



UNIVERSITY LABORATORY HIGH SCHOOL

**2015-16 ACADEMIC
AWARDS BOOKLET**

FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT

- **Illinois All-State Music Selectees**

Renata Herrera
Monica Pardeshi
Stella Faux
Annemarie Michael
Grace Taylor
Noah Larson
Daniel Meling
Sam Guo
Jonah Herzog
Timmy Purnell
Devin Epstein
Matthew Reeder
Andrew Stelzer

- **Insect Fear Film Festival**

Elizabeth Tyson, 1st Place, grades 6-8
Erin Minor, 3rd Place, grades 6-8
Emma Roese, 3rd Place, grades 9-12
Naha Aluru, Honorable Mention
Leah Wallace, Honorable Mention

FOREIGN LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

- **Emma Koenker Foreign Language Award**

To honor an outstanding student who reflects Emma's love of international culture and her profound respect for the unique qualities of all inhabitants of the global community.

Giulia Barbieri

- **National Japanese Exam Awards**

The Fifth Annual National Japanese Exam was available for Level 1, 2 and 3 Japanese students only.

Level 1

Silver: Zona Hrnjak (State ranking #1, National ranking #10)

Bronze: Tue Do, Jenna Lee, and Christina Wu.

Level 2

Gold medal: Harmen Alleyne and Irina Cheng (State ranking #3)

Silver: Bridget Rubins (State ranking #8)

Honorable Mention: Lili Banihashem

Level 3

Silver: Alyssa Rauschenberger (State ranking #4)

Bronze: Berit Hudson-Rasmussen and Michelle Kim

• **National French Contest Winners**

This year, all students from all four levels of French competed in the American Association of Teachers of French's National French Contest. More than 85,000 students competed in the contest, which tests their skills in reading, writing and oral comprehension of French. The Uni students who were ranked as national winners are:

French 1:

Gold Medal (95th percentile): Elizabeth Atkinson, Sophia Ebel, Elizabeth Rienstra, and Aneesha Tadikonda

Silver Medal (85th-90th percentile): Matthew Tang, Brandon van der Donk, Akash Pardeshi, and Alyssa Rauschenberger

Bronze Medal (75th -80th percentile): Elisha Ham, Martin Aldunate, Dylan Bowman, Minji Choi, Betty Nguyen, Ella Kirwan, and Mary Walker

French 2:

Gold Medal (95th percentile): Hannah Davis, Solomia Dzhaman, Isabella Solis, Catalin Clougherty, Aidan Garrett, Lawrence Taritsa

Silver Medal (85th – 90th percentile): Sarah Grubisich, Kevin Grosman

Bronze Medal (7th -80th percentile): Grace Sumitro, Ethan Soloveychik, Martin Dalling, Nina Galvez

French 3:

Gold Medal (95th percentile): Augusta Mansfield, Anupam Sharma

Silver Medal (85th-90th percentile): Nora Benmamoun, Robert Chen, Lara Morgan

Bronze Medal (75th -80th percentile): Austin Chen, Camden Coleman, Tina Liu, Ha Tran, Yichen Yao, Kathryn Dullerud

French 4

Gold Medal (95th percentile): Alexandre Geubele

Silver Medal (85th-90th percentile): Renata Herrera, Annemarie Michael, Timmy Purnell, Matthew Reeder

Bronze Medal (75th -80th percentile): Zina Dolan, Caroline Gillette, Carissa Hwu

• **National Latin Awards**

Latin 5

Gold Summa Cum Laude: Elissa Mullins

Latin 4

Gold Summa Cum Laude: Quintin Powers

Silver Maxima Cum Laude: Mehul Patnam

Magna Cum Laude: Ben McKinzey, Minwoo Choi, Lizzy Ramos, Daniel Vardy

Latin 3

Gold Summa Cum Laude: Phillips Reed, Kathryn Dullerud, Maggie Tewksbury, Lindsay Huang, Omeed Miraftab-Salo, Ellie Breen, Isandro Malik

Silver Maxima Cum Laude: Chloe Pollock, Nathan Durkin, Ema Rajic, Hadley Shapland

Magna Cum Laude: Rahi Miraftab-Salo

Cum Laude: Vikram Perry

Latin 2

Gold Summa Cum Laude: Annemarie Michael, Betsy Ruckman, Phillips Reed, Albert Lee, Annette Lee, Jacob Minin, Tim Cho

Silver Maxima Cum Laude: Gloria Sunderland, Adam Rebei, DJ Nelson, Jessica Valette, Ayat Jaber

