Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology

ACADEMIC BOOSTERS, INC.
AWARDS RECEPTION

Tuesday, June 2, 2009
6:00 ~ 8:45 p.m.
Biology Olympiad

TJ’s Biology Olympiad club team meets during 8th period to prepare students for the USA Biology Olympiad qualifying exams.

In the USA Biology Olympiad, two dozen TJ students qualified as semifinalists: Luke Cheng, Elliott Eggan, Jonathan Hsu, Victor Hsu, Alvina Jiao, Alex Kim, Aaron Koenig, Ho Jae Lee, George Liang, Jerry Liu, Jessica Liu, Rachel Marzen, Anirudh Mohan, Aakansha Nangarlia, Anirudh Saraswathula, Christine Shen, Ayaka Sugiura, Arvind Thiagarajan, Dennis Wang, Max Wang, Jillian Wen, Hanwen Xu, Linda Zhang, and Yuqing Zhang.

We also participated in the Biology Merit Exam and the Biology Bowl at Clemson University in South Carolina. Congratulations to the following students on the results of the Biology Merit Exam.

Division II (Students who enrolled in or completed their first biology course):
  1st Place, John Chae
  1st Honorable Mention: Tushar Kamath, Aakansha Nangarlia, Eric Jian, Sonica Saraf
  2nd Honorable Mention: Daniel Sun

Division III (Students enrolled in or completed a second year course):
  1st Place, Dennis Wang
  1st Honorable Mention: Hanwen Xu, Jessica Liu, Jerry Liu, Hojae Lee
  2nd Honorable Mention: Christine Shen, Kevin Zhou, Christine Lee, Janet Shin, Judy Zeng, Rachel Marzen, Andy Mai

And congratulations to Tushar Kamath for placing 2nd in the Division II Biology Bowl, and to Hanwen Xu and Christine Lee for placing 1st and 2nd, respectively, in the Division III Biology Bowl.

The team thanks our teacher sponsor, Dr. Uston!
Botball

Botball is a robotics competition centered around Lego, a miniaturized computer brain, fuzzy balls, and a hacked Roomba. Its two-minute game rounds are played on an 8' x 10' game board littered with the various colorful game pieces.

This year, TJ had three teams competing in the Greater DC Regional Botball tournament.

The "Senior" Team of Mac Stevens, Eric Kolker, David Ensey, David Mazzocco, Kelsey Dressing, Jake Hermle, Patrick Stalcup, Joel Heck, and Jeremy Vercillo, place third overall, first in the Double Elimination Round, and first in Documentation.

The "Sophomore" Team of Quantum Wei, Jimmy Clark, Megan Clark, Caelan Garrett, Ben Chao, Jacob Baldwin, Victer Youk, Jonathan Corzo, and Sam Prestwood ended up in fifth place overall after placing fourth in the Double Elimination Round.

The "Freshman" Team of Minh Nguyen, Albert Gural, Paul Wolfeich, James Graham, Kyle Withers, Anish Tondwalkar, and Helen Lai lost twice in the Double Elimination Round.

The Botball teams would like to thank the parents of Mac Stephens, Jimmy and Megan Clark, and Kyle Withers, who provided space and food for each team to work evenings and nights. The Botball teams are also grateful for the financial support of the Academic Boosters. And, finally, the Botball teams would like to thank their teacher sponsor Marion Billington for all his support!
Certamen (Latin)

TJ Latin sent Certamen teams to the following state and local competition held this year:

- Classical Cottage Certamen
- State Final
- Flint Hill Certamen
- Broadneck Certamen
- UVA Certamen
- VA Junior Classical League (FJCL)

TJ teams placed in the top five at every tournament—winning team trophies and individual medals. Students competed at four levels.

Latin I team members: Rachel Goldstein, Sam Sohn, Quentin Moore, John Chae, Rachel Goldstein, Billy Nguyen, Jared Golant, and Weina Bao.

Latin II team members: Daniel Kim, Zachary Seid, Frederick Short, Brian Shin, Akhila Ananthram, Austin Dunn, Connor Hann, Sidhanth Rajesh and Philip Meyers.

Latin III team members: Ashwin Raja, Connor Cheong, Catherine Zucker, Siddharth Hariharan, Nayan Lamba and Christopher Reffett.

Upper Level members: Amith Ananthram, Vivaek Shivakumar, Christopher Kilgore, Anne Marie Creighton, Alexander Spalding, Maya Wei, William Czaplyski, Lara Howerton, and Christina Wallin.

At the Virginia Junior Classical League, Chris Kilgore was elected Virginia Junior Classical League President for next year, and Rachel Goldstein, Katherine Zucker, and Lara Howerton were first place overall sweepstakes winners. Other big winners included Soonwook Hong, who received best in show on the Reading Comprehension Poetry exam, and Christina Wallin, who received best in show on the Vocabulary exam. Congratulations everyone!

The team would like to thank our teacher sponsors, Ms. Christine Conklin and Patty Lister.
The Chemistry Olympiad team had many interested students once again this year. National Chemistry Olympiad rules allow each school to nominate two students for the National exam. Newly revised Local Chemistry Olympiad rules allowed TJ, for the first time, to nominate twelve students to participate in the Local Exam. To select the nominees for TJHSST, a variety of training opportunities and examinations were provided throughout the school year.

Based on the results of internal qualifying exams, twelve TJ students were selected to take the Chemistry Olympiad Local Exam: Christopher Au, Udaysankar Chackarathan, Krishnan Chander, Stephen Eltinge, Alicia Goertel, Patrick Gould, Victor Hsu, Andy Mai, Rhiitwika Sensharma, Vish Sridharan, Ritchie Yein, and Sherie Zhou.

Per the National Chemistry Olympiad rule, two TJ students are allowed to take the National Chemistry Olympiad exam, which consists of a series of multiple choice problems, free-response problems, and a lab practical in which students design and complete several experiments to solve lab-based problems.

Based on all results, interests, and participation, the two TJ nominees for the National Chemistry Olympiad Exam were sophomores Christopher Au and Stephen Eltinge, who competed for one of 20 Nation Team training camp slots. Stephen was selected as one of the 20 students nationally to participate in the 2009 Chemistry Olympiad Training Camp this June. Congratulations, Stephen!

