



Board of  
Directors:

Eileen  
Steinkraus  
*President*  
Ted Jou  
*Vice-President*  
Susan Ragan  
*Secretary*  
Dan  
Shepherdson  
*Treasurer*  
Ralph Bunday  
*Member*  
Sherrie Emoto  
*Member*  
Emily Yanisko  
*Member*  
Beth Kaufman  
*General Counsel*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 8, 2011

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

**Montgomery Blair High School Team Places Second at  
University of Maryland High School Computing Contest**

**Silver Spring, MD**—The Montgomery Blair High School team earned 2<sup>nd</sup> place at the 2011 University of Maryland High School Computing Contest held at its College Park campus on April 2. Thirty-one teams of four students each from high schools in the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia participated in this daylong annual event. After a morning practice session, students were given three hours to attempt to solve eight difficult programming problems in Java on a single computer per team. Teams were judged on their number of problems correctly solved, number of incorrect submissions, and speed. Only Blair and Thomas Jefferson High School were able to solve four of the eight problems in the allotted time. In fact, two-thirds of the schools solved only one or two problems. For their win, the team was awarded \$1,400.

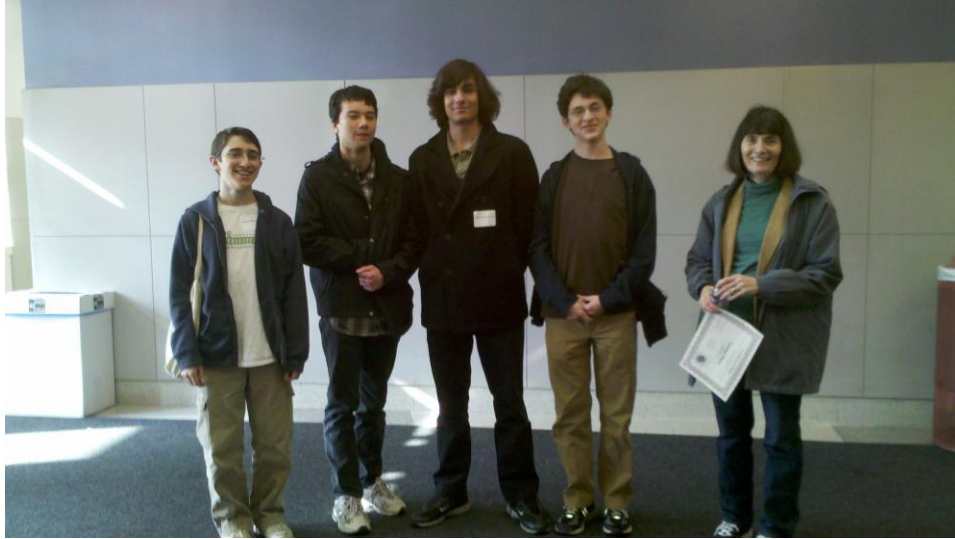
The 2011 Blair team consisted of Andrew Das Sarma of Potomac, David Kaufman of Chevy Chase, Frederic Koehler of Silver Spring, and Scott Lawrence of Kensington. Every year since this contest's inception in 1995, the Blair team has taken either first or second place. Magnet teacher, Ms. Karen Collins, serves as coach for the Blair team.

According to Das Sarma, this year's competition was unusually quick and intense. In addition, the team members needed to devote much thought to each problem before spending valuable keyboard time on their single computer. Das Sarma describes the excitement during the contest and the team's generosity, "Ultimately, we clinched our spot with a submission three minutes before the end of the contest. Our last-minute solution to #7 clinched us the win; we were the only team to solve #7 (and none even attempted #8)...The \$1400 that we won will go into the Computer Team account, along with previous contest winnings, where it will probably ultimately be used to purchase computing equipment for the Magnet."

Address:

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

## Montgomery Blair High School Magnet Foundation Inc.



The Montgomery Blair High School team of David Kaufman, Frederic Koehler, Andrew Das Sarma, and Scott Lawrence took second place at the University of Maryland High School Computing Contest. Blair Magnet teacher, Ms. Karen Collins, coaches the team.

### **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 a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization.

###

---

---