Magna Cum Laude: Alice Correia

Latin 1

Gold Summa Cum Laude: Joshua Mok-Chih, Ethan Ashbrook, Arielle Summit, Katie Car-rubba, Sarah Hashash, Sophia Liu, Makayla Dorsey, Emi Loucks, Marta Westerstahl

Silver Maxima Cum Laude: Alex Hsia, Ahmad Bobat

Magna Cum Laude: Steven Blanke

Illinois Junior Classical League Awards:

1st Place: Vikram Perry: Illinois Junior Classical League: Boy's Javelin Throw

1st Place: Darshan Naidu: Illinois Junior Classical League: Derivatives: Level 3

1st Place: Reed Phillips: Illinois Junior Classical League: Vocabulary: Level 3

1st Place: Quinn Powers: Illinois Junior Classical League: Photography

1st Place: Emily Gibson: Illinois Junior Classical League: Vocabulary: Level 4

1st Place: Sophia Liu: Illinois Junior Classical League: Vocabulary: Level 1

1st Place: Sophia Liu: Illinois Junior Classical League: Discuss Throw

1st Place: Betsy Ruckman: Illinois Junior Classical League: Girl's Sprint

2nd Place: Vikram Perry: Illinois Junior Classical League: Mythology: Level 3

2nd Place: Mehul Patnam: Illinois Junior Classical League: Vocabulary: Level 4

2nd Place: Emi Loucks: Illinois Junior Classical League: Roman Life: Level 1

2nd Place: Sarah Hashash: Illinois Junior Classical League: Vocabulary: Level 1

2nd Place: Jacob Minin: Illinois Junior Classical League: Vocabulary: Level 2

2nd Place: Adam Rebei: Illinois Junior Classical League: Boy's Sprint

2nd Place: Gloria Sunderland: Illinois Junior Classical League: Roman Life: Level 2

2nd Place: Jessica Valette: Illinois Junior Classical League: Roman Life: Level 2

2nd Place: Betsy Ruckman: Illinois Junior Classical League: Mythology: Level 2

3rd Place: Darshan Naidu: Illinois Junior Classical League: Boy's Javelin Throw

3rd Place: Quinn Powers: Illinois Junior Classical League: Mythology: Level 4

3rd Place: Lizzy Ramos: Illinois Junior Classical League: Small Models

3rd Place: Lizzy Ramos: Illinois Junior Classical League: Derivatives: Level 4

3rd Place: Daniel Vardy: Illinois Junior Classical League: Roman Life: Level 4

3rd Place: Daniel Vardy: Illinois Junior Classical League: Boy's Sprint

• National Spanish Contest Winners

The National Spanish Examinations are administered each year in grades 6 through 12, and are sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese. The exams are the largest of their kind in the United States with over 156,000 students participating in 2016. Each student scored at the 95th percentile or higher earning the distinction “Gold Medal Placement” at the national level.

Jackson Vaughan	Callie Bruce
Christelle Seri	Anya Kaplan
Caroline Gillette	Mustafa Syed
Yamini Yedetore	Neha Aluru

• German Awards for 2016

German 2

Matthew Reeder	Gold	1st in state
Kari Schwink	Gold	2nd in state
Katharine Ahlgren	Gold	4th in state
Samir Gray	Gold	4th in state
Olivia Taylor	Gold	4th in state
Lorraine Bernhard	Gold	
Lia Dankowicz	Gold	
Lucia Lombardi	Gold	
Noah Larson	Silver	
Ema Loewenstein	Silver	
Isaac Gray	Silver	
Robert Nagel	Bronze	

German 3

Sophia Ebel	Gold	1st in state – AATG Trip Prize Winner
Grant Allen	Gold	5th in state
Brian Zilles	Gold	5th in state
Noah Blue	Silver	
Lara Morgen	Silver	
Raya Ghandi	Bronze	
Paul D'Angelo	Bronze	
Anna Trout	Bronze	

German 4

Samuel Hotchkiss	Gold	1st in state
Andrew Stelzer	Gold	2nd in state
Anshul Adve	Gold	
Miriam Ross	Gold	
Clara Pokorny	Silver	
Isaac Freund	Silver	
Devin Epstein	Bronze	
Ailin Validivia-McCarthy	Bronze	
Timothy Winter-Nelson	Bronze	

MATH DEPARTMENT

• **Parkland Math Contests- Uni placed 1st overall**

Individual awards

- 1st place ICTM medals for Reed Phillips (Geometry), Samuel Guo (Algebra II)
- 2nd place ICTM medal for Albert Lee (Algebra I), Anshul Adve (Algebra II)
- 3rd place ICTM medals for Sarah Zhang (Algebra II), Andrew Stelzer (Algebra II), Ben Schiffer (PreCalculus)
- Parkland medallions for Kevin Grosman (Algebra I), Lyle Regenwetter (PreCalculus)

Team awards

For combined scores of individual tests:

- 1st place: Geometry, Algebra II, and Pre-Calculus teams (sum of highest 4 individual ICTM scores on individual tests)
- 2nd place: Algebra I team (sum of highest 4 individual ICTM scores on individual tests; this was higher than our combined scores in each of the other 3 individual events, so a very valuable 2nd place!)