Special thanks to team coach and sponsor Hadan Kauffman for all his hard work and a great year!
Chess Team

TJ’s chess team won its six matches in the Metro Area Chess League against schools from Southern Maryland, Northern Virginia, and Washington, D.C. The team had a disappointing upset in the final round of the championship tournament and placed second in the Metro Area.

At the World Amateur Team & U.S. Team East tournament in Parsippany, New Jersey, TJ won the top High School Team prize as well as the Top Virginia Team title! Eddie Lu defeated Alex Lenderman (USCF rating: 2611), an international master and top player rated under 21 in United States. Team members were: Mark Cheung, Yang Dai, Jacob Daniels, Arman Khojandi, Aryan Khojandi, Eddie Lu, Quentin Moore, Aravind Ponukumati, and Craig Saperstein. Each player received a digital clock, along with engraved plaques for each winning title. The U.S. Amateur Team East of 2009 was the second biggest in history, with 283 teams.

The TJ Chess Team had another dominating performance at the Virginia Scholastic Championships. For the eleventh straight year, the TJ Chess Team placed first at the Virginia Scholastic Championships. In addition, seven TJ students individually placed in the top ten: Eddie Lu, Craig Saperstein, Yang Dai, Quentin Moore, Aryan Khojandi, Darwin Li, and Madhu Karamsetty. Additionally, the team took home their first ever High School Blitz Championship(speed chess), with freshmen Darwin Li leading the way as the individual Blitz Champion.

Our Chess Team finished the season strong this year at the Super-Nationals Chess Tournament. Among over 5200 players, TJ finished second overall in the team competition for the second consecutive year. TJ also won our first National Blitz Chess Championship. Our under 1200 squad finished 8th in the nation. Special congratulations to team co-captain Eddie Lu who finished fifth in the nation individually.

The following players traveled to the national championships this year: Nimesh Chakravarthi, Yang Dai, Jacob Daniels, Hari Devanathan, Xavier Ferrier, Adam Hood, Madhu Karamsetty, Arman Khojandi, Aryan Khojandi, Darwin Li, Jeremy Loffredo, Edward Lu, Ronit Malka, Stephanie Marzen, Quentin Moore, Emma Pierson, Bharat Ponnaluri, Aravind Ponukumati, Craig Saperstein, and Anish Tondwalkar.

Many thanks to our teacher sponsor, Phil Ero, and to our parent coaches and chaperones, Rick and Linda Loffredo, and Irene Lu!
Computer Team

USA Computing Olympiad

November USACO – In the Gold Division, Brian Hamrick was tied for third in the world (first in the country), Daniel Li was eighth in the country, Jack Chen was twelfth, Tom Georgiou was fifteenth and Andre Kessler was seventeenth. In the Silver Division, Mitchell Stern, Casey Mihaloew and Daniel Ranard finished in the top 25 in the country. In the Bronze Division, Daniel Kang and Willis Wendler both had perfect scores, and Sam Rush and Lawrence Diao both scored above 900 out of 1000 points.

December USACO – In the Gold Division, Brian Hamrick was second in the country, Tom Georgiou was tenth and Jack Chen was twelfth. In the Silver Division, Casey Mihaloew was fourth in the country and Mitchell Stern was eighteenth. In the Bronze Division, Will Dalton was fourteenth in the country, and Daniel Kang and Divya Garg were both in the top thirty.

January USACO – In the Gold Division, Brian Hamrick was second in the country (tied for fifth in the world), Jack Chen was eighth, and Andre Kessler was eighteenth. In the Silver Division, Casey Mihaloew was twenty-first in the country. In the Bronze Division, Jason Israel and Divya Garg were in the top thirty.

February USACO – In the Gold Division, Brian Hamrick was fourth in the country and Jack Chen tied for fifth. In the Silver Division, Casey Mihaloew was second in the country, Daniel Kang was sixth, Sin Kim ninth, and Dylan Ladwig thirteenth.

March USACO – In the Gold Division, Brian Hamrick was third in the country, Thomas Georgiou sixth, and Jack Chen tenth. In the Silver Division, Sin Kim was fifth in the country, Mitchell Stern eighth, Daniel Ranard fourteenth, Dylan Ladwig sixteenth, and Daniel Kang nineteenth.

April USACO U.S. Open – In the Gold Division, Brian Hamrick was first in the country and Jack Chen eighth.

Brian Hamrick, Jack Chen and Andre Kessler were invited to the USACO Camp in June 2009 to compete for the four spots on the U.S. Team for the International Olympiad in Informatics.

University of Maryland Programming Contest

TJ’s Senior Computer Team of Brian Hamrick, Jack Chen, Casey Mihaloew, and Mitchell Stern placed third at the competition.
Virginia Commonwealth University 5th Annual VCU Programming Contest

TJ’s Senior Computer Team of Thomas Georgiou, Daniel Li, Daniel Ranard, and Sin Kim placed first. And TJ’s Frosh Team of Alex Chen, Dasith Gunawardhana, William Qian, and Miraziz Yusupov placed fifth, even though they were the only frosh team at the competition.

Continental Mathematics League JAVA Competition

Both the Senior and Frosh teams competed in the Continental Mathematics League JAVA competition. TJ earned second place in this national competition, with Brian Hamrick and Mitchell Lee as TJ’s top two high scorers.

American Computer Science League

The Frosh 'Puter Team competes in the Junior-5 category. Alex Chen was TJ’s high scorer for the year with a perfect four-contest score of 40 points. The team placed first in the Central Division for the year's competition and earned an invitation to the All-Star competition. Our All-Star team was Alex Chen – Team Captain, Saketh Are, Mitchell Lee, William Qian, and Glenna Yu. At the All-Stars, the team had a perfect 40 in the programming portion, and 32 of 40 points in the short question portion. Glenna Yu scored a perfect 8 of 8 in the short questions. The 72 total score put us in first place in the Junior-5 category. We outscored American, Canadian, and Romanian teams.

North America Computational Linguistic Olympiad (NACLO)

More than 1,000 high school students from across the U.S. and Canada competed in the third annual North American Computational Linguistics Olympiad. The competition took place in two rounds: an Open round and an Invitational round.

