
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



M A Y 6 , 2 0 1 4

Sponsored by the Board of Education and the Naperville Education Foundation
on behalf of outstanding academicians in the Class of 2014 and their influential educators

INFLUENTIAL EDUCATORS 2014

SELECTED BY ACADEMICIANS AT NAPERVILLE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

Eleanor Barbino - Social Science, NCHS
Jim Braun - Mathematics, NCHS
Edward Casey - Language Arts, Lincoln Junior High School
Stacy Cunningham - Latin, NCHS
Kathleen Gasser - Spanish, NCHS
Crystal Griffith - General Science, NCHS
Kevin Hayes - Business Education, NCHS
Susan Heeg - Third Grade, Meadow Glens Elementary School (retired)
Annette Hennessy - Communication Arts, NCHS
Aislinn Hicks - Career & Technical Education, NCHS
Marie Higgins - F.A.C.S., NCHS
Kathy Hurd - General Science, NCHS
Jennifer Jackson - Associate Professor, North Central College
Kim Kopec - School Counselor, NCHS
Ami Kulik - Language Arts, Kennedy Junior High School
Yinhui Liao - Chinese, NCHS
Kathy Linder - Humanities, NCHS
Erika McCann - Instrumental Music, Madison Junior High School
Michael McManis - Instrumental Music, Kennedy Junior High School
Hans Eric Muehsler - General Science, NCHS
Megan Plackett - Communication Arts, NCHS
Keith Reschke - General Science, Kennedy Junior High School
Jane Thompson - Social Science, NCHS
Kelyn Tuggle - Communication Arts, NCHS
Ben Wahlund - Instrumental Director, NCHS
Nicole Weiss - Communication Arts, NCHS
Deniece Zinnecker - French, NCHS

SELECTED BY ACADEMICIANS AT NAPERVILLE NORTH HIGH SCHOOL

Hiram Baird - Mathematics, NNHS
Marie Bartolotta - LRC, Mill Street Elementary School (retired)
Julie Maura Bickel - Private Violin Teacher
Tim Brown - Mathematics, NNHS
Elizabeth Brucker - Chemistry, NNHS
Suzanne Croco - Gifted, Kennedy Junior High School
Ryan Dengel - Social Science, NNHS
Kermit Eby - Social Science, NNHS
Kevin Farrell - Physics, NNHS
Dana Green - Instrumental Music, NNHS
Brian Horner - Gifted, Highlands Elementary School
Kathleen Jacobs - Chemistry, NNHS
Thomasina Johnson - Guidance Counselor, NNHS (retired)
Edward Joyce - Latin, NNHS
Sue Kouri - Gifted, Highlands Elementary School
Georgie Lukas - Fourth Grade, Ranch View Elementary School
L. Mitch Martin - Communication Arts, NNHS
Elizabeth Moore - Mathematics, NNHS
John Myers - Spanish, Jefferson Junior High School
Mike O'Connor - Social Science, NNHS
Father John Palmer - Clergy
Sandy Parato - Communication Arts, NNHS
Mike Pearson - Communication Arts, NNHS
Anne Rauen - Communication Arts, NNHS
Chris Rehfield - Social Science, NNHS
Emily Richardson - Communication Arts, NNHS
Geoffrey Schmit - Physics, NNHS
Diane Sherry - Biology, NNHS
Julia Tsien - Private Piano Teacher
Mary Weber - Language Arts, Kennedy Junior High School
Margo Winder - Fifth Grade, Steeple Run Elementary School
Maureen Wunderlich - Spanish, NNHS

P R O G R A M

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 Naperville Community Unit School District 203 and the Naperville Education Foundation. The Board of Education congratulates our honorees and their families.

WELCOME

Dawn Newman, Chair, Naperville Education Foundation

OPENING REMARKS

Bob Ross, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education, District 203