Team awards

For team events

-1st place for the following ICTM team events:

- 2-person Jr/Sr (Lyle Regenwetter and Ben Schiffer)
- 2-person Fr/So (Austin Chen and Reed Phillips)
- 8-person Jr/Sr (Anshul Adve, Anthony Wu, Ben Schiffer, Lyle Regenwetter, Monica Pardeshi, Robert Stavins, Sam Guo, Sarah Zhang)
- 8-person Fr/So (Adam Rebei, Anna Ding, Kevin Grosman, Kathryn Dullerud, Lawrence Taritsa, Reed Phillips, Robert Chen - yes there are only 7 students; we can explain that)
- Calculator team (Albert Lee, Austin Chen, Andrew Stelzer, Robert Stavins, Sam Guo)

- highest score in the 2-person Fr/So event receiving Parkland ribbons : Albert Lee and Adam Rebei (we were allowed to designate only one ICTM Fr/So 2-person team while our other 2 teams participated only in the Parkland contest; Albert and Adam were one of the other teams)

- 2nd place and Parkland ribbons for our Park1 Jr/Sr 8-person team (Akash Pardeshi, Andrew Stelzer, Devin Epstein, Hailan Shanbhag, Iulianna Taritsa, Joy Chen, Nicholas Liu, Rima Rebei)

-3rd place and Parkland ribbons for our Park2 Jr/Sr 8-person team (Angela Li, Anna Ding, Anna Dmitrieva, Danny Liang, Arielle Summitt, Kevin Grosman, Mikhail Sigalov, Robert Chen)

• **ICTM State Math Contests- Uni placed 4th overall**

Congratulations to our 29 students who participated in the State Finals of the ICTM Math Contest on May 7: Ben Schiffer, Lyle Regenwetter, Monica Pardeshi, Robert Stavins, Nicholas Liu, Angela Li, Iulianna Taritsa, Anna Dmitrieva, Andrew Stelzer, Anshul Adve, Anthony Wu, Sarah Zhang, Sam Guo, Joy Chen, Mikhail Sigalov, Anna Ding, Austin Chen, Grace Qiu, Arielle Summitt, Reed Phillips, Elizabeth Singer, Robert Chen,

Adam Rebei, Kevin Grosman, Lawrence Taritsa, Matthew Jin, Alex Swanson-Linville, Sam Li, and Albert Lee.

Individual awards

1st Algebra 2: Sam Guo

3rd Algebra 2: Anshul Adve

7th Algebra 2: Sarah Zhang

8th Geometry: Reed Phillips

9th Algebra 1: Albert Lee

10th Algebra 1: Adam Rebei

Team awards

1st Algebra 2 (Sam Guo, Anshul Adve, Sarah Zhang, Anthony Wu, Andrew Stelzer, Joy Chen)

1st Junior/Senior 8-person (Ben Schiffer, Lyle Regenwetter, Monica Pardeshi, Robert Stavins, Anshul Adve, Anthony Wu, Sarah Zhang, Sam Guo)

2nd Algebra 1 (Albert Lee, Adam Rebei, Kevin Grosman, Matthew Jin, Alex Swanson-Linville, Lawrence Taritsa)

3rd Junior/Senior 2-person (Lyle Regenwetter, Ben Schiffer)

4th Junior/Senior Relay 1 (Sarah Zhang, Robert Stavins, Sam Guo, Anthony Wu)

5th Freshman/Sophomore 2-person (Adam Rebei, Albert Lee)

9th Freshman/Sophomore 8-person (Austin Chen, Grace Qiu, Anna Ding, Arielle Summitt, Lawrence Taritsa, Albert Lee, Kevin Grosman, Adam Rebei).

10th Calculator (Alex Swanson-Linville, Reed Phillips, Andrew Stelzer, Nicholas Liu, Julianna Taritsa)

As usual, Uni qualified to participate in all events after winning the regional contest earlier this year, in division 3AA (schools of 1000 - 1999 students). Our overall team ranking was 4th place in Division 3AA at the State Finals. Thanks to our talented and hardworking math team, 2016 was another good year for Uni at the State Finals.