Eight TJ students competed in the Invitational round of the North American Computational Linguistics Olympiad, having finished in the top 135 students on the Open round: Aviv Cukierman, Jared Hallett, Brian Hamrick, Sin Kim, Daniel Li, Casey Mihaloew, Vivaek Shivakumar, and Christina Wallin. In the Invitational round, Vivaek placed third, qualifying to represent the U.S. at the International Linguistic Olympiad in Poland this summer.

Special thanks to our two teacher sponsors: Shane Torbert for the Senior 'Puter Team, and Steve Rose for the Frosh 'Puter Team.
The Lincoln Douglas Debate team enjoyed fantastic success this year!

At the five WACFL tournaments, six TJ students qualified for WACFL Varsity Metrofinals and nine for JV Metrofinals:

- **WACFL 1:** Varun Bansal (Varsity) and Aman Kansal (Junior Varsity) qualified for the regional Metrofinals, and Aman placed sixth in JV.
- **WACFL 2:** In Varsity, Ani Mohan and Christine O’Donnell qualified for Metrofinals, and Christine placed sixth. In JV, Elizabeth Denning qualified for Metrofinals with a perfect 4-0 record and a third-place finish. In Novice, Kimee Moore and Kevin Boehm had perfect 4-0 records and placed second and third, respectively.
- **WACFL 3:** In the Novice division, Yunan Nie was undefeated and came in second place. Nayan Lamba came in sixth. Both Yunan and Nayan qualified to compete at Metrofinals. In JV, Daniel Sun was undefeated and placed fifth, qualifying him for Metrofinals. Kevin Boehm also qualified for Metrofinals.
- **WACFL 4:** At the Varsity level, Emma Pierson was undefeated and placed second, and Akaash Gupta qualified for Metrofinals. In JV, Janiel Li was undefeated and placed second. In Novice, Alice Lee was undefeated and placed second.
- **WACFL 5:** At the Varsity level, Akaash Gupta ranked sixth place and Lily Hsiang also qualified for Metrofinals. In JV, Kainan Wang was undefeated and placed third, Janiel Li placed sixth, and Chris Seok and Rebecca Zhang both qualified for Metrofinals.

At WACFL Metrofinals, Emma Pierson placed first and Ani Mohan placed fourth. Both qualified for the Catholic Forensics League Nationals.

TJ also attended two invitationals. At the Liberty Bell Classic at the University of Pennsylvania, Tilani Lowman placed fourth in the preliminary rounds and broke to octafinals. In addition, five members of the Lincoln-Douglas Debate teams attended a tournament at Columbia University. Akaash Gupta, a sophomore, won his rounds in octofinals, placing him among the top 8 Lincoln-Douglas debaters.

The team remains deeply grateful to Mr. Sherwood Williams for all the time and energy he has put into the team this year. We could not have achieved anything without his unfailing support and encouragement. Thank you, Mr. Williams, for another great year!
TJ’s Policy Debate team had a successful year at the WACFL tournaments, as well as invitationals.

At WACFL 1, in the Varsity division, Franklin Zheng won the second place speaker award, Han Kim won the third place speaker award, Franklin Zheng/Han Kim placed fourth, and Hannah Clark/Andre Kessler placed sixth. Both teams qualified for WACFL Metrofinals. In the Junior Varsity division, Max Wang/Johnny Kim placed second. In the Novice division, Mary Sun won the third place speaker award, and Mary Sun/Daniel Jang placed third.

At WACFL 2, in the Varsity division, Han Kim/Franklin Zheng placed fifth, and Hannah Clark/Andre Kessler placed sixth. Two other teams qualified for WACFL Metrofinals: Abigail Xu/Rachel Marzen and Katie Lin/Chris Lee. Of the JV teams, Johnny Kim/Max Wang placed fifth, and Akshay Deverakonda/Sulan Zheng also qualified for Metrofinals. In the Novice Division, Billy Nguyen/Christina Lee placed fourth, and John Chae/George Liang placed fifth. In addition, Billy Nguyen won the 3rd place speaker award.

At WACFL 3, in the Varsity division, Hannah Clark/Andre Kessler placed third, Chris Lee/Katie Lin placed fourth, Franklin Zheng/Han Kim placed sixth, and Hannah Clark won the first place speaker’s award. In the JV division, Akshay Devakeronda/Steven Eltinge placed second, Daniel Jang/Mary Sun placed third, Max Wang/Johnny Kim placed sixth, and four additional students – Mar Mirrof, Peter Ahn, Sungmin Sohn and George Liang – qualified for Metrofinals. In addition, Max Wang won first, Daniel Jang second, and Mary Sun third place speakers awards. In the Novice Division, Lizaveta Miadzedskaya/Jacqueline Speis placed fifth, and Vansh Kumar/Zhereng Zhang placed sixth.

At WACFL 4, in the Varsity division, Hannah Clark/Andre Kessler placed third, Chris Lee/Katie Lin placed fourth, and Graham Lobel/Akshay Deverakonda placed fifth. All qualified for Metrofinals, as did Max Wang/Johnny Kim. In addition, Hannah Clark won the third place speaker award. In the JV division, Mary Sun/Daniel Kim placed third, Sungmin Sohn/George Liang placed sixth, and Mary Sun won the third place speaker award.

At WACFL 5, in the Varsity division, Hannah Clark/Andre Kessler placed first, Kathy Hutchinson/Lisa Pang placed second, Akshay Deverakonda/Steven Eltinge placed fourth and George Liang/Sungmin Sohn placed fifth. Hannah Clark won first place speaker and Lisa Pang won second place speaker awards. In JV, Max Miroff/Peter Ahnn placed first.
At WACFL Metrofinals, two TJ Varsity teams (Kathy Hutchinson/Lisa Pang and Hannah Clark/Andre Kessler) qualified for Catholic Forensics League nationals. TJ’s team also won third place sweepstakes. Hutchinson/Pang placed first, Hannah Clark won first place speaker, Kathy Hutchinson won second place speaker, and Lisa Pang won third place speaker. In the JV Division, Mary Sun/Daniel Jang made semifinals, and Mary Sun received the third place speaker award.