INTRODUCTIONS

Jackie Romberg, President, Board of Education

STUDENT REMARKS

Sebastian Wagner-Carena, Class of 2014, Naperville North High School

Asmaysinh Gharia, Class of 2014, Naperville Central High School

PRESENTATIONS

Kevin Pobst, Principal, Naperville North High School

Bill Wiesbrook, Principal, Naperville Central High School

CLOSING REMARKS

Dan Bridges, Superintendent of Schools

ORDER OF PRESENTATION

Megan Petzold, NNHS - Dana Green
Justin Gillette, NCHS - Eleanor Barbino
Adam Daniel Heiser, NCHS - Eleanor Barbino
Philip Hinch, NCHS - Eleanor Barbino
Bradley Ng, NNHS - Hiram Baird
Asmaysinh Gharia, NCHS - Jim Braun
Malvika Ragavendran, NNHS - Marie Bartolotta
Kristiana Yao, NNHS - Marie Bartolotta
Andrew Deaver, NCHS - Edward Casey
Michelle Chin, NNHS - Julie Maura Bickel
Charlotte Hunt, NCHS - Stacy Cunningham
John Myers, NCHS - Stacy Cunningham
Spencer Philip Mather, NNHS - Tim Brown
Chris Serpico, NNHS - Tim Brown
Ashley Flakus, NCHS - Kathleen Gasser
Karen McCowin, NCHS - Kathleen Gasser
Claire Liu, NNHS - Elizabeth Brucker
Shobhana Panuganti, NNHS - Elizabeth Brucker
Robyn Lee, NCHS - Crystal Griffith
Anushka Rau, NNHS - Suzanne Croco
Christina Maria Mardyla, NCHS - Kevin Hayes
Velvizhi Rathinavelu, NNHS - Kermit Eby
Ashrita Rau, NNHS - Kermit Eby
Ruta Virginia Raulickis, NCHS - Susan Heeg
Kevin Suh, NNHS - Brian Horner
Matthew Laboe, NCHS - Annette Hennessy
Xiyu Sonja Li, NCHS - Annette Hennessy
Larry Wang, NNHS - Kathleen Jacobs
Ben Jobst, NCHS - Aislinn Hicks
Zachary Adcock, NNHS - Thomasina Johnson
Weichen Ling, NCHS - Marie Higgins
Douglas Jennings, NNHS - Edward Joyce
Stephanie Wong, NNHS - Edward Joyce
Girishkumar Chandrasekar, NCHS - Kathy Hurd
Sara Aya Furukawa, NCHS - Kathy Hurd
Cynthia Liu, NCHS - Kathy Hurd
Charles H. Zega, NNHS - Sue Kouri
Mark Sweeney, NCHS - Jennifer Jackson
Helen Wei, NNHS - Georgie Lukas
Priyasha Bijlani, NCHS - Kim Kopec
Eliza Chen, NNHS - L. Mitch Martin

Yun Zhao, NNHS - L. Mitch Martin
Emily White, NCHS - Ami Kulik
Beatrice Jin, NNHS - Elizabeth Moore
Frank Peng, NCHS - Yinhui Liao
Julianna Joseph, NNHS - John Myers
Xinyi (Sunny) Liu, NCHS - Kathy Linder
Aseem Jha, NNHS - Mike O'Connor
Cynthia Nicole Plant, NCHS - Erika McCann
David Chen, NNHS - Father John Palmer
Jessica Matos, NCHS - Michael McManis
Eleni Athena Varelas, NNHS - Sandy Parato
Chelsea (Xiaoqi) Wang, NNHS - Sandy Parato
Ziwei Ba, NCHS - Hans Eric Muehsler
Hanway Wang, NCHS - Hans Eric Muehsler
Tiffany Chen, NNHS - Mike Pearson
Bishesh Khadka, NNHS - Mike Pearson
Rachel Madeline Liu, NCHS - Megan Plackett
Sebastian Matthias Wagner-Carena, NNHS - Anne Rauen
FanTing Kung, NCHS - Keith Reschke
Arun Chandnani, NNHS - Chris Rehfield
Emily Lynn Zhen, NCHS - Jane Thompson
Alexandra Moxon, NNHS - Emily Richardson
Grace Yan-Yee Ng, NNHS - Emily Richardson
Vanitha Raguveer, NCHS - Kelyn Tuggle
Allison Kay Bushman, NNHS - Geoffrey Schmit
Kimberly Dauber, NNHS - Geoffrey Schmit
Nathan Lindquist, NNHS - Geoffrey Schmit
Arpan Rau, NNHS - Geoffrey Schmit
Daniel Sanchez, NNHS - Geoffrey Schmit
Liam Strejcek, NNHS - Geoffrey Schmit
Rishi Kumar, NCHS - Ben Wahlund
Alan Tang, NNHS - Diane Sherry
Christine Zhou, NNHS - Diane Sherry
Jonathan Wrobel, NCHS - Nicole Weiss
Vivian Chen, NNHS - Julia Tsien
Margaret Underwood, NCHS - Deniece Zinnecker
Julie Michelle Lang, NNHS - Mary Weber
Alexa Rae Cotton, NNHS - Margo Winder
Elizabeth Hamlink, NNHS - Maureen Wunderlich

Naperville North High School



OUTSTANDING ACADEMICIANS 2014



ZACHARY ADCOCK

Major: Civil Engineering
School: University of Illinois Urbana/Champaign
Educator: Thomasina Johnson - Guidance Counselor, NNHS (retired)

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; National Achievement Finalist; National Merit Commended Scholar; Legacy Award; Cross Country; Track; P.R.I.D.E; DECA; First Class; James Scholar Honors Program



TIFFANY CHEN

Major: Biotechnology and Journalism
School: Undecided
Educator: Mike Pearson - Communication Arts, NNHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; French Honor Society; DuPage Children's Museum; UNICEF Club



