

Northwestern High School

contact person: Beverly Jackson

Tyra Ransome, Bree McCoy , and Lakisha Singh participated in the 2011 Washington DC Regional Entrepreneurship Business plan competition.

They placed 3rd, 4th and runner up among 2500 hundred students in the region.

Contact person: Ileana Ippolito

We have the winner of the Maria Wilmeth award from the Italian Cultural Society of Washington DC for outstanding high school of Italian language, student. Her name is Ani Escobar Martinez - \$500 scholarship recipient.

Contact person: Curtis Somers

On May 27-29, 2011 the National Catholic Forensics League (NCFL) held their 60th annual National Championships in Washington D.C. Forensics, which comprises speaking, acting, and debate activities, is the highest participatory activity in the United States according to the NFAA. Students who competed at the NCFL championship qualified from all over the nation by placing in the top 1% of all students from their local Forensics leagues.

Competing against 6,000 participants overall, from Northwestern High School, Christian Romero placed 50th in the nation and from Northwestern High School, Annemarghie Romero placed 26th.

Also competing were Elian Implay and Zane Beford, Lamin Kabia and Larry Contreras in Duo, and Niambi Murray in Oratory.

These students are to be commended for their commitment to excellence and for providing leadership as they represent our county in this truly worthy activity. To view the entire results and to get a better idea about what Forensics is, please visit the website <http://www.ncfl.org>

For anyone who is interested in starting a Forensics team at their school please contact Curt Somers at curtis.somers@pgcps.org

Also, please check out this Public Service Announcement by Oprah Winfrey who got her big start by competing in Forensics during High School. Oprah Winfrey is a wonderful testament to what can be accomplished by participating in Forensics.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TAeDmakMx5c>

Again, congratulations to all students who represented us well

Northwestern High School Choirs

Director - Leona Lowery

Website - <http://www.friendsofnhschoirs.org/>

Attachment: Northwestern Choir picture

The Northwestern High School Choir, received a Superior rating in the Festival of Gold Choir Invitational in New York City this April. Mrs. Jane Henson, wife of Northwestern alumn, Jim Henson, generously assisted in getting the students to this prestigious competition.

The students worked with the renowned conductor, Anton Armstrong. The group has plans to travel to the Ihlombe! South African Choir Festival in 2013.

Choral student, Victoria Okafor, grade 10, recently auditioned for the Washington National Opera Children's Chorus and was accepted to sing the Children's Chorus in the upcoming opera, Tosca. Victoria will be performing at the Opera House in the J.F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in September for the production of Puccini's, Tosca.

Bio-Med Club

- Shadowing experiences at the *National Intramural Sequencing Center*
- Competed in the Bioscience careers Competition – National Library of Medicine
- **USA Science and Engineering Fair** on the Mall – we were involved in distributing information to the community. THIS YEAR.... we have been invited to set up our own booth on the mall. We were also given a grant to pay for supplies.
- We conducted our **2nd annual Health Fair on April 9th**. There were vendors from the National Institutes of Health, the Lupus Foundation, Drug Addition and Mental Health, Minority Health and Health Disparities, Prince George's County Health Department, National Human Genome Research Institute, WRAIR-Walter Reed Institute of Research, and Johns Hopkins health Care. (the entire list of vendors is available).
- **K-12 Science Challenge** – We either modify an existing experiment or we design our own. Sponsored by the science outreach section at the National Institutes of Health. *Our experiments will be published.*
- **Field Experiences/ Exposure** – a) Open Heart surgery, b) Speakers – genetics and the influence of the environment; embryonic development of zebra fish and its similarities to human development; c) Shock Trauma Center; d) Microbial Genetics on the Chesapeake Bay; e) Genomic Café w/the director of the Human Genome Project; f) Physiology workshop / **American Physiology Society**; g) Dr. Anderson and members of **WRAIR research** team spent two months in my class doing hands on science. It ranged from robots illustrating artificial intelligence, to a comparative study of elephant brains, human brains, dog brain, etc. Students extracted their own DNA, amplified it using PCR and ran the gel to identify their RFLPs.

- **Summer Internships** – a) Zebra Fish lab NIH b) GEMS program Walter Reed c) Library of Medicine
- **Congresswoman Donna Edwards** use the Bio-Med program as a success story in her **BLASTOFF: Encouraging our Brightest stars to Enter and Stay in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Fields (3/8/11)**

Contact person: Antoinette Sampson - Professional Development School

We are a Professional Development School and as such work closely with the University of Maryland to train their students whose aspirations are to be teachers. Our teachers mentor these students for 16 weeks (undergraduate) or all year (master certification program). About 12 of our teachers were University of Maryland student teachers who actually did their internship at Northwestern.

Gang Task Force Expert

Cpl M. Rudinski, our School Resource Officer (Hyattsville Police) is a nationally recognized Gang Task Force expert. He works very closely with gang members and their families in Prince Georges County.

Contact Person: Amber Heller - International Studies Program

The Spain trip has been in the works since the Spring of 2010! In preparation, the thirty students who registered to travel, worked at the Northwestern High School flea market to raise funds and engaged in research to be presented to the group prior to travel. We departed from Dulles International Airport on Thursday, April 14 to embark on a whirlwind tour of Madrid and Southern Spain (see attached itinerary from EF Tours). While abroad, both students and chaperones encountered a myriad of new experiences. We toured the famous Prado Art Museum in Madrid and explored the famed Puerto del Sol before heading south via coach bus to historic cities such as Toledo, Granada, and Seville where we toured breathtaking Cathedrals, mosques, palaces, and castles. Furthermore, while staying in Costa del Sol, we participated in a day tour that took us across the Straight of Gibraltar to Morocco for an excursion through a traditional market, carpet factory, and ate a traditional meal.

We returned to the United States on Saturday, April 23. The students wrote daily of their experiences and I am eagerly awaiting their final reflections at our last travel meeting next week. At that meeting, I will be offering incentives for the students to draft letters to the editors of local newspapers to share their experiences. If you are interested in excerpts from their reflections for the Washington Examiner or if there is any additional information or pictures from the trip you would like please let me know.

PS. Stay tuned...China is in the plan for Spring Break 2012!