

Merion Mercy Academy

End-of-Year Underclass Awards Ceremony

Thursday, June 6, 2019



AWARDS FOR ACADEMICS & EXTRACURRICULARS

Mary Ann Danovich reads the following script and citations.

General excellence medals for **Academic Achievement** for this school year are awarded to:

- **Grade 11:** Grace Brazunas
- **Grade 10:** Julia LaRosa
- **Grade 9:** Almira Tensuan-Eli

Certificates and pins are presented to students in each academic course. The Academic Excellence Award is presented to the student who has performed the best in the course for this academic school year. The Honorable Mention award is presented to the student with the next highest average. The Excellent Effort Award is presented to the student who has demonstrated outstanding effort throughout the course. We ask the following students to please stand for recognition when their names are called.

| <u>Course</u> | <u>Academic Excellence</u> | <u>Honorable Mention</u> | <u>Excellent Effort</u> |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Theology | | | |
| Hebrew Scriptures | Kiera Songhurst | Monica Paschos | Wenxin (Jennifer) Zhu |
| Christian Scriptures | Susanna Merkins | Eleanore Paller | Emily Harris |
| Church History | Xin (Alexa) Su | Kimberly Pham | Julia Flatley |
| Sacraments | Micheline Denn | Anna O'Brien | Gabriella Jackson |
| Morality | Lindsey Russo | Erin Daly | Alyane Wollery |
| Social Justice | Grace Brazunas | Madeleine Litka | Cierra Parker |
| English | | | |
| Literature and Writing | Monica Paschos | Maeve Hegarty | Asia Lawnton-Mosby |
| Literature and Writing A | Emma Whitman | Almira Tensuan-Eli | Jessica Link |
| American Literature | Xin (Alexa) Su | | |
| American Literature A | Julia LaRosa | Elaina Stuhlman | Isabelle Millan |
| British Literature | Lindsey Russo | Megan Hoban | Catherine Paschos |
| British Literature A | Grace Brazunas | Abrial Cocelli | Erin Daly |
| Foundations in Writing | Mary Grace Dempsey | Sara Much | Damyra Walton |
| Effective Writing | Olivia Knott | Julia LaRosa | Catherine Montgomery |

| <u>Course</u> | <u>Academic Excellence</u> | <u>Honorable Mention</u> | <u>Excellent Effort</u> |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Mathematics | | | |
| Algebra 1A | Monica Paschos | Emily Ramirez | Claudia Campisciano |
| Algebra 1 | Alana Petrongolo | Eleanore Paller | Natalie Jackson-Nixon |
| Geometry A | Ziren (Annie) Xu | Xin (Alexa) Su | Mary Eileen McDermott |
| Geometry | Kayla Edmonds | Cierra Kelly | Alexandria Lavelle |
| PSAG A | Xin (Alexa) Su | Julia LaRosa | Nancy Lam |
| PSAG | Cierra Kelly | Alexandria Lavelle | Karissa Edmundowicz |
| Pre Calculus A | | Kiersten Krouse | |
| Advanced Pre Calculus A | Xin (Alexa) Su | Grace Brazunas | Lindsey Russo |
| Algebra 2A | Grace Sheibley | Almira Tensuan-Eli | Shana Gilmour |
| Algebra 2 | Molly Chamberlain | Maria Valeria Abarca | Jennifer Popper |
| Pre Calculus | Amanda Brown | | Maren Spaide |
| AP Statistics | Nancy Lam | Xin (Alexa) Su | Lindsey Russo |
| AP Calculus BC | | Kexin (Coco) Lin | |
| AP Computer Science Principles | Julia LaRosa | Erin Donaher | Audrey Coughlin |
| Intro to Computer Programming | Lauren Zarro | | |
| Science | | | |
| Sci. Methods, Appl, Reas & Theory | Natalie Jackson-Nixon | Gabriella Infante | Nyla Smith |
| Biology A | Khanh-Chuc Nguyen | Nina Thompson | Emily Veasey |
| Biology | Monica Paschos | Xin (Alexa) Su | Madison Fili |
| AP Chemistry | Grace Brazunas | | Gabrielle Neal |
| Chemistry A | Almira Tensuan-Eli | Julia LaRosa | Regina Passarella |
| Chemistry | Eliana Judge | Maria Valeria Abarca | Noelle Chermol |
| Physics A | | Grace Brazunas | |
| AP Environmental Science | Lindsey Russo | | Sarah Ix |
| Physiology A | Suzanne Dupnock | | |
| Biotech & Bioethic | Margaret Grogan | | Annamarie Palermo |
| Social Studies | | | |
| Cultures in World History | Almira Tensuan-Eli | Megan Elguicze | Katherine Gallone |
| Modern U.S. History | Lindsey Russo | Kiersten Krouse | Erinn Aylmer |
| AP U. S. History | Grace Brazunas | Nicoleta Arcidiacono | Erin Daly |
| Psychology | Madeleine Litka | | |
| Themes in U.S. History | Tess Szathmary | Christina Giangiordano | Nora Burns |
| World Geography | Olivia Black | Hannah Facenda | Erin Gormley |
| Intro to Law | | | Hannah Facenda |
| Language | | | |
| Latin 1A | Maeve McMahon | Kaylah McGuffie | Megan Elguicze |
| French 1 | Julianna Steinmetz | Juliana Brueckner | Kiersten Claxton |
| Spanish 1A | Almira Tensuan-Eli | Grace Sheibley | Kiera Songhurst |
| Spanish 1 | Mary Grace Dempsey | Carly morris | Maura Dougherty |
| Latin 2A | Micheline Denn | Khanh-Chuc Nguyen | Grace Andrews |
| French 2A | Vicky Liu | | Ryan Morrow |
| Spanish 2A | Julia LaRosa | Nancy Lam | Ashleigh Marmer |