ALLISON KAY BUSHMAN

Major: Biomedical Engineering
School: Yale University
Educator: Geoffrey Schmit - Physics, NNHS
Illinois State Scholar; Accomplished Gymnast; Certamen League; Rise Above; Media Team



VIVIAN CHEN

Major: Physics and Piano
School: Northwestern University
Educator: Julia Tsien - Private Piano Teacher
National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; National AP Scholar; CYSO Symphony Orchestra - Violinist; Accomplished Pianist; Scholastic Bowl; Ping Pong Club; JETS; GEMS; Acoustics Leader; Vivace Music Group



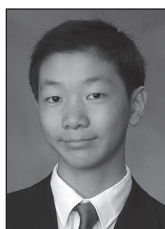
ARUN CHANDNANI

Major: Biochemistry
School: University of Illinois Urbana/Champaign
Educator: Chris Rehfield - Social Science, NNHS
Illinois State Scholar; National Merit Scholarship



MICHELLE CHIN

Major: Bioengineering
School: Undecided
Educator: Julie Maura Bickel - Private Violin Teacher
Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; F.Y.I. Leader; First Class Leader; Literacy Center Tutor; Vivaldi Strings; Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra; Maud Powell String Quartet; Edward Hospital Healing Arts Program Volunteer; Acoustics Volunteer; Dupage Children's Museum Volunteer



DAVID CHEN

Major: Biology
School: Northwestern University
Educator: Father John Palmer - Clergy
National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Honor Roll; AP Scholar; Royal Conservatory First Class Honors; DECA; Math

Team; Junior Statesman of America; Urban Revolution Club; Scholastic Bowl; Eagle Scout



ALEXA RAE COTTON

Major: Biology
School: Vanderbilt University
Educator: Margo Winder - Fifth Grade, Steeple Run Elementary School

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; AP Scholar; 4.0 Award; Ted Brattin Civic Youth Award; French Honor Society; FYI Leader; First Class Leader; Swim Team; Track and Field; Morton Arboretum Research Intern; Morton Arboretum Volunteer



ELIZA CHEN

Major: Literary Arts
School: Brown University
Educator: L. Mitch Martin - Communication Arts, NNHS

Illinois State Scholar; Scholastic Art and Writing Gold Key Winner; Literary Magazine; National Art Honor Society; Student Government



KIMBERLY DAUBER

Major: Computer Science and Political Science
School: Massachusetts Institute of Technology or Harvard University

Educator: Geoffrey Schmit - Physics, NNHS
 National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; WYSE; Marching Huskie of the Year;

Robotics Team; Illinois YMCA Youth & Government; Science Bowl; Scholastic Bowl; Varsity Lacrosse



LILY DUNK

Major: Gap Year - City Year Chicago Corps Member

School: University of Minnesota - Fall 2015

Educator: Ryan Dengel - Social Science, NNHS
 National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; Gay-Straight Alliance; Swing Dance Club



ELIZABETH HAMLINK

Major: Mathematics

School: University of Kentucky

Educator: Maureen Wunderlich - Spanish, NNHS
 National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; Silver Test Tube Award; Foreign Language Award; Prairie State Achievement Award; Academic Achievement Award; University of Kentucky Patterson Scholarship



DOUGLAS JENNINGS

Major: Computer Science

School: University of Illinois Urbana/Champaign

Educator: Edward Joyce - Latin, NNHS
 National Honor Society; Latin Club; Chess Team; Frisbee Team; Theater; Swing Dance Club



ASEEM JHA

Major: Computer Science and Neurological Sciences

School: Undecided

Educator: Mike O'Connor - Social Science, NNHS
 National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; Spanish National Honor Society; Outstanding

Social Science Student; Outstanding Foreign Language Student; YMCA Youth & Government; Spanish Student of the Year; National AP Scholar; Scholastic Bowl; Literacy Center Peer Tutor; State Math Team; Speech Team; Science Olympiad; FYI; Varsity Cross Country; Track; Gymnastics; Hindu Temple of Greater Chicago Volunteer; Loaves and Fishes Volunteer



BEATRICE JIN

Major: Mathematics

School: Cornell University

Educator: Elizabeth Moore - Mathematics, NNHS
 National Merit Finalist; Badminton; AP Scholar with Merit and Honors; Oasis Christian Fellowship; Math Team; Science Olympiad



JULIANNA JOSEPH

Major: Food Science

School: Michigan State University

Educator: John Myers - Spanish, Jefferson Junior High School

Illinois State Scholar; 4.0 Award; Science Award; Spanish Award; Prairie State Achievement Award; Scholastic Art Competition; Marching Band; Pep Band; Jazz Lab; Track and Field; Swing Dance Club; First Class Leader; Michigan State University Presidential Study Abroad Scholarship, Professorial Assistantship



