



MONTGOMERY BLAIR HIGH SCHOOL MAGNET
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**Two Montgomery Blair High School Magnet Seniors
Named as Intel Finalists from a Pool of Nine Semifinalists;
No High School Nationally Has More**

Silver Spring, MD—On January 20, Arnold Mong and Josephine Jessica Yu of Potomac, both seniors in the Montgomery Blair High School Science, Mathematics, and Computer Science Magnet Program, were named as two of the 40 national finalists of the 2016 Intel Science Talent Search by Intel Corporation and the Society for Science & the Public, the nonprofit organization that administers this competition. The 40 finalists hail from 38 high schools in 18 states, with Montgomery Blair High School tied with one other school for having the most finalists from any high school in the nation. All finalists will compete for over \$1,000,000 in awards from the Intel Foundation, including three first-place Medal of Distinction awards of \$150,000 each that will be presented to students who show exceptional scientific potential in each of the areas of basic research, global good, and innovation. Final judging will occur in Washington, D.C. on March 10-16.

The two Blair finalists' research project titles are as follows:

Arnold Mong—*Exposing Non-Classical Properties of the Greenberger-Horne-Zeilinger States in Perfect Correlation Cases*

Josephine Jessica Yu—*Lattice and Continuum Models of Solitons and Vortices in Bilayer Graphene*

Last month, Intel Science Talent Search, the oldest and most prestigious pre-college science competition in this country, announced the names of 300 semifinalists from a pool of 1,750 entrants representing 512 high schools in 43 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and six American and international high schools overseas. Of these, nine hailed from the Blair Magnet. No high school in the nation had as many semifinalists as the Blair Magnet. Each of these semifinalists was awarded \$1,000 for his or her original science project, and Montgomery Blair High School will receive \$9,000 (\$1,000 for each of the semifinalists) to be used to further science, math, and engineering education. In the Blair Magnet Program, this original work represents the student's senior research

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project, which is overseen by Blair Magnet teacher Ms. Angelique Bosse. This research is completed under the guidance of a mentor, typically at a leading research institution or university.

The additional seven Blair Intel semifinalists' names and research project titles are as follows:

Eric S. Chen—*Tumor Suppressor BRCA1 Prohibits Replication Catastrophe in Response to Replicative Stress during Pregnancy*

Noah Zhou Fang—*Searching for Dusty Clusters of Galaxies in a Herschel Catalog*

Yaelle Goldschlag—*Top-K Inexact Query Matching in Graph Databases*

Amy Li—*Incorporating Space Based Solar Power into a 5.8GHz Wireless Power Transmission Module*

Raymond Lin—*T-reflection in Quantum Mechanics*

Brian Morris—*Adapting the Poisson-influenced K-means Algorithm for a Larger User Base*

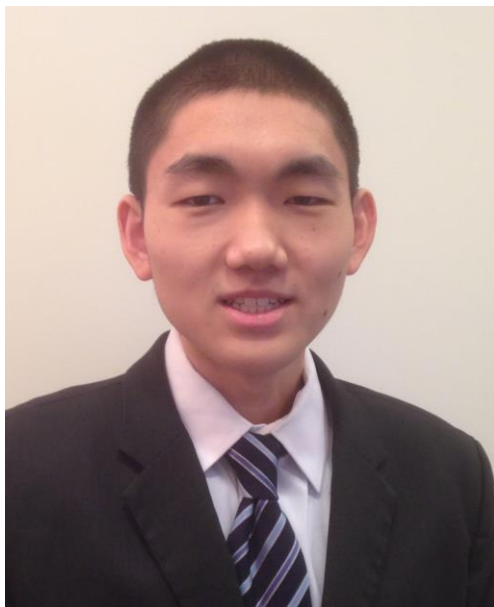
Rona Yu—*Whole Genome Sequencing Analysis of Childhood Disintegrative Disorder*

This is not the first year that Montgomery Blair has had more than one of the 40 national Intel finalists. Indeed, in 1993 (then known as the Westinghouse Science Talent Search), 1999, 2002, 2005, and 2014, at least three Intel finalists hailed from the Blair Magnet, with a record six in 1999 and national first place winners in 1996 and 2015.

Intel finalist Arnold Mong credits the Blair Magnet staff and students, "I am very grateful that I have been selected as an Intel finalist, but I owe a ton to the Magnet program at Blair. I appreciate the effort that teachers put into preparing us for real-world science and the friends that helped inspire me to do work in physics."

Fellow Intel finalist Josephine Yu graciously adds her gratitude, "I've grown significantly during my time in the Blair Magnet, and I am definitely grateful for the opportunities and preparation that this time has given me. Hopefully, I can one day give back to this program and help others as well."

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Arnold Mong, Montgomery Blair Magnet senior and 2016 Intel Science Talent Search finalist.
(Photo courtesy of Mrs. Jackie Gao)



Josephine Yu, Montgomery Blair Magnet senior and fellow 2016 Intel Science Talent Search finalist.
(Photo courtesy of Prestige Portraits)

Blair Magnet coordinator Mr. Peter Ostrander congratulates the Intel finalists and semifinalists, “We are extremely happy for all nine Blair Intel semifinalists, and especially for Arnold and Josephine to be recognized for the great work that they have done not only with their research projects, but during their entire time at Montgomery Blair High School. We feel their selection as finalists is a great reflection of the hard work all of our students and staff put in on a daily basis.”

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Blair Magnet research and biology teacher Ms. Angelique Bosse adds her sentiments, “All nine Blair Intel semifinalists, and especially Arnold and Josephine, have demonstrated a passion for their research topics and dedication to the senior research project process. With a solid foundation in math, science, and research methods from their curriculum at Montgomery Blair High School, and guidance from their mentors, Josephine and Arnold fully committed themselves to their respective research topics and took the initiative to share their findings with the research community. I am very proud of their being selected to represent Montgomery Blair as finalists in the 2016 Intel STS.”

In October, Eric Chen, Raymond Lin, and Josephine Yu were also named as semifinalists in the 2015-16 Siemens Competition in Math, Science, and Technology.

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 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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