• **American Mathematics Competition**

- AMC-8 School Winners: Alex Hsia, Kristine Wang, Peter Zhang

- AMC-10 School Winners: Reed Phillips

- AMC-12 School Winners: Sam Guo

• **American Invitational Math Exam**

- AIME Qualifiers: Anshul Adve, Tue Do, Sam Guo, Reed Phillips, Lyle Regenwetter

- AIME School Winner: Sam Guo

• **MathCounts (Subfreshmen)**

The following students were on the regional MathCounts team, which earned third place and qualified for state:

Tue Do

Alex Hsia

Sophia Liu

Ethan Muchnik

(Alex and Tue tied for third place as individuals; by the rules for tiebreaks, third place went to Alex.)

The following students participated at the state MathCounts competition:

Dylan Bowman (alternate at regionals)

Tue Do

Alex Hsia

Sophia Liu

• **Purple Comet Competition (Subfreshmen)**

The subfreshman team “Accidental Grandmother Ghost” consisted of the following students:

Ethan Ashbrook

Dylan Bowman

Alex Hsia

Sophia Liu

Ethan Muchnik

Matty Tang

For schools with less than 400 students, this team earned fifth in state (72nd percentile) and 45th in the country (also 72nd percentile).

The subfreshman team “Second Step Team” consisted of the following students:

Geoffrey Ding

Tue Do

Akash Pardeshi

David Sun

For schools with less than 400 students, this team earned first in state (95th percentile) and eleventh in the country (93rd percentile). The high school team of Kevin Grosman, Matthew Jin, Albert Lee, and Adam Rebei placed second in the state (for schools less than 1200 students).

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

• **Senior Athlete of the Year**

Male Athlete of the Year – Chris Bauer & Panos Voulgaris

Female Athlete of the Year – Maddie Nelson

• **IHSA Scholar-Athlete Award**

Seniors

Will Ahlgren
Mariam Arif
Tiye Baraka
Andy Barbour
Lilly Bralts-Kelly
Claire Dickerson
Makayla Dorsey
Natalie Dullerud
Athena Feng
Kate Ferreira
Lina Florez
Beth Geistlinger
Alyson Gerdes
Tyra Greer
Berit Hudson-Rasmussen
Natalie Hummel
Gus Kasten
Louis Kim
Aarthi Lakshminarayanan
Sarah Lee
Dan Liang
Nicolas Liu
Joaquin Malik
Lydia Mihaly
Kavi Naidu
Maddie Nelson
Pauline Ostoja-Starzewski
Pranav Pamidighantam
Monica Pardeshi
Jacob Rajlich
Lyle Regenwetter
Ben Schiffer
Luie Siegel
Dong-Ha Son
Robert Stavins
Katie Tender
Neil Tewksbury
Maia Vardy
Panos Voulgaris

Johnny Wang
Justin Wang
Selena Wang
Jack Zeiders

Juniors

Tori Aber
Kyra Althaus
Guilia Barbieri
Callie Bruce
Minwoo Choi
Varun Chopra
Zina Dolan
Devin Epstein
Isaac Freund
Alexandre Geubelle
Martin Grosman
Sam Guo
Renata Herrera
Jonah Herzog
Sam Hotchkiss
Carissa Hwu
Ezra Johnson
Daniel Meling
Annemarie Michael
Lauren Monahan
Molly Newman-Johnson
Tim Purnell
Lizzy Ramos
Rima Rebei
Ella Roth
Mikhail Sigalov
Ethan Simmons
Ha-il Son
Andrew Stelzer
Grace Taylor
Aja Trask
Daniel Vardy
Henry Wilson
Anthony Wu

• **ECIC Scholar-Athlete Award**

Lyle Regenwetter, Soccer
Chris Bauer, Soccer, Basketball
Panos Voulgaris, Soccer, Basketball Neil Tewksbury, Soccer
Will Ahlgren, Soccer
Luie Siegel, Soccer
Gus Kasten, Soccer
Juaquin Malik, Soccer
Robert Stavins, Soccer
Pranav Pamidighantam, Soccer
Kavi Naidu, Soccer
Jacob Rajlich, Basketball
Dong-ha Son, Basketball
Johnny Wang, Basketball
Danny Liang, Basketball
Beth Geistlinger, Basketball
Makayla Dorsey, Basketball, Volleyball Kate Ferreira, Basketball
Natalie Dullerud, Volleyball
Tyra Greer, Volleyball
Alyson Gerdes, Volleyball
Lydia Mihaly, Volleyball
Aarthi Lakshminarayanan, Volleyball

• **Tom Jolly “Spirit of Uni” Award**

Tom Jolly was a local hospital chaplain who was very active in community fine arts and athletic programs. He was the father of Uni alums Michelle Jolly, Class of 1984, and Doug Jolly, Class of 1990.

