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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CONTACT:** Sherrie Emoto, board@mbhsmagnet.org

Address:

MBHS Magnet  
Foundation Inc.  
P.O. Box 101  
Kensington, MD  
20895-0101

**Eighteen Montgomery Blair High School Students  
Honored at Montgomery County Science Fair**

**Silver Spring, MD**—Eighteen Montgomery Blair High School students, mostly from the school’s Science, Mathematics, and Computer Science Magnet Program, placed in judging and received prizes at the 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Montgomery County Science Fair. Three of these students (with their project titles), Neil Davey (“Early Cancer Diagnosis and Treatment Through the Detection of Circulating Tumor Cells Using Drop-Based Microfluidics”) of Gaithersburg and Daniela Ganelin (“Differences in Word Usage Patterns Between Well-Recovered Aphasic Patients and Control Subjects on a Picture Description Task”) and Jessica Shi (“The Speeds of Families of Intersection Graphs”) of Rockville, captured three of the four Grand Prize spots and were awarded all expense-paid trips to compete at the 2014 Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) in Los Angeles, CA on May 11-16, along with a \$250 prize each. Shaun Datta (“Saturated Nuclear Matter in Large Nc and Heavy Quark Limits of Quantum Chromodynamics”) of Potomac was named first alternate to represent Montgomery County at the ISEF and awarded a \$100 prize. The Montgomery County event is sponsored by ScienceMONTGOMERY, a nonprofit organization of Montgomery County science and education firms.

The student winners, their projects, and their awards are as follows:

- Megan Chao** of Rockville, Honorable Mention in Computer Science and Mathematics; Aerospace Corporation Honorable Mention Award
- Ethan Chen**, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place in Engineering Award (\$25); American Society of Mechanical Engineers 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Award (\$50); Office of Naval Research Award
- Shaun Datta** of Potomac, (additional awards) 1<sup>st</sup> Place in Physics Award (\$100); Aerospace Corporation Honorable Mention Award; American Nuclear Society Honorable Mention Award; U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Award
- Neil Davey** of Gaithersburg, (additional awards) 1<sup>st</sup> Place in Biology Award (\$100); Biophysical Society Award (\$100); MedImmune Advancing Science for Better Health Award (\$100); Sigma Xi, FDA Chapter 1<sup>st</sup> Place Award (\$150)
- Ramy Durvasula** of Potomac, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in Computer Science and Mathematics Award (\$50); Graduate Women in Science Award; Mu Alpha Theta Award

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**Paul B. Ellis** of Silver Spring, 1<sup>st</sup> Place in Engineering Award (\$100); Federal Water Quality Association 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Award; Genius Olympiad Award; International Sustainable World Engineering, Energy, Environment, Project 2014 Olympiad Alternate; Lockheed Martin 1<sup>st</sup> Place in Engineering Award; Office of Naval Research Award

**Daniela Ganelin** of Rockville, (additional awards) 1<sup>st</sup> Place in Behavioral Social Sciences Award (\$100); American Psychological Association Award; U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Officers Award

**Yomiyou Geleta** of Silver Spring, Honorable Mention in Biology Award

**Aanchal Johri** of Rockville, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place in Chemistry Award (\$25); U.S. Metric Association Award

**Alan Li** of Rockville, Honorable Mention in Engineering Award

**Jared Duker Lichtman** of North Bethesda, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in Computer Science and Mathematics Award (\$50); Aerospace Corporation Honorable Mention Award

**Michelle Noh** of Rockville, Honorable Mention in Biology Award

**Nathan Schilling** of Rockville, Honorable Mention in Engineering Award

**Jessica Shi** of Rockville, (additional awards) 1<sup>st</sup> Place in Computer Science and Mathematics Award (\$100); Graduate Women in Science Award

**Hueyjong Shih** of Gaithersburg, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in Biology Award (\$50); Sigma Xi, FDA Chapter 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Award (\$100)

**Clare Singer** of Chevy Chase, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place in Physics Award (\$25)

**Kalin Vassilev** of Rockville, U.S. Airforce Honorable Mention Award

**Richard Zhu** of Potomac, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in Biology Award (\$50); MedImmune Advancing Science for Better Health Award 1<sup>st</sup> Place Alternate

Blair Magnet seniors who participated in the fair entered their Senior Research Projects under the guidance of magnet teacher Ms. Angelique Bosse. Science fair judges awarded prizes to students in each of twelve categories. Monetary prizes were given to the first, second, and third place winners in each category. Furthermore, many community organizations awarded additional prizes to students.

Ms. Angelique Bosse congratulates the student winners, “I am proud of the Blair students who had the energy and enthusiasm to represent Blair at the Montgomery Area Science Fair. The application process and the fair itself are time-consuming but rewarding. I am thrilled with our students’ successes, not only in the Grand Prize categories, but also in the community awards. I wish our students who advance to the ISEF in Los Angeles the best of luck and a wonderful experience as they represent Blair at this prestigious event.”

### **About The Montgomery Blair High School Magnet Foundation**

This organization was founded by a group of concerned students, teachers, administrators, and alumni in 2008. Its purpose is to promote science, mathematics, and computer science education by supporting the Magnet

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Program at Montgomery Blair High School in its efforts to develop resources and refine practices needed to provide a rigorous and enriched education for students, staff, and the community at large. The Foundation is incorporated in the state of Maryland and is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization.

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