



# Montgomery Blair High School Magnet Foundation Inc.



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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

## **Montgomery Blair High School Magnet Students Place in American Regions Mathematics League Contest**

**Silver Spring, MD**—Seventy-five high school and middle school students from Montgomery County high school, the largest group from any county in the country, participated in the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual American Regions Mathematics League Competition at Penn State University. One team of 15 county high school students (all but two from the Montgomery Blair High School Science, Mathematics, and Computer Science Magnet Program) captured second place from among 65 teams nationally in the B Division of competition. In the A Division of competition, another team of 15 county high school students (all but one from the Blair Magnet) won 11<sup>th</sup> place nationally. Furthermore, Blair Magnet 2010 graduate, Anand Oza, and rising sophomore, Jason Hyun, were awarded plaques for their high individual scores.

Blair Magnet math teacher, Mr. Eric Walstein, and Dr. Brian Hunt of the University of Maryland College Park coached and selected the county-wide teams based on rigorous weekly evening practices and testing during the spring. The pair also accompanied the teams to the competition. Walstein explains why he has continued to coach the county ARML team for the past 35 years, “The kids love it. It teaches them to think much more deeply than they do for their regular math courses. The experience of being on the math team offers them the opportunity to acquire a breadth and depth of mathematical knowledge that the regular math curriculum just doesn’t.”

The A Division team members included Jacob Hurwitz (captain), Li Ma, and Sam Zbarsky of Rockville, Charles Argue, Mario Choi, Andrew Hu, and Jason Hyun of Silver Spring, Andrew Das Sarma and Devin Zhang of Potomac, Bob Ma and Rohan Puttagunta of Gaithersburg, Nils Molina of Bethesda, Anand Oza of North Potomac, Thomas Zhang of Sandy Spring, and Alexander Smith.

The B Division team was comprised of Rohan Bhale (captain) of Olney, Daniel Barg of Bethesda, Angela Choi, Andy Gilbert, and Charlie Pasternak of Silver Spring, David Kaufman of Chevy Chase, Janice Lan of Germantown, David Tolnay of Rockville, Conway Xu of Potomac, Russell Brown, Chris Hazard, Brian Jones, David Lokshin,

Address:

MBHS Magnet  
Foundation Inc.  
P.O. Box 5329  
Takoma Park,  
MD 20913

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Victor Ying, and David Zbarsky.

The C Division team members were Yifan Li (captain), Brendan Berger, Pin-Joe Ko, Andrew Lu, and Jessica Lu of Rockville, Kevin Chiang of Gaithersburg, Jordan Hirsh of Silver Spring, Jeffrey Lin of Germantown, William Cai, Fang Cao, and Winston Liu of Potomac, Andrea Ng of Derwood, Chenyu Zhao of Boyds, Chengyu Lu, and Xiaochi Wang.

The D Division team included Timothy Lee (captain) and Dzi Do of Gaithersburg, Sharon Chen, Emily Hu, and Andrea Zhang of Potomac, Kyujoo Choi and Julia Huynh of Silver Spring, Samir Durvasula, Seyoun Kim, and Vicky Lai of Rockville, Amanda Lee of Bethesda, Sid Nanda of North Potomac, Jay Choi, Clare Liu, and Joyce Yang.

The Junior Division (middle school) team was comprised of Puskar Aggarwal, Alex Bang, Saurav Das, Alyssa Hu, Joslyn Jung, Brian Ko, Eric Neyman, Sachin Pandey, Ashwin Sekar, Jessica Shi, Gabriella Spudt, George Wu, Hardy Xu, Justina Yang, and Dennis Zhao.

The Montgomery Blair High School Magnet Foundation provided a grant that, along with funds raised by Walstein, helped make the teams' participation in this competition possible.

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

This organization was founded by a group of concerned students, teachers, administrators, parents, 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 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization.

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