This award should be given to a graduating senior show, during his/her tenure at Uni, has exhibited outstanding moral, ethical, and spiritual qualities. The student should also have worked to strengthen the Uni community by bringing various groups, clubs or populations together in order to improve the community and understanding among the various elements of the Uni community and/or with groups outside of Uni. The recipient’s activities should have been as broad as possible during his/her time at Uni in order to reflect the full scope of the “Uni experience.”

Beth Geistlinger

• **Athletic Director’s Award**

The Athletic Director’s Award is awarded to the Uni High senior who, in the opinion of the Athletic Director, has made a spirited contribution to the Uni High Athletic Department as a model community member and participant.

Jacob Rajlich

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

• ExploraVision

Toshiba/National Science Teachers Association ExploraVision Competition

This is the 21st year that Uni High has participated in the Toshiba/NSTA ExploraVision competition, a North American technology competition that attracts up to 20,000 students per year. For the tenth time, a Uni team placed first in the regional round of this competition. Our region is comprised of Canada and ten midwestern states. We had a record number of students (37!) participate this year.

Six North American teams advance into the video/web site round. Two of those six teams will go to Washington DC to present their prototype to scientists in DC. Students on the first place team will receive \$10,000 per student and family travel costs to DC, while student on the second place team will receive \$5,000 per student and family travel costs to DC. April 25 is notification date regarding which teams will go to DC.

In addition to our regional/overall winning team, seven teams earned Honorable Mention, an honor given to projects ranked in the top 10% of projects submitted for their grade level.

Congratulations to Joy Chen, Rima Rebei, Aditya Yedetore, and Sarah Zhang, and Community Mentor Katie Tender for placing first in the overall competition with BEISight: Bionic Eye Implant for Sight. Other teams follow:

*BI-Filtration: Bivalve- Inspired Filtration System**

(Jacob Minin, Tim Cho, Albert Lee, Krishna Subbiah)

*AWET: Advanced Wind Energy Technology**

(Kevin Grosman, Abraham Han, Samuel Li, Adam Rebei)

*NITANtech: Nanoparticle-based Tumor Location and Inhibition Technology**

(Isaac Freund, Martin Grosman, Samuel Guo, Mehul Patnam)

WARP: Watch for Anaphylaxis Reaction Prevention

(Nina Galvez, Jack Easley, Lawrence Taritsa, Tori Kindratenko)

*TITLE: Tcell Immunization Technology Lymphocytes Engineered**

(Serena Cai, Sruti Ekkirala, Lizzy Ramos)

*ANAA-Blood: Antimalarial Nanobot Antibody-Infused Artificial Blood**

(Mariam Arif, Natalie Hummel, Iulianna Taritsa, Anthony Wu)

NAP: Nanolithographic Assembly of Proteins

(Natalie Dullerud, Sarah Lee, Neil Tewksbury, Jack Zeiders)

*ASCANR Technology: Autonomous Stem Cell-Aided Neuron Remyelination Technology**

(Monica Pardeshi, Lyle Regenwetter, Benjamin Schiffer, Robert Stavins)

** Regional Honorable Mention*

• **Illinois Science Teachers Association Award**

The recipient of this award is a junior or senior selected based on his/her leadership qualities, independence of thought, ability to solve problems, good laboratory and study skills, high scholastic rank and desire for a career in science or a science-related field.

Iulianna Taritsa

• **Bausch and Lomb Science Award**

This award recognizes a junior who demonstrates excellence in all science classes and who has shown exceptional skill in laboratory experimentation, and who possesses the qualities requisite to a future career in the sciences.

Sam Guo

• **Philip Anderson Award**

Philip Anderson was a member of the University High School Class of 1940. He won the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1977 for “fundamental theoretic investigation of the electronic structure of magnetic and disordered systems.” This award is given to a student for exceptional performance through their science career at Uni, outstanding performance academically and participation in science-related extracurricular activities.