At the GMU Invitational Tournament, in the Varsity division, the team of Hannah Clark/Andre Kessler made it to the semifinal round (top four teams). Additionally, Hannah Clark won the fifth place speaker award.

At the NCFL Grand Nationals Tournament, the teams of Hannah Clark/Andre Kessler and Lisa Pang/Kathy Hutchinson both broke to the double-octofinal rounds (top 32 teams out of a field of over 130), the first TJ policy teams from TJ to do so.

At the VHSL Districts tournament, two TJ Varsity teams (Franklin Zheng/Han Kim and Hannah Clark/Andre Kessler) placed first and second respectively, with Han Kim receiving the third place speaker award. In Junior Varsity, the team of Johnny Kim/Max Wang placed first and the team of Sungmin Sohn/George Liang placed third. Max Wang and George Liang received the second and third place speaker awards respectively. All four of these teams qualified for the VHSL Regionals tournament in their divisions.

At the VHSL Regionals tournament in Varsity, the teams of Hannah Clark/Andre Kessler and Franklin Zheng/Han Kim placed first and second respectively, with Hannah Clark receiving the second place speaker award. In JV, the team of Johnny Kim/Max Wang placed second. All three of these teams qualified for the VHSL States tournament. Additionally, the TJ debate team won the VHSL tournament sweepstakes.

At VHSL States, the team of Hannah Clark and Andre Kessler placed second in the Varsity round-robin. In addition, Hannah Clark received the third place speaker award.

In addition, four teams attended the Harvard Invitational Tournament and competed in the JV Division. Katie Lin/Chris Lee won four of their six rounds, and broke into octofinals. Abigail Xu/Rachel Marzen broke into double-octofinals, with a 3-3 record. Chris Lee won 13th place speaker and Abigail Xu won 16th place speaker.

We’d like to thank Tom Sleete, our Teacher Sponsor, Sherwood Williams and all the parents who chaperoned us to tournaments and volunteered to work as judges for us, and the Academic Boosters for their support, without which we would not be able to send our teams to these tournaments!!
Debate Team - Public Forum

At WACFL 1, the JV team of Betty Huang/Linda Chiang partially qualified for Metrofinals, with a record of 3-1.  

At WACFL 2, the Varsity team of Kittie Helmick/Kevin Sun placed sixth, with a 3-1 record, and qualified for Metrofinals. Two JV teams also qualified for Metrofinals: Emma Pierson/Stephen Drodge placed second, with a 4-0 record, and Jane Hu/Timothy Yuan placed sixth, with a 3-1 record.

At WACFL 3, in the Varsity division, Kittie Helmick/Kevin Sun placed fifth with a 3-1 record, and they plus Cindy Han/Lisa Yang qualified for Metrofinals. In the Junior Varsity Division, Sam Surette/Noa Ovadia placed first with a 4-0 record, and Anna Hicks/Cindy Zou placed fourth with a 3-1 record, and all qualified for Metrofinals. In addition, Jin Kim/Seoup Youn partially qualified for Metrofinals with a 3-1 record.

At WACFL 4, two Varsity teams qualified for Metrofinals: Sumit Malik/Maya Chaudhuri placed fifth, and Rebecca Friedman/Emily Yu placed sixth, both with 3-1 records. In the JV division, Molly Shannon/Priyanka Dochibhotia placed sixth and qualified for Metrofinals, also with a 3-1 record.

At WACFL 5, the Varsity team of Rebecca Friedman/Emily Yu placed fifth with a 3-1 record. In the JV division, Darwin Li/Daniel Kim placed fourth with a 4-0 record, and Betty Huang/Linda Chiang received their second 3-1 record, qualifying them for Metrofinals.

At Metrofinals, the Public Forum team tied for first place with Whitman HS in the Metrofinals team sweepstakes, with a perfect score of 192/192, and three teams qualified for Catholic Forensics League nationals: Emily Yu/Rebecca Friedman placed first, Sumit Malik/Maya Chaudhuri placed second, and Kittie Helmick/Kevin Sun placed fourth.

The team also participated in invitationals. At the Harvard Invitational Tournament, in the JV division, Noa Ovadia/Sam Surette advanced to double-octofinals with a 4-2 record. At the national GMU Patriot Games Classic, Rebecca Friedman/Emily Yu broke to octofinals with a 3-1 record, and Noa Ovadia/Sam Surette placed as tenth speakers. At the national Wake Forest Invitational, Rebecca Friedman/Emily Yu advanced to double-octafinals with a 4-2 record.

Thank you, Michael Miller and Marion Maclean, for being our teacher sponsors this year!
Debate Team - Student Congress

Student Congress models the procedures of the United States Congress. This is a new team for TJ this year.

TJ’s Student Congress Debate team attended two WACFL tournaments this year:
  - WACFL 1: Anirudh Mohan placed 8th at the tournament, Lauren Frank and Nikhil Prakash placed 12th, and Jerry Liu placed 13th.
  - WACFL 4: Anirudh and Lauren both placed within the top halves of their respective chambers.

The team qualified two debaters, Anirudh Mohan and Lauren Frank, to compete at the local Metro Finals tournament. Lauren Frank attended the tournament and enjoyed success there by qualifying for the Super Session round.

The team also attended the local VHSL Student Congress Northern Region tournament by sending 5 debaters: Nikhil Prakash, Jerry Liu, Aman Kansal, Neal Milstein, and Lauren Frank. Lauren qualified for the VHSL State tournament, while Neal was named an alternate for the tournament.

The team would also like to thank sponsor Mr. Sherwood Williams for all his hard work in helping to organize tournament registrations and coordinate 8th period meetings. Student Congress could not have achieved any of the successes that it did without his continued help. Once again, a big thank-you to Mr. Williams!
TJ’s Forensics team is relatively new, but enjoyed a string of successes this year.

At WACFL 4, two members of the TJ Forensics team qualified for Metrofinals. Josh Hall qualified in Mixed Extemporaneous Speaking and Arvin Ahmadi qualified in Original Oratory. Rebecca Friedman qualified for Mixed Extemporaneous Speaking at WACFL 5.

TJ's Forensics team also sent two students to Tor Johnson, the district competition for the National Forensics League. Abigail Xu qualified to attend for Declamation and Maya Chaudhuri qualified for Foreign Extemporaneous Speaking, placing in the top two.