| <u>Course</u> | <u>Academic Excellence</u> | <u>Honorable Mention</u> | <u>Excellent Effort</u> |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Spanish 2 | Jordyn Drake | Nicole Bello | Audrey DeLucca |
| Latin 3A | Grace Brazunas | Clare Quigley | Emma McIntyre |
| French 3A | Margaret Grogan | Beatrice Plant | Gaelen Coleman |
| Spanish 3A | Kymora Howell | Maria Valeria Abarca | Suzanne Dupnock |
| Spanish 3 | Phoebe DeVlieger | Ava Benatti | Cierra Parker |
| French 4A | Heloise Braun | | |
| Ap Spanish | | | Isabella DeShayes |
| Art/Music | | | |
| Art Major 1A | | Caleigh Grimes | Khanh-Chuc Nguyen |
| Art Major 2A | Caitlin Spillane | | Lauren Zarro |
| Principles of Design 1 | | Federica Finocchiaro | |
| Principles of Design 2 | | | Wenxin (Jennifer) Zhu |
| Foundations in Digital Design | | | Patrice Romano |
| Foundations in Digital Design 2 | Madeleine Litka | | |
| Acting | Ashleigh Marmer | Caroline Conway | Christina Schwab |
| Music Theater/Opera | Christina Schwab | | Sarah Fritz |
| Music Major 1A | Katharine Donnelly | Kristen Rake | Grace Del Pizzo |
| AP Music Theory | Victoria Rose Conroy | | |

The **Rensselaer Medal** was first presented in 1916 with two purposes: to recognize the superlative achievement of young men and women and to motivate students toward careers in science, engineering, and technology. Each medalist who is accepted and subsequently enrolls at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute receives a special medalist scholarship worth \$100,000 over 4 years. The medal is presented each year to a junior who has excelled in the areas of math and science. This year the award is presented to the following student; please come forward to receive a certificate and to be recognized for this honor:

- Grace Brazunas

The following students have achieved distinction among only a few thousand top scorers nation-wide on the **National French Exam**. Please stand to be recognized when your name is called and remain standing until all the winners from your level of French have been called.