BISHESH KHADKA

Major: Physics and Computer Science

School: Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Educator: Mike Pearson - Communication Arts, NNHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Music Production Club; Spanish Honor Society; First Class; FYI; Scholastic Bowl; Science Olympiad; Science Bowl



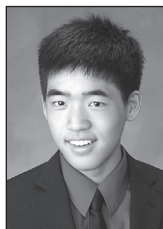
JULIE MICHELLE LANG

Major: Nursing

School: University of Kentucky

Educator: Mary Weber - Language Arts, Kennedy Junior High School

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Academic Achievement Award; Prairie State Achievement Award; Varsity Swimming; CEC Club; French Club; FYI Mentor; Water Polo; Senior Board; Morton Arboretum Volunteer; University of Kentucky Patterson Scholarship



BENNY LI

Major: Computer Engineering/Bioengineering

School: Undecided

Educator: Kevin Farrell - Physics, NNHS

**NATHAN LINDQUIST**

Major: Computer Science
School: Northwestern University
Educator: Geoffrey Schmit - Physics, NNHS
 National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; WYSE;
 AP Scholar with Distinction; Bausch & Lomb Science
 Award; 4.0 Award; Robotics Team; Math Team;

Science Olympiad; Evans Scholars Foundation Scholarship; American
 Chemical Society Examination Scholarship

**BRADLEY NG**

Major: Exercise Physiology
School: Marquette University
Educator: Hiram Baird - Mathematics, NNHS
 National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; Oasis
 Fellowship Club; First Class Leader; Literacy Center
 Tutor; UNICEF Club; Mandarin Club; Jazz Lab;

Freshman Volleyball; iHealth S.C. Intern; Naperville Public Library
 Volunteer; Wheaton Chinese Alliance Church Student Leader; Marquette
 University Ignatius/Magis Scholarship

**CLAIRE LIU**

Major: Molecular Engineering/Chemistry
School: University of Chicago
Educator: Elizabeth Brucker - Chemistry, NNHS
 Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society;
 National Merit Commended Scholar; Rotary Youth
 Leadership Award; Interact Club; JETS; French Honor

Society; Basketball; Chemistry Research Assistant at the University
 of Chicago

**GRACE YAN-YEE NG**

Major: Biomedical Engineering
School: Princeton University or
 Stanford University
Educator: Emily Richardson - Communication
 Arts, NNHS

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National
 Honor Society; National AP Scholar; Harvard Book Award; State Math
 Team; Science Olympiad; WYSE; Science Bowl; Tennis; Youth Symphony
 of DuPage - violinist

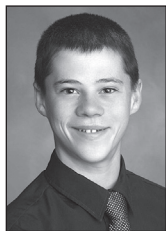
**GEORGE LOWERY**

Major: Finance and Economics
School: University of Illinois
 Urbana/Champaign
Educator: Elizabeth Moore - Mathematics, NNHS
 National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; Illinois
 Music Educators Association (ILMEA) All-State Honor

Band, Clarinet; Marching Band; Jazz Ensemble; Madrigal Singers; Show
 Choir Combo; Theater; Musical

**SHOBHANA PANUGANTI**

Major: Chemistry and Art History
School: University of Michigan
Educator: Elizabeth Brucker - Chemistry, NNHS
 Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society;
 Scholastic National Art Awards Silver Key; Marching
 Band; WYSE; Feminist Roundtable

**SPENCER PHILIP MATHER**

Major: Undecided
School: Michigan State University
Educator: Tim Brown - Mathematics, NNHS
 National Honor Society; Social Studies Outstanding
 Student Award; Cross Country; J. Kyle Braid; Top
 Dawgs; Rise Above; Raised \$1500 for orphanage

in Burora, Uganda; Triathlete; Michigan State University Alumni
 Distinguished Scholarship

**MEGAN PETZOLD**

Major: Mathematics and Secondary Education
School: Luther College
Educator: Dana Green - Instrumental
 Music, NNHS

Illinois State Scholar; French Honor Society;
 Badminton; Bella Corda; *Jekyll and Hyde* Pit;
 Piano; Orchestra

**ALEXANDRA MOXON**

Major: Health Sciences
School: Hope College
Educator: Emily Richardson - Communication
 Arts, NNHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Varsity
 Cross Country; Varsity Track & Field; Prairie State
 Achievement Award; KEY Club; Top Dawg; J. Kyle Braid; First Class
 Leader; Literacy Center Peer Tutor; Hope College Presidential Scholarship

**MALVIKA RAGAVENDRAN**

Major: Public Health
School: Undecided
Educator: Marie Bartolotta - LRC,
 Mill Street Elementary School (retired)

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; AP
 Scholar with Distinction; Humanities Honors Award;
 UNICEF Club; French Honor Society; First Class Leader; Literacy Center
 Tutor; Natya Dance Theatre; Project Building Resilience Against Climate
 Effects (BRACE) Research Assistant

