

COMMENDATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS
OCTOBER 2015

High School

Congratulations are extended to the following National Merit 2016 Semifinalist Students:

Christopher L. Adamo
Gaurav Bhushan
Zian Chen
Jacob C. Heilman
Emily R. Hobart
Hunter D. Lantzman
Sarina J. Mak
Yein Park
Joseph D. Paul
Akshay Prasad
Mohammad H. Rahman
Hannah T. Tyger
Steven R. Wagner
Ryan P. Whyte

Congratulations are extended to the following National Merit 2016 Commended Students:

Hannah E. Cafaro
Zachary R. Christiansen
Charles D. Hendrix
Abdul K. Khan
Meghan V. Matheny
Liam M. McClelland
John C. Miller
Amanda C. Mittelman
Thomas A. Mologne
Michael L. Nastac
Geet V. Punjabi
Pedro D. Quiroga
Ajinkya Rai
Cara Ravasio
Mariya A. Savinov
Vidhi K. Shah
John Shea
Bennett H. Sneath
Rachel P. VanRyzin
Hannah Wilding
Braedon Wong

Upper St. Clair High School string and band members recently earned high rankings in competitive musical auditions for the upcoming Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) Honors String Orchestra and Honors Band Festivals held on September 21. Samuel Ding (Violin I) and James Boston (String Bass) successfully auditioned for participation in the festivals. Both are members of the USC High School Orchestra, directed by Ms. Sarah Shoemaker, and will participate in the PMEA Honors String Orchestra Festival held on November 7-8 at the Chartiers Valley High School.

Several USC band members are commended for outstanding achievement at the PMEA Honors Band auditions held on October 5 at South Fayette High School. The following musicians will perform in the annual festival concert on November 22 at Bethel Park High School:

Alexa Drecnik - Flute II
Meghan Johnson - Clarinet III
Steven Fontanella - Cornet I - first chair
James Boston - Trumpet II
Matt Higgs - Percussion - first chair

In addition, Allie Ryave was named first alternate for the oboe section. The band members are students of Mr. Don Pickell and Mr. Frank Eisenreich.

Congratulations to the following students on their acceptance into PMEA Honors Choir:

Jordan Smith
Izzy Tarcson
Chase Banton
Sammy Cancilla
Patrick Glover
Jonah Glunt
Jonah Manalo
Jacob Ross

Congratulations are extended to the USC Marching Band on earning 2nd Place at the Tournament of Bands Western Regional at Baldwin High School on October 3, 2015.

High School senior Lauren Hamel was recognized at the first home football game on September 4 as the 84 Lumber Scholar Athlete for Week 1 of Friday Night Rivals. Lauren was presented with a commemorative plaque and a chance to win a scholarship of \$5,000 to the college of her choice.

Elementary

Congratulations are extended to the staff and students of Baker Elementary School for earning a 2015 National Blue Ribbon Award. Baker Principal, Dr. McClintock-Comeaux and Mrs. Pamela Dillie, Elementary Teacher/Science Curriculum Leader, will travel to Washington, D.C. where the U.S. Department of Education will honor the National Blue Ribbon Schools with a plaque and flag as symbols of their recognized status. The 2015 National Blue Ribbon Award is the second received by Baker Elementary School, having first earned this distinction in 1998-99.