Ben Schiffer

• **STEM Volunteers**

This year a number of students served as STEM teaching volunteers in local elementary schools. Those students were:

STEM Volunteers at Martin Luther King Jr. elementary school in Urbana:

Taritsa, Iulianna	Dmitrieva, Anna
Monahan, Lauren	Liu, Nicholas
Hummel, Natalie	Shanbhag, Hailan
Li, Angela	Ross, Miriam
Gibson, Emily Rose	Son, Ha-il
Roth, Ella Frances	Wang, Justin
Purnell, Timothy	Feng, Athena
Tweedle, Jazmin	Stelzer, Andrew
Greer, Tyra	Pardeshi, Monica

STEM Volunteers at St. Elmo STEM Academy:

Yichen Yao	Anna Ding	Hadley Shapland
Kevin Grosman	Ellen Rispoli	Rima Rebei
Callie Bruce	Jessica Kittle	Annemarie Michael
Omeed Mirafatab-Salo	Siena Roberts	Carissa Hwu
James Vaughen	Nathalie Stein	Maggie Tewksbury
Madie Gardner	Sankhya Hirani*	Ha-Il Son
Andrew Stelzer	Martin Grosman	Ella Roth
Kate Ferriera*	Kathryn Dullerud	Sophia Ebel
Zina Dolan	Mehul Patman	
Aja Trask	Maddie Brown	
Tina Liu		
Mikella Vermaire		

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

- **James Tobin Excellence in the Social Sciences Award**

The James Tobin Award for Excellence in the Social Sciences was established in honor of Uni graduate James Tobin, an economist who won the Nobel Prize in 1981. The Tobin Award is given each year to a graduating senior who has demonstrated an exceptional commitment to the questions and principles of the social sciences.

Kavi Naidu

Ellen Rispoli

- The Department of Social Studies is grateful for the many contributions of students from the graduating Class of 2016 who have served as WILL interns:
Even Dankowicz, senior student producer, Small Local Agriculture project, and intern for four years

 Lulianna Taritsa, senior student producer, Small Local Agriculture project, and intern for four years

 Katie Tender, senior student producer, Small Local Agriculture project, and intern for four years

 Monica Pardeshi, senior student producer, Small Local Agriculture project, and intern for three years

 Ellen Rispoli, audio specialist and intern for four years

 Keisha Patel, intern for four years

 Maia Vardy, intern for two years

- In addition, the Department of Social Studies would like to acknowledge the excellent leadership of the Habitat for Humanity Club in 2015-2016 by the following students:

 Marshall Allston-Yeagle, Class of 2016

 Jack Zeiders, Class of 2016

 Callie Bruce, Class of 2017

 Isaac Freund, Class of 2017

 Annemarie Michael, Class of 2017

 Grace Taylor, Class of 2017

PARENT/FACULTY ORGANIZATION

- **Colin Thorn Award**

The University Laboratory High School Parent-Faculty Organization has established an award for those volunteers who make a special contribution to the School. The Thorn Award is presented to a non-student (parent, faculty member or friend of the University Laboratory High School) whose unpaid, volunteer service stands out as demonstrating extraordinary dedication to the welfare, enrichment, and improvement of the students and their educational experience at the school over a substantial period of time.

Elizabeth and Barry Dickerson

- **Sue Kovacs Award**

The University Laboratory High School Parent-Faculty Organization has established an award in honor of ex-Assistant principal Sue Kovacs. The award is given annually to a person who embodies the enthusiastic spirit of service which Ms. Kovacs displayed on a daily basis.

Judy and Jay Geistlinger

STUDENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

- **U.S. Presidential Scholars Competition**

The U.S. Presidential Scholars Program was established in 1964, by executive order of the President, to recognize and honor some of our nation's most distinguished graduating high school seniors. Each year, up to 141 students are named as Presidential Scholars, one of the nation's highest honors for high school students.

Candidations from the Class of 2016 include:

Lilly Bralts-Kelley

Danny Liang

Nicholas Liu

Ben Schiffer

Jack Zeiders

- **National Merit Scholarship Program Finalists**

The National Merit® Scholarship Program is an academic competition for recognition and scholarships that began in 1955. High school students enter the National Merit Program by taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®)—a test which serves as an initial screen of approximately 1.5 million entrants each year—and by meeting published program entry/participation requirements. In February, some 15,000 Semifinalists are notified by mail at their home addresses that they have advanced to Finalist standing.

NMS FINALISTS from the Class of 2016 include:

Lilly Bralts-Kelly

Kavi Naidu

Even Dankowicz

Monica Pardeshi

Anna Dmitrieva

Lyle Regenwetter

Natalie Dullerud

Benjamin Schiffer

Berit Hudson-Rasmussen

Robert Stavins

Angela Li

Marie Su

Dan Liang

Iulianna Taritsa

Nicholas Liu

Katherine Tender

Elissa Mullins

John Walkington

- **National Merit Scholarship Program - Scholarship Recipients**

NMSC notifies over 8,000 Finalists at their home addresses that they have been selected to receive a Merit Scholarship® award. Merit Scholarship awards are of three types: National Merit \$2500 award; Corporate-sponsored; College-sponsored.