Level 1, Honorable Mention

Kierstein Claxton
Julianna Steinmetz

Level 2, Honorable Mention

Grace Del Pizzo
Kaitlyn Grose
Vicky Liu

Level 2, Silver Medal

Stephanie Winterdal

Level 3, Honorable Mention

Beatrice Plant
Margaret Grogan

Level 3, National Laureate

Amanda Brown

Level 4, Bronze Medal

Heloise Braun

The following students in the Latin Department have achieved beyond expectations through their exceptional performance in this year's **National Latin Exam**. Please stand to be recognized when your name is called and remain standing until all the winners from your level of Latin have been called.

Level 1, Gold Medal, Summa Cum Laude

Abrial Cocelli
Breana Cocelli
Kaylah McGuffie
Olivia Tingley-Kelley

Level 1, Silver Medal, Maxima Cum Laude

Sofia Cieri
Mirella Partito
Juliette Schmidt

Level 1, Magna Cum Laude

Megan Elguicze
Kara Krouse
Nyla McGill
Maeve McMahan
Sara Much
Molly Sweeney

Level 1, Cum Laude

Emily Murphy

Level 2, Gold Medal, Summa Cum Laude

Micheline Denn
Anne Gleason
Khanh-Chuc Nguyen
Anna O'Brien

Level 2, Silver Medal, Maxima Cum Laude

Emma McGrath
Justine Medveckus
Emma Staples

Level 2, Magna Cum Laude

Nora Burns
Maria Dierkes
Kristen Rake

Level 2, Cum Laude

Abigail Campbell

Level 3, Gold Medal, Summa Cum Laude

Grace Brazunas
Kara Maddox

Level 3, Silver Medal, Maxima Cum Laude

Kiersten Krouse
Clare Quigley

Level 3, Magna Cum Laude

Katharine Donnelly
Marissa Finney
Ceara Grady
Emma McIntyre

Level 3, Cum Laude

Alexandra Henkels
Grace Lopresti
Lili McElhill

Level 4, Cum Laude

Madeline Arthur

The following students have achieved distinction in the **National Spanish Exam**. Please stand to be recognized when your name is called and remain standing until all the winners from your level of Spanish have been called.

Level 1, Gold Medal

Shea Callahan
Margaret Carr
Grace Sheibley

Level 1, Silver Medal

Amelie Aguilar
Grace Donnelly
Madison Fili
Shana Gilmour
Maeve Hegarty
Violet Lorei
Margaret Lourie
Megan Mallon
Brea Scarlett
Kiera Songhurst
Almira Tensuan-Eli
Maria Wahba
Emma Whitman

Level 1, Bronze Medal

Grace Dever
Olivia Opiela
Isabel Nieves

Level 1, Honorable Mention

Madison Brady
Claudia Campisciano
Emma Friel
Kiley Hopkins
Emily McFadden
Mallory McHale
Monica Merenda
Kelly O'Connor

Eleanore Paller
Nina Thompson
Margaret Yerger
Sophia Zarett

Level 2, Gold Medal

Kaitlyn Powell

Level 2, Silver Medal

Olivia Knott
Nancy Lam
Julia LaRosa
Jessica Link
Anna O'Brien

Level 2, Bronze Medal

Molly Chamberlain
Morgan Doyle
Mary Eileen McDermott
Mairead O'Hara
Anna Ferdinand
Susana Merkins
Catherine Montgomery
Elaina Stuhlman

Level 2, Honorable Mention

Katherine Convery
Natalie Coughlin
Regina Passarella
Christina Schwab
Tess Szathmary
Heloise Braun
Mary Deshan
Grace Jones
Morgan Kane
Ashleigh Marmer
Ritamary Montagna
Margaret Siedell

Level 3, Gold Medal

Nicoleta Arcidiacono

Audrey Coughlin

Level 3, Silver Medal

Hannah Facenda
Isabelle Millan
Valeria Abarca
Emily Ramirez

Level 3, Bronze Medal

Erin Daly
Suzanne Dupnock
Alexandra Henkels
Kymora Howell
Briana Lawimore
Ainsleigh Reichow
Lindsey Viola
Elsa Emerson
Ryleigh Lord

