laboratory, Intern; NNHS Chapter of Students for Barack Obama, Co-Coordinator.



### ETIENNE GREENLEE

**Major:** Biochemistry  
**School:** University of Chicago, University of Michigan or Washington University in St. Louis  
**Educator:** Jerry Lindvall - Foreign Language, Jefferson Junior High School (retired)

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; AP Scholar with Distinction; Math Circle, Co-President; Math Team; Renaissance Music Project; JETS; Naperville Youth Service Award; NNHS Foreign Language Award; High School Honors Science Program.



### MEGAN MILNE

**Major:** Biochemistry and Spanish  
**School:** Case Western Reserve University  
**Educator:** Sharon Martina - Mathematics, NNHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Freshman Board, Group Motivator; Sophomore and Junior Board, President; Senior Board, Advertising Committee; Key Club, First Class Leader, Jazz Ensemble, Cross Country, four years; Literacy Center Tutor; FYI Leader; 4.0 Award; Naperville Youth Service Award; You Make A Difference Award; National Merit Commended Scholar; Zawadi Youth Group Leader; Presidential Scholarship, Case Western Reserve University.



### RHAE CISNEROS

**Major:** International Relations  
**School:** University of Southern California  
**Educator:** Gabriel Medina - Spanish, NNHS

Literacy Center Tutor; Model United Nations, Vice President; NNHS Flat out Sharp Vocal a capella Group; ELL Tutor, Mill Street M&M Academy; Naperville Sister Cities Commission, Student Representative; World Cultures Student of the Year; You Make a Difference Award; Trustee Scholarship, USC.



### DENNIS TSENG

**Major:** Economics  
**School:** University of Chicago  
**Educator:** Dr. Chang Miao - Professor, Northwestern University

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Debate Team, Research Coordinator; University of Chicago, Young Scholar Program, Mathematics.



### AMIN BEMANIAN

**Major:** Biomedical and Computer Engineering

**School:** Columbia University

**Educator:** Elizabeth Moore - Mathematics, NNHS

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; AP Scholar with Distinction; Math Circle, President; Scholastic Bowl, Webmaster;

Chicago Area All-Star Math Team; JETS; Science Olympiad; Literacy Center Tutor; First Class Leader; Math Team State Championship, 2006, 2007; WYSE State Championship, 2008, 2009; WYSE State 6th Place Math, 4th Place Computer Science; DeVry Programming Contest, 3rd Place; Science Bowl Regionals Champions, 2009; Youth Scholars Program, University of Chicago; Developed and Programmed Video Game.



### MELISSA GREENE

**Major:** Biblical Studies and Asian Studies

**School:** Wheaton College

**Educator:** Elizabeth Moore - Mathematics, NNHS

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Varsity Badminton, Captain; Symphonic Orchestra, President (Sr.), Treasurer (Jr.);

First Class Leader; Literacy Center Tutor; Oasis Christian Fellowship; JETS, Pit Orchestra; National Hispanic Scholar; Servant Leadership Team Member, Wheaton Chinese Alliance Church.



### RAYMOND LOW

**Major:** Biomedical Science

**School:** New York University - Poly

**Educator:** Elizabeth Moore - Mathematics, NNHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; State Math Team, Captain; School Musical, two years; Oasis Christian Club Leader, Theatre Club; Spanish II

Award; Spanish III Award; Bible Quizzer of Midwest District, 1st Place, four years; Winternationals Bible Quizzing, Rookie of the Year; Full Scholarship, NYU-Poly.



### PRIYA SHANMUGAM

**Major:** Economics

**School:** Dartmouth College

**Educator:** Sandy Parato Toczylowski - Communication Arts, NNHS (retired)

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; Presidential Scholar Nominee; Indian Students

Association, President; Scholastic Bowl, Co-Captain, Most Valuable Player; WSYE; Literacy Center Tutor; AP Language, Teaching Assistant; Spanish II, Teaching Assistant, First Class Leader; Outstanding Social Studies Student Award; Outstanding Foreign Language Student Award; National Council of Teachers of English Writing Competition Nominee; Northwestern University Robert H. Lurie Cancer Center, Summer Research Rotation; Pancreatic Cancer Research with Dr. Paul Grippo; Multiple Myeloma Research with Dr. Steven Rosen; Naperville Suzuki School Student; Allegro!!! String Performance Ensemble, Puerto Rico Tour; Chicago Consort Violin Ensemble, Prague and Germany Tour; North American Saraswathi Cultural Association Scholarship.



### NRITHYA SUNDARARAMAN

**Major:** Pre-Medicine

**School:** University of Miami (Florida)

**Educator:** Sandy Parato Toczylowski - Communication Arts, NNHS (retired)

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Literacy Center Tutor; First Class Leader; PE Leader;

Varsity Volleyball, Captain, All-Conference; Dartmouth Book Award; Full Athletic (Volleyball) Scholarship, University of Miami.



### DIANA RECHENMACHER

**Major:** College of Business

**School:** University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

**Educator:** Karen Quinn - Communication Arts, NNHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society;

Varsity Softball Team, Captain, All-Academic; Varsity Volleyball Team, All-Academic; First Class Leader; Literacy Center Tutor; Key Club; DAR History Essay Award; American Legion Patriotism Essay; Illinois Girls State American Legion Award; Business School Honors Scholarship, University of Illinois.