**VELVIZHI RATHINAVELU**

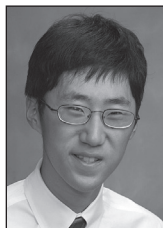
Major: Undecided
School: Undecided
Educator: Kermit Eby - Social Science, NNHS
 Illinois State Scholar; AP Scholar with Distinction;
 Distinguished Honor Roll; Apricity Literary Magazine;
 Latin Club; Literacy Center Peer Tutor; JETS

**LIAM STREJCEK**

Major: Physics
School: Undecided
Educator: Geoffrey Schmit - Physics, NNHS
 Illinois State Scholar; National Merit Commended
 Student; AP Scholar with Honor; 4.0 Award;
 Gymnastics; Urban Revolution Crew

**ANUSHKA RAU**

Major: Biomedical Engineering
School: CalTech
Educator: Suzanne Croco - Gifted,
 Kennedy Junior High School
 National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar;
 Scholastic Bowl; Robotics Team; Harry Potter Club;
 Science Bowl; Debate

**KEVIN SUH**

Major: Biology
School: Undecided
Educator: Brian Horner - Gifted,
 Highlands Elementary School
 National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar;
 National Honor Society; Marching Band; State Math
 Team; Science Olympiad; Schools for Schools; Tennis;
 Eagle Scout

**ARPAN RAU**

Major: Engineering
School: Undecided
Educator: Geoffrey Schmit - Physics, NNHS
 National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National
 Honor Society; Physics Club; Robotics Team

**ALAN TANG**

Major: Computer Science
School: University of California - Berkeley
Educator: Diane Sherry - Biology, NNHS
 National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National
 Honor Society; AP State Scholar; Junior Statesmen
 of America; Schools for Schools; Urban Revolution
 Crew; Varsity Scholastic Bowl

**ASHRITA RAU**

Major: International Relations
School: Tufts University
Educator: Kermit Eby - Social Science, NNHS
 National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar;
 National Honor Society; Scholastic Bowl Team; Harry
 Potter Club

**ELENI ATHENA VARELAS**

Major: Biology
School: Northwestern University
Educator: Sandy Parato - Communication
 Arts, NNHS
 Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society;
 AP Scholar with Honor; 4.0 Award; Spanish
 Honor Society; UNICEF Club; Debate Team; First
 Class Leader

**DANIEL SANCHEZ**

Major: Computer Engineering or
 Computer Science
School: University of Michigan
Educator: Geoffrey Schmit - Physics, NNHS
 Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society;
 National Merit Commended Scholar; National
 Hispanic Recognition Program; Student Government; P.R.I.D.E.;
 Gymnastics; First Class Leader

**SEBASTIAN MATTHIAS WAGNER-CARENA**

Major: Physics
School: Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Educator: Anne Rauen - Communication
 Arts, NNHS
 National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National
 Honor Society; United States Physics Olympiad;
 National Hispanic Recognition Program Scholar; National AP Scholar;
 Dartmouth Book Award; Debate Team; Science Olympiad; Math Team;
 Speech Team; WYSE

**CHRIS SERPICO**

Major: Undecided
School: Northwestern University
Educator: Tim Brown - Mathematics, NNHS
 National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National
 Honor Society

**LARRY WANG**

Major: Computer Science
School: University of Illinois Urbana/Champaign
Educator: Kathleen Jacobs - Chemistry, NNHS
 National Merit Finalist; Robotics Team; Youth Symphony of DuPage - Violinist; Naperville Humane Society Volunteer

**CHELSEA (XIAOQI) WANG**

Major: Business and Biological Sciences
School: Undecided
Educator: Sandy Parato - Communication Arts, NNHS
 National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Dupage Youth Symphony Orchestra; Varsity Swimming; FCCLA; GEMS; DECA; Vivace Music Group; Coca-Cola Scholar

**HELEN WEI**

Major: Biochemistry
School: Rice University
Educator: Georgie Lukas - Fourth Grade, Ranch View Elementary School
 National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; AP Scholar with Distinction; Varsity Swimming; Varsity Water Polo; Junior Statesman of America; First Class Leader; Esperanto Club; Media Team

**STEPHANIE WONG**

Major: Linguistics
School: Undecided
Educator: Edward Joyce - Latin, NNHS
 Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; North Central College Lederman Scholar; Smith College Book Award; Outstanding Spanish Student Award; Outstanding Latin Student Award; National Merit Commended Scholar; National Junior Classical League Latin Honor Society; Spanish National Honor Society; Badminton; First Class; Latin Club; Apricity Literary Magazine; National Junior Classical League; Villa St. Benedict Volunteer; Illinois Junior Classical League State Board