Level 3, Honorable Mention

Erin Donaher
Olivia Gutt
Megan Hoban
Cara Keller
Madeleine Litka
Gabrielle Neal
Madison Ott
Patrice Romano
Caitlin Spillane
Olivia Squillante
Catherine Aaron

Level 4, Bronze Medal

Abrial Cocelli
Breana Cocelli
Jennifer Cruz-Morales

Level 4, Honorable Mention

Isabella DeShayes

This year, students represented Merion Mercy while participating honorably in the **Governor's PA STEM Competition**. The team that competed this semester at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit consisted of:

- Gabrielle Neal
- Elise Cost-Brown
- Gloria Kang
- Coco Lin
- Emma Carter

Together, these students developed and earned recognition for a carbon monoxide detector to be used in the home or in the field, one that would monitor CO levels and send alerts to home owners.

ExploraVision is the world's largest K-12 science competition, sponsored by Toshiba and the National Science Teachers Association. This year, five hundred teams won **Honorable Mention** out of over 10,000 participant teams in the US and Canada. There were two teams of winners from Merion Mercy this year who earned honorable mention:

Project Team 1:

- Emma Friel
- Maeve Hegarty
- Violet Lorei

Their project conceived of and proposed an EMS BandAid, which would serve as a discrete emergency medical device to be worn as a means of lowering the risks of possible physical assault.

Project Team 2:

- Nina Thompson
- Catherine Voegele
- Monica Merenda
- Justine Medveckus

Their project conceived of and proposed a mobile ASL translating glove, which would help with communication between deaf or hard-of-hearing ASL users/speakers and the non-signing community.

Both teams of students are to be commended for jobs well done in demonstrating innovating thinking in their exploration of science and its impact on technology and the future.

In recognition of their successful completion of **The Six Steps to Success** program, focused on integrity, self-discipline, responsibility, passion, academic preparation, and balance, the **Maguire Foundation** presents **Leadership Certificates** to the following students:

- Gabrielle Neal
- Cierra Parker

- Alyane Wollery
- Elise Cost-Brown
- Kymora Howell

Seth Pidot reads the following script and citations.

Certificates and, in some cases, pins are presented to the following students for excellence and effort in leading this year's extra-curricular program. I invite students who receive the following awards to please come forward; those receiving honorable mentions are asked to stand for recognition.

I invite all the members of the **Ministry Team** to stand.

These students are to be congratulated and recognized for being servant-leaders in mercy. As members of Ministry Team home groups, they are outstanding models of Christian values and Gospel teachings who thoughtfully and faithfully planned and executed liturgical celebrations throughout the school year. Thank you, women of mercy.

I invite all the **Student Council** homeroom representatives from the freshman, sophomore, and junior class to stand.

These elected students are to be congratulated and recognized for outstanding service, leadership and commitment to the Merion Mercy community as collaborative leaders of this year's Student Council. Thank you, women of mercy.

For outstanding management and model governance as a leader of the **Student Council**, an award is presented to:

- Kaitlyn Powel

The **National Art Honor Society** is based in the Mercy core values and on the principles of art scholarship, character and service. Members in the society use their creative talents in service to those in need. In recognition of her efficient management of the **NAHS** as well as her individual service projects, an award is presented to:

- Danielle Nardella

For outstanding performance and commitment to the development and excellence of **Rho Kappa**, the **National Social Studies Honor Society**, an award is presented to:

- Grace Brazunas

For dedication and excellence as a member of **History Club**, recognizing that what is past is prologue and that those who do not learn from the lessons of history are condemned to repeat them, an award is presented to:

- Lindsey Russo

For a genuine desire to develop an economic, political, and cultural understanding of people from other countries, and for dedication and excellence as a leading member of **Model UN**, an award is presented to:

- Nicoleta Arcidiacono
- **Honorable Mention:** Katharine Donnelly and Olivia Gutt