Four members of the TJ team attended the Columbia University tournament: Maya Chaudhuri (Extemporaneous Speaking), Arvin Ahmadi (Original Oratory), Matt Palko (Oral Interpretation), and Abigail Xu (Declamation).

At VHSL Liberty Districts, Arvin Ahmadi placed first in Original Oratory, Rebecca Friedman placed first in Domestic Extemporaneous Speech, Maya Chaudhuri placed first and Josh Hall placed second in Foreign Extemporaneous Speaking.

Rebecca Friedman in Extemporaneous Speaking and Arvin Ahmadi in Original Oratory have qualified for the National Catholic Forensic League Tournament.

Congratulations to Rebecca Friedman, who finished fifth in the Virginia HS Forensics League State Competition for Extemporaneous Speaking!

Rebecca Friedman has qualified for TOC in Extemporaneous Speaking, the most prestigious national tournament.

Many thanks to Milde Waterfall, our wonderful sponsor!
Future Problem Solvers

TJ Future Problem Solving has had another successful year!

We had a record turnout of thirteen teams participating in the Qualifying Problem. The following teams qualified for the 2009 VA FPS State Bowl:

**Middle:**
- Ricky Prasannappa, Daniel Jang, Daniel Kang, Vansh Kumar

**Senior:**
- Vangie Shue, Natalie Medvedeva, Tim Hu, Yasmin Kamal
- Kevin Casto, Logan Gates, Alexis Barrett, Clarice Lee
- Daniel Sun, Janiel Li, Max Wang, Ashneil Jain
- Arianna Geneson, Maneeshika Madduri, Pooja Vinayak, So-Jung Youn

At the State Bowl, the team of Ellen Huang, Natalie Medvedeva, Pooja Vinayak, and So-Jung Youn won 1st place in the team competition, thus receiving a bid to the FPSP International Conference in Michigan.

The team of Daniel Sun, Ashneil Jain, Janiel Li, and Max Wang won second place in the team competition. This team also won the additional at-large bid to the International Conference, thus marking the second year in a row TJ has sent two teams to Internationals.

Congrats also to the team of Ellen Huang, Natalie Medvedeva, Pooja Vinayak, and So-Jung Youn for winning third place in the skit competition.

We could not have gotten this far, however, without the generous support of Mrs. Milde Waterfall, our sponsor. It has been a wonderful year, and she has always been there for us, providing us with ideas during 8th period meetings and making it possible for us to compete at our best.

We are also indebted to Mr. Cliff Hardison for accompanying our team to the VA State Bowl, without whom we could not have gotten this far, as well as Academic Boosters, whose support enables us to continue competing (and winning) each year. Thank you very much!
The Japan Bowl is a national academic competition sponsored each spring by the Japan-America Society. It tests the achievements of high school students throughout the U.S. who are studying the Japanese language, including their knowledge of traditional and modern Japan culture, history, geography and current events.

TJ has been participating in the Japan Bowl competition since it was started at George Mason University in 1993. This year, TJ sent three teams (three students for each level) to the Japan Bowl, and all did exceptionally well.

Our Level 2 Team (Jason Ya, Daniel Kang and Annie Lin) placed fourth.

Our Level 3 Team (Connie Xie, Jungeun Choi and Brian Yu) placed fifth.

Our Level 4 Team (Steven Kim, Han Kim and Andrew Lam) placed fourth.

Thanks to Koji Otani for coaching the teams!
This year has been one of many successes for the Varsity Math Team.

Five members of the Varsity Math Team (Chris Au, Divya Garg, Greyson Lewis, Sam Rush, and Akshar Wunnava) traveled to the Colonial Math Challenge, a new contest at George Washington University. All five placed in the top 50 (out of 250) in the first part of the competition, Colonial One, and were invited to take the second part of the competition, Colonial Two. The team of Akshar, Divya, and Chris placed first in the "Colonial Bowl," a single-elimination team tournament. Akshar also placed in the top 5 in the Colonial One contest. Akshar and Sam placed in the top 10 in the Colonial Two contest and will receive a merit scholarship for $80,000 ($20,000 per year) if they choose to attend GWU.

The Varsity Math Team participated in (and won) its first major tournament at Duke University. The TJ-A team (Brian Hamrick, Daniel Li, Kee Young Lee, Arvind Thiagarajan, Akshar Wunnava, and Chris Olund) placed 1st overall and the TJ-B team (Casey Mihaloew, Sam Rush, Allison Koenecke, Renjie You, Jimmy Clark, and Ming-Yee Tsang) tied for 5th overall. Two hundred eighteen (218) students participated in the tournament, but TJ students swept the individual awards, with first place winner Brian Hamrick, second place Daniel Li, and third place Kee Young Lee. Arvind Thiagarajan, Ming-Yee Tsang, and Renjie You were part of a 12-way tie for fourth place.

Three eight-person teams from the TJ Varsity Math Team traveled to Princeton for its 3rd Annual Math Competition. Competing against over 50 other teams, the TJ-A team (Brian Hamrick, Jimmy Clark, Kee Young Lee, Dan Li, Casey Mihaloew, Chris Olund, Sam Rush, Arvind Thiagarajan) came in second overall and third in the Power contest. Several students also won individual awards. Brian Hamrick placed fifth in Algebra and third in Individual Finals. Casey Mihaloew placed fourth in Geometry and seventh in Combinatorics. Daniel Li placed 5th in Algebra. Freshman Mitchell Lee placed eighth in Combinatorics and tenth in Individual Finals.

At the Harvard-MIT Math Tournament, the TJ-A team (Brian Hamrick, Kee Young Lee, Arvind Thiagarajan, Casey Mihaloew, Jimmy Clark, Sam Rush, Daniel Li, and Chris Olund) placed first overall, second in the guts round, and third in the team round. TJ-B (Akshar Wunnava, Eric Bomgardner, Seungin Sohn, Mitchell Lee, Yangbo Xu, Hanwen Xu, Dan Emmons, and Renjie You) placed 15th overall and TJ-C (Luke Cheng, Allison Koenecke, Jenny Yung, Divya Garg, Anirudh Mohan, Yuqing Zhang, Billy Rieger, and Lenny Li) placed 38th overall, out of 78 teams. In the Individual Awards, Brian Hamrick was second in Calculus, second in Combinatorics, and second Overall. Kee Young Lee
was first in Calculus, sixth in Combinatorics, and fourth Overall. Casey Mihaloew was seventh and Arvind Thiagarajan was ninth in Combinatorics.