**KRISTIANA YAO**

Major: Public Health and Spanish
School: University of Miami
Educator: Marie Bartolotta - LRC, Mill Street Elementary School (retired)
 National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; AP Scholar with Distinction; Academic Achievement Award; District Honor Roll; World and Classical Languages Department Award; Accomplished Pianist; Junior Statesmen of America; Swing Dance Club; First Class Leader; Prospective Healthcare Professionals; Villa St. Benedict Volunteer; St. Thomas the Apostle Volunteer; North Central College Lederman Scholar; University of Miami Isaac Bashevis Singer Full Tuition Scholarship

**CHARLES H. ZEGA**

Major: Engineering
School: University of Illinois Urbana/Champaign
Educator: Sue Kouri - Gifted, Highlands Elementary School
 National Merit Finalist; Marching Band - Esprit de Corps Award; National Latin Examination Silver Award

**YUN ZHAO**

Major: Undecided
School: Undecided
Educator: L. Mitch Martin - Communication Arts, NNHS
 Illinois State Scholar; Varsity Badminton; AP Scholar with Distinction; JETS; GEMS; INTERACT; UNICEF; Shriners Hospital for Children Volunteer

**CHRISTINE ZHOU**

Major: Biomedical Engineering and Computer Science
School: Duke University
Educator: Diane Sherry - Biology, NNHS
 Illinois State Scholar; National AP Scholar; Varsity Badminton; GEMS; Interact Club

Naperville Central High School



OUTSTANDING ACADEMICIANS 2014



ZIWEI BA

Major: Undecided

School: Undecided

Educator: Hans Eric Muehler - General Science, NCHS

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National AP Scholar; Scholastic Bowl; Science Olympiad; Math Team; Certamen Team; Tutoring



SARA AYA FURUKAWA

Major: Biology

School: University of Chicago

Educator: Kathy Hurd - General Science, NCHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; AP Scholar with Distinction; Spanish Honor Society; National Merit Commended Student; 4.0 Award;

Varsity Tennis; Varsity Lacrosse; Class Council; DuPage Children's Museum Volunteer



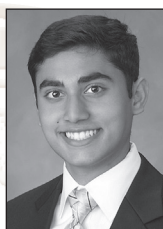
PRIYESHA BIJLANI

Major: Liberal Arts/Medicine

School: University of Missouri - Kansas City

Educator: Kim Kopec - School Counselor, NCHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Naperville Youth Service Award; AP Scholar with Distinction; Honor Roll; DECA; Speech Team; Almost Home Kids Volunteer



ASMAYSINH GHARIA

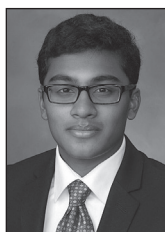
Major: Molecular Cellular Biology

School: University of California - Berkeley

Educator: Jim Braun - Mathematics, NCHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Perfect ACT; AP Scholar with Honors; National Merit Commended Student; 4.0 Award; French Honor

Society; Model UN; Science Olympiad; Student Advisory Council; DuPage Children's Museum Volunteer



GIRISHKUMAR CHANDRASEKAR

Major: Economics and Mathematics

School: Columbia University

Educator: Kathy Hurd - General Science, NCHS

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Perfect ACT; Perfect SAT; Marianjoy Rehabilitation Hospital Volunteer; Science Olympiad; Scholastic Bowl; WYSE; Varsity Tennis; Math Team; JETS



JUSTIN GILLETTE

Major: Political Science, Economics

School: Washington & Lee University

Educator: Eleanor Barbino - Social Science, NCHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; French National Honor Society; Academic Achievement Awards; Prairie State Achievement Award; Model

UN; Letter of Commendation - National Merit Scholarship Program; AP Scholar with Distinction Award; Varsity Tennis; Student Advisory Council; Youth & Government; Freshman Mentor; North Central College Lederman Scholar; Congressional Youth Leadership Council; Rotary Interact Club; DuPage Children's Museum Volunteer; Washington & Lee University Johnson Scholarship



ANDREW DEAVER

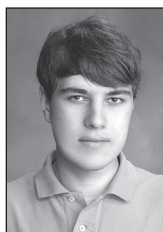
Major: Electrical/Computer Engineering

School: Olin College of Engineering

Educator: Edward Casey - Language Arts, Lincoln Junior High School

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; AP Scholar With Honor; Ultimate Frisbee; Multicultural

Club; Central Times; Freshmen Mentor; DuPage Children's Museum; Share Your Treasures; Olin College of Engineering Scholarship



ADAM DANIEL HEISER

Major: Finance and Business Administration

School: University of Michigan

Educator: Eleanor Barbino - Social Science, NCHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; AP Scholar with Honor; National Merit Commended Student; Spanish Honor Society; Prairie State

Achievement Award; Wall Street Society; Youth and Government; Model UN; Eagle Scout