(As of May 13, 2016)

National Merit \$2500 Scholarship:

Nicholas J. Liu

Benjamin G. Schiffer

Monica Mangesh Pardeshi

Katherine A. Tender

Lyle Regenwetter

• **National Merit Scholarship Program Semifinalists**

Less than 1 percent, or about 16,000 out of the 1.5 million juniors across the country who entered the 2013 program by taking the 2011 preliminary SAT/ National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT) earn the semifinalist designation.

NMS SEMIFINALISTS from the Class of 2016 include:

Lilly Bralts-Kelly

Kavi Naidu

Even Dankowicz

Monica Pardeshi

Anna Dmitrieva

Lyle Regenwetter

Natalie Dullerud

Benjamin Schiffer

Berit Hudson-Rasmussen

Robert Stavins

Angela Li

Marie Su

Dan Liang

Iulianna Taritsa

Nicholas Liu

Katherine Tender

Elissa Mullins

John Walkington

• **National Hispanic Recognition Program**

Each year, the NHRP identifies nearly 5,000 of the highest-scoring students (from a nationwide total of more than 200,000 juniors) in the United States and U.S. Territories who take the PSAT/NMSQT and designate themselves as Hispanic/Latino.

Joaquin Malik - SCHOLAR

• **National Merit Scholarship Program - Commended**

In late September, more than two-thirds or about 34,000 of the approximately 50,000 high scorers on the PSAT/NMSQT® receive Letters of Commendation in recognition of their outstanding academic promise. Commended Students are named on the basis of a nationally applied Selection Index score that may vary from year to year and is below the level required for participants to be named Semifinalists in their respective states.

William Ahlgren

Joaquin Malik

Mariam Arif

Pranav Pamidighantam

Athena Feng

Michael Rajlich

Natalie Hummel

Neil Tewksbury

August Kasten

Sushrut Vani

Louis Kim

Jonathan Wang

Jessica Kittle

Justin Wang

Sarah Lee

John Zeiders

• **DAR/SAR Good Citizen Award**

Alliance Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution and Pianke-shaw Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution sponsor the Good Citizens program for high school seniors each fall. Participating high schools can honor two young persons in the senior class who demonstrate qualities of good citizenship.

Elizabeth Geistlinger

Jacob Rajlich

• **WCIA “Best of the Class”**

The “Best of the Class” the top seniors graduating from high schools in the WCIA 3 viewing area. Uni High is allowed to submit all students (at the end of 7th semester) who have achieved a perfect 4.00 GPA.

William Ahlgren	Angela Li	Luie Siegel
Mariam Arif	Nicholas Liu	Robert Stavins
Lilly Bralts-Kelly	Pranav Pamidighantam	Marie Su
Even Dankowicz	Monica Pardeshi	Iulianna Taritsa
Anna Dmitrieva	Lyle Regenwetter	Katherine Tender
Berit Hudson-Rasmussen	Ellen Rispoli	Neil Tewksbury
Sarah Lee	Benjamin Schiffer	Maia Vardy

• **Illinois State Scholars**

State scholar designation provides honorary recognition with no monetary award. Approximately the top ten percent of graduates from approved high schools are announced as State Scholars each year.

Ahlgren, William	Lee, Sarah	Schiffer, Benjamin
Arif, Mariam	Li, Angela	Schwink, Kari
Baraka, Tiye	Liang, Dan	Siegel, Luie
Barbour, Andrew	Liu, Nicholas	Son, Dong-Ha
Bauer, Christopher	Malik, Joaquin	Stavins, Robert
Bralts-Kelly, Lilly	Mihaly, Lydia	Su, Marie
Brown, Madeline	Money, Robert	Taritsa, Iulianna
Dankowicz, Even	Mullins, Elissa	Tender, Katherine
Dmitrieva, Anna	Naidu, Kavi	Tewksbury, Neil
Dullerud, Natalie	Ostoja-Starzewski, Pauline	Tweedle, Jazmin
Feng, Athena	Pamidighantam, Pranav	Vani, Sushrut
Ferreira, Kathleen	Pardeshi, Monica	Vardy, Maia
Greer, Tyra	Park, Joon Young	Walkington, John
Hudson-Rasmussen, Berit	Patel, Keisha	Wang, Jonathan
Hummel, Natalie	Rajlich, Michael	Wang, Justin
Kasten, August	Regenwetter, Lyle	Wang, Selena
Kim, Louis	Rispoli, Ellen	Zeiders, John
Kittle, Jessica	Roberts, Siena	
Lakshminarayanan, Aarthi		

• **Kiwanis Vic Shaul Award**

The Champaign-Urbana Noon Kiwanis Club started a scholarship program in 1989 in honor of one of their club’s finest members -- Vic Shaul. He was a member of the Kiwanis Club since 1945 and passed away in 1993. This \$500 scholarship award program recognizes him for his tremendous contributions to our community and its young people.