Five TJ teams competed in an American Regional Math League (ARML) local competition. TJ-A (Jimmy Clark, Brian Hamrick, Kee Young Lee, Daniel Li, Casey Mihaloew and Chris Olund) placed third, TJ-C (James Baek, Krishnan Chander, Jack Chen, Andrew Cheong, Sin Kim, and Mitchell Lee) placed fifth, TJ-B (Eric Bomgardner, Lawrence Diao, Billy Rieger, Sam Rush, Seung In Sohn, and Akshar Wunnava) placed eighth, TJ-D (Luke Cheng, Divya Garg, Victor Hsu, Allison Koenecke, Grace Wang, and Jenny Yung) placed 14th, and TJ E (Sakethnath Are, Aviv Cukierman, Aryan Khojandi, Kevin Ko, Lenni Li and Daniel Sun) placed 21st. In addition, Brian Hamrick, Daniel Li and Mitchell Lee had perfect scores in the individual round.

On May 30th, the TJ Varsity Math Team traveled with 3 teams of 15 members each to the annual ARML (American Regional Math League) at Penn State. The A team included Kee Young Lee, Daniel Li, SeungIn Sohn, Jimmy Clark, Arvind Thiagarajan, Casey Mihaloew, Renjie You, Akshar Wunnava, Adam Hood, James Baek, Sin Kim, Chris Olund, Yuqing Zhang, Ming-Yee Tsang, and Sam Rush. The B team included Billy Rieger, Mitchell Lee, Allison Koenecke, Lawrence Diao, Dan Emmons, Jenny Yung, Grace Wang, Andrew Cheong, Victor Hsu, Greyson Lewis, Divya Garg, Eric Bomgardner, Yangbo Xu, Aryan Khojandi, and Anirudh Mohan. The C team included Hanwen Xu, Aviv Cukierman, Lenny Li, Jessica Liu, Ved Basu, Jared Hallett, Allen Shi, Lily Hsiang, Luke Cheng, Krishnan Chander, Vangie Shue, Hong Zhou, David Kim, Dennis Wang, Tim Hu, and Jee In Seo. The results of the ARML will be announced at the June 2nd Academic Boosters Achievement ceremony!

Finally, in the most important national contest, the AMC (American Mathematics Competitions) series, about 90 TJ students took the American Invitational Math Examination (AIME), after qualifying for the AIME based on their AMC 10 and/or AMC 12 scores. Of these students, 18 qualified to take the USA Mathematical Olympiad exam: Chris Au, Luke Cheng, Jimmy Clark, Dan Emmons, Brian Hamrick, Adam Hood, Sin Kim, Allison Koenecke, Kee Young Lee, Mitchell Lee, Daniel Li, Casey Mihaloew, Sam Rush, Seung In Sohn, Arvind Thiagarajan, Akshar Wunnava, Hanwen Xu and Yangbo Xu. This is the highest number ever for TJ, and the highest number of USAMO qualifiers in the nation this year.

Brian Hamrick and Mitchell Lee were invited to attend MOSP (Mathematics Olympiad Summer Program).

Thanks to Pat Gabriel, Jen Allard and Anna Frome for all the hours you volunteer to make up problems and help the team prepare for the competitions!
TJ Model UN enjoyed an incredibly successful year of competition, attending both local and national conferences.

At the Fairfax Model UN, TJHSST received the “Secretary General's Award for Best Large School Delegation.” Best Delegate Awards went to Rishita Bollam, Bryan Cheong, April Hu, Aaron Koenig, Mica Moore, Arjang Navab, Jennifer Park, Mohima Sanyal, Vish Sridharan, and Cheng Xu. Outstanding Delegate Awards went to Andrew Barlow, Sid Bhatia, Nate Coddington, Mike Crumplar, Greg Romais, Miller Ke, Jeff Pontell, Anirudh Saraswathula, Sam Speers, and Dennis Wang. Honorable Delegate Awards went to Amar Desai, Brendan Greenley, Akaash Gupta, Aman Kansal, Kamna Kathuria, Neal Milstein, John Pulice, Anurag Shyamala, Shiyieng Yang, and Andy Yang. In addition, verbal commendations were given to Kevin Casto, Ashu Goel, Lauren Groskaufmanis, Salini Hota, Betty Huang, Ankit Kapoor, Kate Kingsbury, Christine Lee, George Li, Serena Saffarini, Naren Tallapragada, Swati Teerdhala, Alice Wang, and Sam Zhang.


At the C.D. Hylton Conference, TJ won the Best School Award and an impressive set of individual awards. Best Delegate Awards went to Andrew Barlow, Mike Crumplar, Amar Desai, Kate Kingsbury, Max Kieff, Aaron Koenig, Curtis Mills, Arjang Navab, Serena Saffarini, Anirudh Saraswathula, Carolyn Scoggins, Nihaar Sinha, Kylene Smart, and Naren Tallapragada. Outstanding Delegate Awards went to Sid Bhatia, Aman Kansal, Apoorva Lonka, Divya Madhusudhan, Ani Mohan, Swetha Pasala, John Pulice, Pranava Raparla, Greg Romais, Mohima Sanyal, Siddhant Sethi, Dennis Wang, and Cheng Xu. Honorable Delegates were Arvin Ahmadi, Brendan Greenley, Garret Hoppin, Betty Huang, Collin Jones, Steve Qian, Kishore Rao, Avi Sachs, Nate Skolnik, Aileen Wang, and Andy Yang. Verbal commendations were received by Preetam
As in past years, TJ’s Model UN team attended the U PENN Model UN Conference (ILMUNC) and claimed many awards. Gavels (Best Delegations) went to Nate Coddington, Kate Kingsbury, Serena Saffarini, Anirudh Saraswathula, Carolyn Scoggins, Kylene Smart, and Naren Tallapragad. Outstanding Delegations went to Sid Bhatia, April Hu, Aman Kansal, Christine Lee, Hirsh Sharma, Swati Teerdhala, Mohima Sanyal, and Lyndsey Wheeler. Honorable Delegations were awarded to Max Kieff, Curtis Mills, Aditya Palepu, Jeff Pontell, and John Pulice. Verbal commendations went to Mike Crumplar, Amar Desai, Brendan Greenley, Collin Jones, Ankit Kapoor, Kamna Kathuria, Neal Milstein, Zach Perconti, Pranava Raparla, Avi Sachs, Dan Wang, Dennis Wang, and Shiying Yang.