ASHLEY FLAKUS

Major: Biological Sciences

School: University of Notre Dame

Educator: Kathleen Gasser - Spanish, NCHS

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Spanish Honor Society; Amnesty Club; DuPage Children's Museum Volunteer



PHILIP HINCH

Major: Computer Science and Economics
School: Undecided
Educator: Eleanor Barbino - Social Science, NCHS
 National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar;
 National Honor Society; AP Scholar with Distinction;
 Scholastic Bowl; Math Team; WYSE; Human

Rights Club; Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra Violinist; Vivaldi
 Strings Ensemble



MATTHEW LABOE

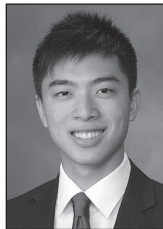
Major: Chemical Engineering
School: University of Notre Dame
Educator: Annette Hennessy - Communication
 Arts, NCHS

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar;
 National Honor Society; Class Council; Varsity Swim
 Team; Varsity Water Polo Team; Church Altar Server; Academic Center
 Tutor; Piano



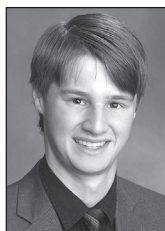
CHARLOTTE HUNT

Major: Classical Languages
School: University of Illinois
 Urbana/Champaign
Educator: Stacy Cunningham - Latin, NCHS
 Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society;
 National Latin Exam Silver Medals; Art Club; GEMS;
 Latin Club



JUNGSOO LEE

Major: Biology
School: Cornell University
Educator: Stacy Cunningham - Latin, NCHS
 National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; Latin
 Honor Society; AP Scholar; Urban Arts Club; Student
 Advisory Council; Indian Student Association;
 Environmental Club; Violinist



BEN JOBST

Major: Finance/Actuarial Science
School: University of Michigan
Educator: Aislinn Hicks - Career & Technical
 Education, NNHS
 Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; 4.0
 Award; Business Professionals of America; DECA;
 Track and Field; Math Team



ROBYN LEE

Major: Biology
School: University of Illinois
 Urbana/Champaign
Educator: Crystal Griffith - General Science, NCHS
 Illinois State Scholar



RISHI KUMAR

Major: Mechanical Engineering
School: University of Illinois
 Urbana/Champaign
Educator: Ben Wahlund - Instrumental
 Director, NCHS
 National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National
 Honor Society; AP Scholar with Distinction; 4.0 Award; Edward Hospital
 Volunteer; Spanish Honor Society; DECA; Basketball; Drumshow



XIYU SONJA LI

Major: Computer Science
School: University of Chicago
Educator: Annette Hennessy - Communication
 Arts, NCHS
 Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society;
 Edward Hospital Volunteer; Symphonic Orchestra;
 Chinese Club



FANTING KUNG

Major: Psychology and Speech Pathology
School: Undecided
Educator: Keith Reschke - General Science,
 Kennedy Junior High School
 Illinois State Scholar; 4.0 Award; AP Scholar
 with Honor Award; GameChangers Club;
 Congressional Debate Team; Human Rights Club;
 Amnesty International



WEICHEN LING

Major: Chemical Biology
School: University of California - Berkeley
Educator: Marie Higgins - F.A.C.S., NCHS
 National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National
 Honor Society; Spanish National Honor Society; R41N
 Dance Club; Multicultural Club; Human Rights Club;
 Math Team

**CYNTHIA LIU**

Major: Neuroscience
School: Amherst College
Educator: Kathy Hurd - General Science, NCHS
 Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Edward Hospital Volunteer; Varsity Tennis; AP Scholar with Distinction; Class Council; Medical Professionals

Club; Published a research paper at Brigham and Women's Hospital; Edward Hospital Scholarship

**KAREN MCCOWIN**

Major: Finance
School: University of Minnesota
Educator: Kathleen Gasser - Spanish, NCHS
 Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Distinguished Honor Roll; Outstanding Academic Achievement Award; Varsity Cross Country;

Freshmen Mentoring Program; Prairie State Achievement Award; Track; Student Advisory Council; Class Council; Spanish Honor Society; Special Olympics Track; University of Minnesota Gold National Scholarship

**RACHEL MADELINE LIU**

Major: Biology
School: Undecided
Educator: Megan Plackett - Communication Arts, NCHS

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Formosa Association of

Student Cultural Ambassadors; Culinary Club; Math Team; French Club; Human Rights Club; National French Society; Piano; World Relief Early Childhood Tutor; WCAC Youth Group

**JOHN MYERS**

Major: Electrical Engineering
School: University of Notre Dame
Educator: Stacy Cunningham - Latin, NCHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; 4.0 Award; Neil Stiefbold Memorial Award; AP Scholar; Latin Honor Society; Class Council; Football; Track; Latin Club; Student Ambassador; Young Life

