



MONTGOMERY BLAIR HIGH SCHOOL MAGNET
FOUNDATION INC.



P.O. Box 101
Kensington, MD 20895-0101

Board of
Directors:

Eileen
Steinkraus
President
Ted Jou
*Vice-
President*
Sharon
Goodall
Secretary
Dan
Shepherdson
Treasurer
Ralph
Bunday
Member
Sherrie
Emoto
Member
Sarah
Manchester
Member
Will Martin
Member
Zeki
Mokhtarzada
Member
Samir Paul
Member
Lola Piper
Member
Emily
Yanisko-
Maloney
Member
Beth
Kaufman
*General
Counsel*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 11, 2016

CONTACT: Sherrie Emoto, board@mbhsmagnet.org

**Six Montgomery Blair High School Magnet Students
Honored as Semifinalists in Siemens Competition;
One Advances to Regional Finalist**

Silver Spring, MD—Six students from the Montgomery Blair High School Science, Mathematics, and Computer Science Magnet Program were named as semifinalists in the 2016-17 Siemens Competition in Math, Science, and Technology on October 19, with the list updated on November 7. These students comprise one-third of the group of Maryland semifinalists, with Blair having more semifinalists than any other school in the state. Also, all but five of the eighteen Maryland semifinalists hail from Montgomery County Public Schools.

One of these six students, Robert Yang of Potomac, went on to become one of 96 Regional Finalists nationally in the Siemens Competition. Yang competed on November 4-5 at the regional competition, which was held at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The Blair Magnet Siemens semifinalists and regional finalist (with grade level), their research titles, and mentors are as follows:

Sambuddha Chattopadhyay (12) of Olney, “On T-Reflection by Analytic Continuation in Quantum Mechanics,” Dr. Thomas Cohen, Professor and Head of the Quarks, Gluon, and Nuclei Laboratory, Department of Physics, University of Maryland College Park

Guangqi Cui (11) of Gaithersburg, “Monochromatic Rectangles in Grid Colorings,” Dr. William Gasarch, Professor, Department of Computer Science, University of Maryland College Park

Margaret Lin (10) of Potomac, “Band Gap Engineering for Graphene-Based Photovoltaics,” Dr. Xuan Luo, National Graphene Research and Development Center

Angela Yang (12) of Rockville, “A Novel Iron Oxide-Gold Yolk-Shell Nanoparticle Formula for Efficient Cancer Imaging and Therapy,” Dr. Shawn Chen (PI) and Dr. Jibin Song, National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering, National Institutes of Health

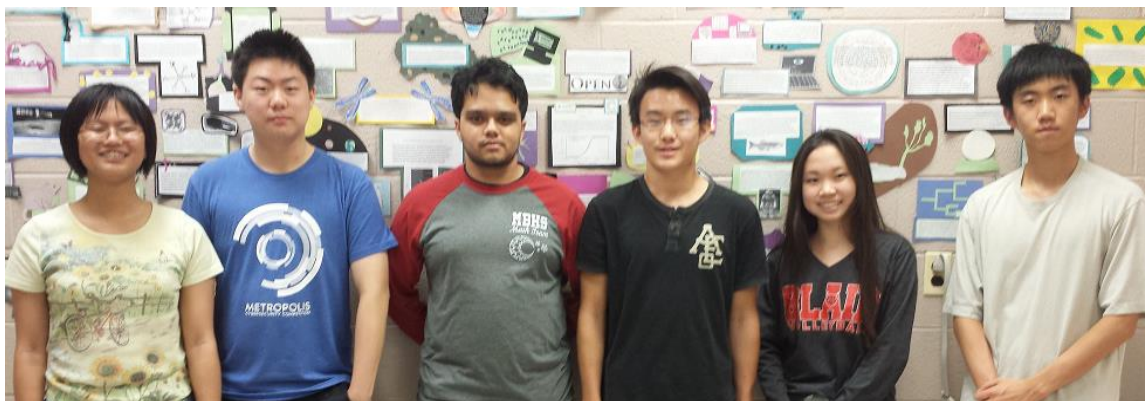
MONTGOMERY BLAIR HIGH SCHOOL MAGNET FOUNDATION INC.

Robert Yang (11) of Potomac, “Systematically Profiling HIV-1 Envelope Antigenicity and Stability Elements by Computational Analysis Residue Mutations,” Dr. Yongping Yang, Senior Staff Scientist, Office of Intramural Research, National Institutes of Health

Linden Yuan (12) of Rockville, “Semiparametric Mixture Regression under Symmetric Unimodal Error Distribution,” Dr. Ao Yuan, Associate Professor, Department of Biostatistics, Bioinformatics, and Biomathematics, Georgetown University

This prestigious annual award recognizes remarkable research by high school students nationally in the fields of math, science, and technology. In the Montgomery Blair High School Magnet Program, this work represents the student’s senior research project. This is original research completed under the guidance of a mentor, typically at a leading research institution or university. The work usually begins in the student’s junior year and continues throughout the summer. Siemens acknowledges semifinalists with a school banner and a gift package. The competition is sponsored by the Siemens Foundation.

Blair Magnet science and research teacher Ms. Angelique Bosse, who oversees the senior research projects, comments on the award recipients, “I was proud of the many senior research project students who worked very hard to complete their research in time to apply to the Siemens Competition. It is exciting that in addition to the three seniors named as Siemens semifinalists, Maggie, Guang, and Robert (a sophomore and two juniors, respectively) were also honored for their research project submissions, with Robert advancing to regional finalist. That a variety of students from various grade levels are conducting good research is a credit to the support our students receive from the Blair Magnet program and the opportunities provided by mentors from outside institutions.”



Six Montgomery Blair High School Magnet students were named as semifinalists, with one advancing to regional finalist, in the 2016-2017 Siemens Competition in Math, Science, and Technology: (from left to right) Angela Yang, Robert Yang (Regional Finalist), Sambuddha Chattopadhyay, Guangqi Cui, Margaret Lin, and Linden Yuan. (Photo courtesy of Ms. Angelique Bosse)

Sambuddha Chattopadhyay, Siemens semifinalist and Blair Magnet senior, expresses his gratitude, “I’m really grateful for the encouragement that I received throughout my years in the Blair magnet to do research. The math and physics classes that I took here really

MONTGOMERY BLAIR HIGH SCHOOL MAGNET FOUNDATION INC.

inspired me to do research as a rising senior. That was especially true throughout the senior research project process. I'd especially like to thank my research and physics teachers, Ms. Bosse and Mr. Schafer, respectively, for being tremendously supportive in the paper writing process. Also, none of this would be possible without my awesome mentor Dr. Cohen, and I'm very grateful for the amazing system at Blair that allowed me to find and contact him."

Fellow Siemens semifinalist and Blair Magnet senior Angela Yang graciously comments, "I'm very glad that the Blair magnet program has provided me with numerous research projects in preparation for my senior research project. I am so thankful for the support net that I had in writing my senior research project paper, including Ms. Bosse, my mentors, my father, and a former competitor. I would never have made it without them!"

In the 2014-2015 Siemens Competition, Matthew Yu, a Blair magnet junior at the time, was named as a Siemens Competition semifinalist and continued on to earn the title of regional finalist. Two years earlier, Neil Davey, also a Blair Magnet junior at the time, was a Siemens Competition regional finalist and then winner, and continued on to earn third place nationally.

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.

###