In addition to attending conferences, the TJ Model UN club hosted approximately 600 middle and high school delegates for the annual TechMUN Conference. Over 100 TJ students were involved in chairing, staffing, and organizing the conference.

TJMUN would like to thank its wonderful sponsors, Mr. Struck and Mrs. Pou.
Ocean Bowl

The National Ocean Science Bowl was launched in 1998. It is intended to increase knowledge of the oceans (biology, chemistry, geology, math, physics, social science and current events in the context of the ocean) and raise the visibility and understanding of the national investment in ocean related research. It provides a forum for students who excel in science to receive national recognition for their talents. It fosters collegiality and teamwork, competition, imagination and factual recollection. It also allows students to work side by side with experts in a variety of settings. Students who participate also qualify for college scholarships and summer internship programs.

TJ’s Ocean Bowl team prepared for the competitions with 8th period study sessions, plus after school and weekend practices. The generous grant from the Academic Boosters enabled us to purchase books and materials. With these resources, the students picked areas of interest, researched topics, prepared lectures and handouts for one another. The website and Blackboard site are used to archive our study guides and presentations each year.

This year, at the regional Ocean Bowl competition, the Chesapeake Bay Bowl, The TJ-A Team placed first and the TJ-B Team placed third. The TJ-A team included: Alexander Kim, Joey Jachowski, Janiel Li, Margaret Tarmann and Janice Park. The TJ-B team included: Suzanne Ok, Julia Sokolow, Daniel Seidman, Holly Jachowski, and Meredith Burkle.

Thanks to Lisa Wu for being our Teacher Sponsor!
TJ had another fun, exciting and successful year in Odyssey of the Mind. The year began with annual fundraiser called “TJ Spontaneous Invitational”. TJOM officers consisting of Jeanette Miranda (President), Christianna Hay (Vice President), Sunaina Kapoor (Spontaneous Captain), Nicole Yu (Secretary) and Ankit Kapoor (Treasurer) organized and executed a competition that involved more than 800 people (mostly elementary school kids), 140 teams, T-Shirt sales, food stalls and fun filled foil boat competition. The turnout was unprecedented and the execution was flawless. The TJOM officers have to be commended for running this event on their own, with the same rigor and excellence as a Regional or State Competition involving several adults with several years of experience.

TJ had ten teams compete this year at the Regional Level, where TJ won in almost every problem category they competed in. As usual, TJ teams competed with each other in most of the problems. Four TJ teams advanced to the State level where again, TJ had a strong showing. One TJ team consisting of Ankit Kapoor, Nicole Yu, Kushal Seetharam, Christianna Hay, Rashmi Reddy, Molly Patterson, and Sunaina Kapoor got a special, highly coveted Runatra Fusca Award for displaying extreme creativity with one of their props, in addition to getting first place. Another TJ team, consisting of Jeanette Miranda, James Heard, Ryan Kim, Josh Lee, So-Jung Youn, Sue Liu and Matt Green placed first at the State Level and is also advancing to World Competition to be held on Saturday, May 30th.

We would like to extend a special thanks to Ms. Xu, Mr. Kauffman and Ms. Koepnick for being our teacher sponsors for the TJOM club this year. We sincerely appreciate their support. Our heartiest gratification to TJOM parents, coaches and judge volunteers to whom we attribute a large part of TJOM success. We would like to provide our sincere gratification to all Academic Booster members for supporting us in buying memberships, paying for registration costs to all the way to the World Competition.

Lastly, TJOM club would also like to recognize graduating TJOM club seniors, Sunaina Kapoor, Christianna Hay and Jeanette Miranda for their relentless contributions to the club and their diligence, support to raise funds for TJ teams. Jeanette and Christianna had been doing a wonderful job with the club for the last two years. Sunaina was an officer of the club this year, but has been helping with the Spontaneous Invitational every year since she was in middle school. They leave some very large shoes to fill. We will miss them and wish them much success in their future endeavors.
Physics Team

This year, Physics Team met every Tuesday after school and every Friday 8th Period during A Block to practice for the USA Physics Olympiad (USAPHO).

TJ did very well on the USAPHO exams this year, and all of its quarter-finalists and semi-finalists are to be congratulated!

Twenty TJ students scored among the top 400 students in the nation on the preliminary round. These 20 students qualified to participate in the second of three rounds in the Physics Olympiad: Jack Chen, Aviv Cukierman, Michael Chang, Lawrence Diao, Thomas Georgiou, Jared Hallett, Brian Hamrick, Victor Hsu, Kee Young Lee, Casey Mihaloew, Will Minshew, Chris Olund, Emma Pierson, Daniel Ranard, Arvind Thiagarajan, Ming-Yee Tsang, Yangbo Xu, Hanwen Xu, Rengie You, and Lenny Li.

Out of these 20 TJ students, eight were among about 200 students in the US to qualify as semifinalists: Jared Hallett; Brian Hamrick; Daniel Li; William Minshew; Chris Olund; Yangbo Xu; Arvind Thiagarajan; and Ming-Yee Tsang.

Of those 8 TJ students, one – Daniel Li – was selected for the second in a row to be one of twenty members of the 2009 US Physics Team. Daniel will attend the USA Physics Olympiad camp to compete for one of five slots on the Traveling Team to compete at the International Physics Olympiad. Good luck, Daniel!

Special thanks to our sponsor, Dr. Dell, for making our success possible.
TJ’s Quizbowl Team, formerly known as TJ’s It’s Academic Team, enjoyed another excellent year in 2008-09, winning awards one tournament after another throughout the year.