### KATHLEEN WIEST

**Major:** Biochemistry

**School:** Undecided

**Educator:** Jeni Rogers - 5th Grade, Prairie Elementary School

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Varsity Track and Field, Captain, 2008 MVP;

First Class Executive Board; Symphonic Wind Ensemble, Section Leader; Jazz Lab; Literacy Center Tutor; YMCA, Volleyball Coach; Sts. Peter and Paul, Kindergarten Catechist; J. Kyle Braid Leadership Award; Harvard Book Award Nominee, Silver Test Tube Award; Foreign Language Award; IHSA State Qualifier; Naperville Exchange Club Youth of the Month Award.



### DONALD HRUSKA

**Major:** Computer Engineering

**School:** University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

**Educator:** Mark Rowzee - Chemistry, NNHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Symphonic Wind Ensemble, First Trumpet;

Young Life, Senior Leader; Jazz Ensemble; Ski and Snowboard Club, Theatre Club; B.E.S.T. Robotics Team, Co-Captain; F.I.R.S.T. Robotics Team, Co-Captain; Big Huskies, Little Huskies Mentor; 4.0 Award, seven semesters; Grace United Methodist Church, Usher; Naperville Park District Pit Orchestra Musician; Salvation Army Bell Ringer; YMCA Camp Tecumah, Leadership Training; Grainger Freshman Scholarship, University of Illinois.



### MANDA PHADKE

**Major:** Business and Kinesiology  
**School:** University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign or University of Wisconsin  
**Educator:** Mark Rowzee - Chemistry, NNHS  
 Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society, Board Member; Cross Country, Captain; Student Government, President; Key Club; Model United Nations, Latin Club; Cheerleading; Children's Play; One Acts; Harvard Book Award.



### AKANSHA TARUN

**Major:** Undecided  
**School:** Northwestern University, Brown or Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
**Educator:** Dr. Laura Semba - Naperville Children's Facial Clinic

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; AP Scholar with Distinction; Spectrum Multicultural Club, President; Varsity Cross Country; Badminton; Basketball; Literacy Center Tutor; Latin Club; WYSE; Math Team; First Class Leader; Student Transfer Program Leader; PE Leader; Toshiba/NTSA ExploraVision Science Competition Award, National Honorable Mention; American Invitational Mathematics Examination Qualifier; National Council of Teachers of English Achievement Award in Writing Nominee; Dartmouth Book Award; DuPage Valley Conference All-Academic All-Conference Team; *Daily Herald* Leadership Team Award Winner; Naperville Youth Ambassadors Leadership Conference; Edward Hospital/Naperville Pediatrics Mini Medical School, Leader and Teaching Assistant; Water Quality Association Summer Internship; Comcast Leaders and Achievers Scholarship Program Winner; Loyola University, Independent Research; Naperville Sister Cities Commission, Student Representative.



### KATHERINE BOYK

**Major:** Environmental Studies  
**School:** Northland College  
**Educator:** Stephanie Sullivan - Social Science, NNHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Environmental Club, President; Key Club, Amnesty International; Student Organization for Animal Rights; Cross Country, All Academic All Conference; Steve Lyons Excellence Award; Sally Ride Excellence Award; Harvard Book Award Nomination; 4.0 Award, seven semesters; Lake Superior Academic Excellence Scholarship, Northland College; Engagement Scholarship, Northland College; Chicago Botanic Garden's Fairchild Challenge Poetry Slam, Finalist two years; Invited to join Eco Slam Team to train for and perform at Louder Than a Bomb.



### LEHKA RAGAVENDRAN

**Major:** Biochemistry  
**School:** Duke University  
**Educator:** Stephanie Sullivan - Social Science, NNHS

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Human Rights Club, Co-President; Science Olympiad, Captain, 2nd Place Oceanography; Scholastic Bowl, Secretary; Literacy Center Tutor; First Class Leader; You Make a Difference Award; National Society of High School Scholars Member; Organized Public Exhibit Regarding Genocide Awareness; Organized Benefit Concerts for Underdeveloped Schools Abroad.



### LAWRENCE WEI

**Major:** Economics, Political Science, Pre-Medicine  
**School:** Amherst College  
**Educator:** Julia Tsien - Piano Instructor  
 National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; AP Scholar; Oasis; DuPage Symphony Orchestra Young Artists' Concerto Competition, 1st Place Piano; Illinois State Music Teacher's Association, State Piano Competition, 1st Place Junior and Senior Divisions, West Suburban Scholarship Competition, 1st Place.



### ALEXANDER GUI

**Major:** Mechanical Engineering  
**School:** University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
**Educator:** Li Tai - Youth Pastor

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; AP Scholar with Honors; NNHS Academic Achievement Award; Track, three years; Cross Country; Environmental Club; Symphonic Wind Ensemble; Parker Engineering PATHWAYS Internship; MechSE Outstanding Scholar Award, University of Illinois.



### SHUFENG HAN

**Major:** Computer Science/Engineering  
**School:** Carnegie Mellon  
**Educator:** Maxine Wilverding - Physics, NNHS (retired)

Illinois State Scholar; Math Team, WYSE State 1st Place Computer Science, 3rd Place Physics; Gymnastics; Computer Science Day; Elmhurst Symphony Competition, 3rd Place Piano; ISMTA 2nd Place Piano; Choir Accompaniment.



### ZUREN HSUEH



### LI XING PAN



### MATEUSZ WRODARCZYK

**Major:** Civil Engineering  
**School:** Elmhurst College

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