Lina Florez

• **Kiwanis Noon Club Senior Recognition Luncheon**

Three juniors (selected on the basis of academics & leadership) were honored at a Kiwanis Club recognition luncheon. Accompanied by Jeff Walkington and their families, our three junior honorees this year were:

- Grace Taylor
- Aja Trask
- James Vaughen

• **Junior League of CU**

The Junior League of Champaign-Urbana is an organization of women committed to promoting volunteerism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. A scholarship in the amount of \$500 is offered to one young woman from each local high school who has demonstrated a strong commitment to volunteerism.

- Sarah Lee

PEO Star Scholarship— PEO is a Philanthropic Education Organization that invests in the education of women. The recipient of this award should exhibit excellence in leadership, academics, extracurricular activities, community service and potential for future success

- Katherine Tender
- Anna Dmitrieva

• **Peer College Counselors**

Peer mentors who provide support, advice and encouragement to juniors in their college search and planning process.

- Sarah Lee
- Sienna Roberts
- Elissa Mullins
- Iulianna Taritsa
- Ellen Rispoli
- Jazmin Tweedle

• **Subbie Buddies / Transfer Buddies**

Peer mentors who provide support, advice and encouragement during a student's transition to Uni.

TRANSFER BUDDIES

- Michael Anukwu
- Angie Shaw

SUBBIE BUDDY LEADERS

- Molly Newman-Johnson
- Zina Dolan
- Jazmin Tweedle
- Neil Tewksbury

SUBBIE BUDDIES

- Macheila Anderson
- Jonah Herzog
- Aja Trask
- Timothy Cho
- Ayah Jaber
- Maggie Tewksbury
- Samantha Churovich
- Albert Lee
- Hannah Davis
- Samuel Li
- Abraham Han
- Mallika Luthar

UNI HIGH AWARDS

- **Wylde Q. Chicken Award**

The award was established “to recognize Uni students who exhibit spontaneous creativity. Unbidden originality. Thinking outside the box. Coloring outside the lines of the coloring book. The nontraditional, the unconventional, the unexpected. Extraordinary acts in ordinary circumstances.”

Even Dankowicz, Natalie Hummel, Sarah Matatov, & Ha Tran

- **June Mank Award**

June Mank was the bookkeeper for University High School from 1972-1988. She served on the Champaign City Council from 1979 until 2001. In her spare time she drove cancer patients for treatment, meals on wheels, and served on various neighborhood committees, plus church activities. This award is given to a student who most shares June’s supportive role in the interest of Uni High. The student may have a long-term commitment to a single project, a short-term commitment to a variety of projects, or is engaged in service to the school without being asked.

Beth Geistlinger

- **Director’s Award**

The Director’s Award is awarded to that Uni High student who, in the opinion of the Director, has made a spirited contribution to Uni High as a model student and citizen.

Siena Roberts

- **Student of the Year**

The Student of the Year Award goes to a student who meets the following criteria: demonstrates respect for the dignity and worth of the individual; is sensitive to the needs of his/her school and community and initiates constructive action without seeking self-glorification; is willing and able to operate as a leader or follower as the situation demands; is not bound by tradition, and has a strong interest in and commitment to their academic program.

Katie Tender

- **Matt Wilhelm “Service With A Smile” Award**

Matt Wilhelm, Class of 1999, was a dedicated member of the Uni student body who was constantly helping others. No matter what he was doing, from serving on Student Council to assisting fellow students with their homework, Matt always contributed with little fanfare and with an unforgettable smile. Each year, the Matt Wilhelm Memorial “Service with a Smile” award shall go to the member of the Uni student body who, like Matt, went above and beyond the call of duty to serve the Uni community.

Jacob Rajlich

- **Ella Leppert Award**

This award is named in honor of Dr. Ella C. Leppert, a long-time social studies teacher at University High School, and recognizes outstanding teaching at Uni High.

Matt Mitchell

Uni