After a head-to-head battle against Wilmington Charter High School, TJ’s A team, consisting of Naren Tallapragada, Joshua Hahm, Harry White and Kevin Casto, placed second at the Richard Montgomery High School Fall Tournament. The B team, consisting of Nishanth Parameswaran, Michael Eng, Arjang Navab, Siddharth Hariharan and Graham Lobel, broke even, with 5 wins and 5 losses, and won the consolation bracket.

Four Quizbowl teams from TJ competed at the GSAC XVI at Maggie Walker Governor's School in Richmond. The A team placed 3rd out of 32 regional teams at the competition.

TJ also sent 4 teams to the Walter Johnson Invitational Academic Tournament (WJIAT) in Bethesda, Maryland. TJ’s A Team went 10-1 and placed 2nd overall out of 35 teams. The B Team, consisting of Michael Eng, Diana Gerr, Arjang Navab, and Nish Parameswaran, placed 8th. The C Team, consisting of Graham Lobel, Thalia Aoki, Steve Eltinge, and Seoup Youn, placed 11th.

On October 11, 2008, the Quizbowl A Team won its first round of the televised It's Academic competition, beating St. Stephen's & St. Agnes High School of Washington, D.C., and Wooten High School of Rockville, Maryland. In January, the team placed second during the next round of the It’s Academic televised competition.

TJ’s Quizbowl Team hosted a Regional Quizbowl Tournament, the M.O.H.I.T. (affectionately named after a former TJ Quizbowl member). TJ team members wrote the questions, and TJ’s 8th period coordinator, Mrs. Stevens, said this was the most smoothly run Quizbowl Tournament she'd seen at TJ. The tournament drew 30 teams from high schools, and for the first time, one middle school – Longfellow MS.

TJ sent two teams to the RAPPOff at Rappahannock County High School in Washington, VA. The A Team of Diana Gerr, Stephen Eltinge, Olivia Murton, and Seoup Youn placed third, qualifying for the PACE NSC national tournament. The B Team of Thalia Aoki, James Bradbury, Chris Lee, Rhitwika Sensharma, and Sulan Zheng placed 9th.

On February 28, 2009, the A Team won the Virginia High School League (VHSL) State Championship at William and Mary in Williamsburg, VA. Earlier in the season, the B Team won VHSLregionals in its level of competition.
Five TJ teams competed at the House-Written Academic Venture of Chaos (HAVOC) II at Maggie Walker in Richmond. The A team, again consisting of Diana Gerr, Stephen Eltinge, Olivia Murton, and Seoup Youn, went 10-1 and won. The C Team of Ananth Sridhar, Jacob Baldwin, James Bradbury, and Sulan Zheng placed 11th, and the B Team of Thalia Aoki, Siddharth Hariharan, Varun Kumar, and Avi Sachs placed 13th.

National Tournaments: The team is busy competing until the end of the school year in national competitions. Three teams of four competed in the 2009 National Scholastic Championship held at George Mason University over two days of the Memorial Day Weekend. In a field of 64 teams from across the country, Team A (Naren Tallapragada, Kevin Casto, Harry White, and Joshua Hahm) placed tenth overall in the competition. Finally, two teams will compete at the National Academic Quizbowl Tournament held in Chicago on May 29-31. Team members Harry White, Joshua Hahm, Naren Tallapragada, and Kevin Casto will comprise the A Team, while the B Team consists of Arjang Navab, Seoup Youn, Michael Eng, and Nishantha Parameswaran.

The Quizbowl Team would like to thank Carolyn Gecan for her support as our teacher sponsor, and Steve and Sallie Casto and Karen Lewis for traveling with us to competitions throughout the year!
Science Bowl

Sponsored by the US Department of Energy, Science Bowl tests students’ knowledge of biology, chemistry, physics, earth science, astronomy, and math.

Congratulations to the TJ Science Bowl team for their great performance this past season. The TJ team of Aaron Koenig, Hanwen Xu, Daniel Li, Kee Young Lee, and Greyson Lewis captured the Virginia Regional Science Bowl in February and won $750 for TJ.

The TJ team competed in the national championship competitions in May. They competed against 66 other regional champions from across the country. The team won 5 games but was eliminated before the finals. However, they did place first in their Division Team Challenge, a hands-on optics/physics problem and won $500 for TJ.

Thanks to Sharon Webb for sponsoring the Science Bowl Team.

Underwater Robot

This project includes students from TJ oceanography lab, prototyping lab and energy systems lab. Students design and build a Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) for the Underwater ROV Competition, to satisfy mission tasks specified by Marine Advanced Technology Education (MATE) Center.

Thanks to our sponsors and tech lab directors, Adam Kemp, Lisa Wu and Clint Behling!
The Academic Boosters appreciates all our members and volunteers. We would like to especially recognize those donors who were able to give more than the basic membership. Thank you very much for your generous financial support. TJ academic teams' continued success depends upon you.

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### Platinum ($500 & above)

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    - Mitchell Lee (2012)
  - Alex DeLuca (2011)  
    - Daniel Li (2010)
  - Ben Field (2006)  
    - Jesse Liu (2008)*
  - Peter (2011) & Stephen (2011) Godofsky  
    - Jennifer Park (2010)
  - Brian Hamrick (2010)  
    - Allen Shi (2012)
  - Calvin Hartanto (2011)  
    - Naren Tallapragada (2009)
    - Arvind Thiagarajan (2009)*
  - Eric Jian (2012)

### Gold ($250 & above)

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  - Amanda Blair (2012)  
    - Chris Lee (2011)
  - Jackie Browning (2011)  
  - Kevin Casto (2009)  
    - Jeanette Miranda (2009)
  - Arjun Chavern (2011)  
    - Olivia Murton (2011)
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    - William Pitler (2009)
  - Myles Cook (2011)  
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  - Anne Marie Creighton (2010)  
    - Kishore Rao (2011)
  - Mike Crumplar (2011)  
    - Swetha Rao (2011)
  - Elizabeth Denning (2011)  
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Silver ($100 & above)  Families of:

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Mary Kate Dilworth (2012) *  Casey Mihaloew (2009)
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Bronze ($50 & above) (Continued)

Jason Ya (2010)

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At Large         Vicky Linnell (Mary '09)
At Large         John Repetski (Rocco '04, Trey '09)
At Large         Sallie Casto (Kevin '09)