**XINYI (SUNNY) LIU**

Major: Economics and Mathematical Methods in Social Science

School: Northwestern University

Educator: Kathy Linder - Humanities, NCHS
 Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; AP Scholar with Honors; Prairie State Achievement

Award; 4.0 Award; Human Rights Club; Amnesty International; GameChangers Club; Rotary Interact International Intern for City Council Campaign; Congressional Debate; Horticulture Club; FCCLA; Library Summer Reading Program Volunteer

**FRANK PENG**

Major: Finance and Actuarial Science

School: University of Michigan

Educator: Yinhui Liao - Chinese, NCHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Merit Commended; Chinese Club President; DECA; Varsity Tennis; Mr. NCHS; Jean Fairfax Scholarship

**CHRISTINA MARIA MARDYLA**

Major: Chemical Engineering

School: University of Illinois Urbana/Champaign

Educator: Kevin Hayes - Business Education, NCHS

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; 4.0 Award; AP Scholar; GEMS; Math Team; Spanish Honor Society

**CYNTHIA NICOLE PLANT**

Major: Music Education and Mathematics

School: Eastman School of Music or University of Rochester

Educator: Erika McCann - Instrumental Music, Madison Junior High School

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Perfect ACT; Math Team; Soccer; Jazz Band - Trombone; Marching Band; Steel Band Manager; Wind Ensemble; Brass Quintet; Woodwind Quintet; Flute Choir

**JESSICA MATOS**

Major: Mechanical Engineering

School: Vanderbilt University

Educator: Michael McManis - Instrumental Music, Kennedy Junior High School

Illinois State Scholar; National Hispanic Scholar; National Merit Commended Scholar; Prairie State Achievement Award; 4.0 Award; Flute Choir; Math Team; Culinary Club

**VANITHA RAGUVEER**

Major: Biomedical Engineering

School: Undecided

Educator: Kelyn Tuggle - Communication Arts, NCHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Student Government; Speech Team; Indian Classical Singer



RUTA VIRGINIA RAULICKIS

Major: Engineering
School: Undecided
Educator: Susan Heeg - Third Grade, Meadow Glens Elementary School (retired)

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; National Society of High School Scholars; French Honor Society; 4.0 Award; Varsity Cross Country; Track; Swim Team



EMILY WHITE

Major: Mechanical Engineering
School: University of Notre Dame
Educator: Ami Kulik - Language Arts, Kennedy Junior High School

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; Perfect ACT; Spanish Honor Society; National Merit Commended Scholar; High Honor Roll; Prairie State Achievement Award; Varsity Cross Country; Varsity Track; Rotary Club; Medical Club; Wind Ensemble



MARK SWEENEY

Major: Urban Planning
School: Undecided
Educator: Jennifer Jackson - Associate Professor, North Central College

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; Illinois Junior Classical League; Orchestra; Marching Band; Certamen Team; Math Team



JONATHAN WROBEL

Major: Political Science and Economics
School: Northwestern University
Educator: Nicole Weiss - Communication Arts, NCHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; AP Scholar with Distinction; Spanish Honor Society; 4.0 Award; Class Council; Model UN; Youth and Government; Varsity Swim Team; Varsity Volleyball; Freshman Mentoring Program; Church Choir and Youth Group; Sunrise Senior Living Volunteer



MARGARET UNDERWOOD

Major: Undecided
School: Gap Year
Educator: Deniece Zinnecker - French, NCHS
 National Merit Finalist; National Honor Society; National Merit Commended Scholar; North Central College Dean's List; AP Scholar with Distinction;

Cross Country; Track; French Honor Society; Model UN; Rotary Interact Club; Youth and Government; Naperville German School Volunteer



EMILY LYNN ZHEN

Major: Economics and Biology or Chemistry
School: University of Pennsylvania
Educator: Jane Thompson - Social Science, NCHS

National Merit Finalist; Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; National AP Scholar; US Chemistry Olympiad; Quill & Scroll Honor Society; VFW Voice of Democracy Contest Winner; Perfect ACT; Honor Roll; *Central Times*; Business Professionals of America; DECA; Speech Team; Swim Team; Class Council; Naperville Education Foundation Student Representative; Northwestern University Research Intern; National Coca-Cola Scholarship; Illinois Foundation for Marketing DECA Scholarship; Business Professionals of America Scholarship



HANWAY WANG

Major: Bioengineering
School: University of Illinois Urbana/Champaign
Educator: Hans Eric Muehler - General Science, NCHS

Illinois State Scholar; National Honor Society; AP Scholar with Distinction; National Merit Commended Student; Math Team; Science Olympiad; Scholastic Bowl; Latin Club; Eagle Scout; Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra Violinist; Junior Engineering and Technical Society; WYSE; Latin Club; Certamen Team; Swim Team; Physics Olympiad

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