Members of the **Mock Trial** team face the daunting task of analyzing and arguing a fictitious case in a real courtroom before an actual judge and jury composed of practicing lawyers. Student witnesses are judged on their knowledge of the witness statement and their credibility; attorneys are judged on their presentation style, forensics skills, and knowledge of the courtroom rules of evidence. Commitment to do one's own best work as well as to inspire the same out of others was the key element to our team's success this year. In recognition of her overall contributions, the team members by consensus vote recognize the following individuals for their exceptional efforts:

- **Blue Team:** Morgan Kane, Micheline Denn, and Grace Donnelly
- **Gold Team:** Nicoleta Arcidiacono and Madeleine Likta

For being outstanding members and top scorers of the **Junior Varsity Mathletes** team, awards are presented to two outstanding members who had perfect scores on the individual tests. They are:

- **Sophomore:** Kimberly Pham
- **Freshman:** Emma Whitman

For their capable leadership and their constant devotion to the creation of the 2019 *Image Explosion*, awards for the literary magazine are presented to:

- Erin Daly and Madeleine Litka
- **Honorable Mention:** Julia LaRosa and Anna O'Brien

In recognition of and appreciation for her dedicated service to *Meriannual*, an award for the yearbook is presented to:

- Cierra Parker
- **Honorable Mention:** Maria Dierkes and Olivia Squillante

In recognition of and appreciation for her dedicated service to *Ricordia*, an award for the newspaper is presented to:

- Cara Keller
- **Honorable Mention:** Anna O'Brien, Mairead O'Hara, and Jessica Link

Community Service Corps Awards for demonstrating outstanding commitment to promoting social justice in our community and participating in service projects at Merion are presented to the following servant-leaders:

- Clare Quigley and Amanda Brown

In recognition for her love, passion, and dedication to learn more about Spanish language and Spanish and Latin American culture, an award for **Spanish Club** is presented to:

- Mairead O'Hara

For dedication and excellence as a member of the **Latin Club**, an award is presented to:

- Maria Dierkes
- **Honorable Mention:** Micheline Denn

For outstanding achievement in helping to devise, implement, and manage a club to "welcome" and to instruct American students about the Chinese culture and traditions, an award for the **Huan Ying Club** is presented to:

- Coco Lin

For active participation and for modeling a willingness to educate peers about politics and diplomacy and to engage in difficult, but important and profound conversations about national affairs and global relations, awards for the **Junior Statesmen of America (JSA)** are presented to:

- Nicoleta Arcidiacono and Briana Lawimore

For a genuine desire to develop an economic, political, and cultural understanding of people from other countries and in recognition of her passionate advocacy for women and girls within the context of the **Girl Up!** campaign, an award is presented to:

- Ryan Morrow

For outstanding leadership, motivational skills, and commitment as a member of Merion Mercy's **Literary Bears Book Club**, an award is presented to:

- Emma Carter
- **Honorable Mention:** Grace Brazunas

For their creativity, intellect, dedication, and organizational skills, all of which led to the sustainability of a new club, one that brings to life the magic of the Harry Potter universe and does much to educate and entertain the Muggle World about literary and cinematic contributions to culture, awards for **Potterwatch** are presented to the following members:

- Emma Carter and Madeleine Litka

For raising awareness of the many works of mercy and service performed by students, parents, and alumnae of MMA as a member of **Mercy Works**, an award is presented to:

- Monica Paschos
- **Honorable Mention:** Catherine Paschos

For exemplary dedication to the **STE(A)M Club**, showing outstanding curiosity and creativity in learning the creative skills and interdisciplinary applications of science, technology, engineering, art, and math, awards are presented to:

- Emma Carter and Gabrielle Neal

For their creativity, teamwork, and perspective in organizing the **Photography Club**, awards are presented to:

- Reilly Magee and Olivia Squillante
- **Honorable Mention:** Morgan Butler, Emily Ramirez, and Sydney Devine

For hard work in devising and implementing a trial basis activity that promotes critical thinking, cooperative learning, puzzle solving, and the benefits of social communication, leadership and creativity awards for the **Strategy and Gaming Club** are presented to the following founding members:

- Emma Carter and Lauren Zarro

For hard work, dedication, poise, and rhythm as a member of **Lyric Dance** (formerly known as the **Liturgical and Modern Dance Troupe**), an award is presented to:

- Emma Carter

For sharing their excellent leadership, infectious joy, talents in performing arts, and passion for building community through the instruction and shared demonstration of cultural STEP dancing as founding members of the trial club known as the **Hip Hoppers**, awards are presented to:

- Khaliyah Hill and Jayla Rhoads

Recognizing our communal prayer in the liturgy, the following students have served the Merion Mercy community by enhancing all of our liturgical celebrations. For outstanding service and commitment through time and talent, awards for the **Liturgical Ensemble** are presented to:

- Katherine Gallone, Kaitlyn Powel, Maria Dierkes, and Elaina Stuhlman
- **Honorable Mention:** Sydney Parson and Isabella DeShayes

For outstanding performance and dedication to **Orchestra** (also known as the **Instrumental Ensemble**), awards are presented to:

- Maria Dierkes and Elaina Stuhlman
- **Honorable Mention:** Katharine Donnelly

For enthusiasm, growth, and creativity as dedicated members of the **Guitar and Uke Ensemble**, awards are presented to:

- Kyla Edmonds and Elise Cost-Brown

For excellence in performance and dedication to the **Glee Club**, an award is presented to:

- Sydney Parson
- **Honorable Mention:** Damya Walton

For excellence and commitment as distinguished members of the **Chorale**, awards are presented to:

- Katherine Galone and Emma Carter
- **Honorable Mention:** Kiera Songhurst and Moira Vaughan

For creativity, leadership, and enthusiasm as a distinguished and pilot member of the **Sirens of Baggot Street**, an award is presented to:

- Sydney Parson

For excellence in performance and dedication to the **Handbell Choir**, awards are presented to:

- Aliyssa Sermons and Maria Dierkes
- **Honorable Mention:** Olivia Tingley-Kelley, Tess Szathmary, Indonesia Talley, and Amber Wiggins

The production staff of **Merion Mercy Music Theater** commends the companies of *Testing, Testing* and *Sister Act: The Musical* for their tremendous accomplishments. For going above and beyond what was expected, and for their professionalism, enthusiasm, leadership, and excellence, **MMMT Director's Choice Awards** are presented to the following students:

- For *performance*:
 - Grace Brazunas
 - **Honorable Mention:** Christina Schwab
- For *technical matters* (stage crew):
 - Amanda Brown and Ava Ferry
 - **Honorable Mention:** Olivia Opiela and Almira Tensuan-Eli

Recognition of **Perfect Attendance** for the **2018-2019 school year** is awarded to:

- Class of 2020
 - Lily Diebold
 - Madeleine Litka
 - Caitlin Spillane

- Class of 2021
 - Heloise Braun
 - Maria Dierkes
 - Ryan Hendrzak
 - Grace Jones
 - Isabelle Millan
 - Tess Szathmary

- Class of 2022
 - Margaret Carr
 - Kiersten Claxton
 - Grace Dever
 - Brynn Donnelly
 - Anna Ferdinand
 - Caroline Grogan
 - Zoe Gusikoff
 - Bridget Lain
 - Maeve McMahon
 - Liseth Mejia
 - Monica Merenda
 - Anne Miao
 - Hannah Mishinkash
 - Emily Murphy
 - Monica Paschos
 - Emily Ramirez
 - Maxine Rich
 - Francesca Scarpone
 - Kiera Songhurst
 - Emily Veasey
 - Damya Walton

Recognition of **Perfect Attendance** for **two (2) consecutive years** is awarded to:

- Class of 2021
 - Morgan Butler
 - Bianca Davis
 - Hannah Facenda
 - Sydney Jones
 - Nancy Lam
 - Khanh-Chuc Nguyen
 - Jennifer Popper
 - Kaitlyn Powel

Recognition of **Perfect Attendance** for **three (3) consecutive years** is awarded to:

- Class of 2020
 - Isabella DeShayes
 - Margaret Grogan
 - Rose Harbison
 - Megan Hoban
 - Kymora Howell
 - Claudia Melocchi
 - Annamarie Palermo
 - Olivia Squillante