



KAMSC LINKAGES

Keeping KAMSC Families Informed | Summer 2015 | Volume 21, Issue 1

AWARDS EDITION

FROM THE DIRECTOR, Dr. Michael Tanoff

Summer greetings to our KAMSC family! I hope that you have been enjoying our mild summer — so far! We still have several weeks before the unusually late start for the '15-'16 school year, with the first day of KAMSC classes on Wednesday, September 9th. As always, KAMSC remains busy during the summer, with hundreds of students participating in our on-site Sizzlin' Summer Math & Science Program and other summer outreach activities. Once again, we were delighted to be able to provide financial assistance to all Sizzlin' Summer students requiring support, thanks to the generosity of local philanthropists. The KAMSC office staff is active supporting our summer programs, and preparing for the forthcoming academic year. Our teachers have been busy as well, traveling and participating in seminars, workshops, research experiences, and curricular updates, so that they may bring fresh perspectives into the classroom.

This issue of *Linkages* focuses on the many achievements and activities of our students and teachers from the past academic year, including the year's highlight of sixty-four seniors completing their studies at KAMSC, and being recognized for this achievement at the Class of 2015 Senior Recognition Ceremony on May 26th. We are proud of the diverse interests being pursued by our new alumni, ranging from political science, dermatology, criminology, and law, to environmental science, nanoengineering, computer science, physics, and biomedical engineering. The list of colleges and universities that our graduates will attend continues to be impressive, including Yale University, The Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Columbia University, The University of Chicago, and the U.S. Naval Academy, and in-state colleges and universities including Michigan State University, the University of Michigan, Western Michigan University, Michigan Technological University, and Kalamazoo College.

While the summer issue of *Linkages* focuses on the many awards garnered by, and recognition received by, our KAMSC students for their achievement in interscholastic competitions and research projects, it also contains important information from Ms. Joyce, KAMSC's Student Advocate, and the KAMSC Parents Organization, as well as information on student activities and announcements and calendars from the KAMSC office. Enjoy this Summer 2015 edition of *Linkages*, and look forward to our fall edition in mid-September. As always, I remain available for your questions, comments, and concerns at (269) 337-0004, or MTanoff@kamsc.k12.mi.us.

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Congratulations, Mr. Chopp — we'll miss you!



Mr. Chris Chopp, KAMSC honors biology, AP biology, and honors cell biology teacher for the past four years, left KAMSC in June to become the director of the Comstock STEM Academy. Mr. Chopp had developed KAMSC's ninth grade biology program into one in which cross-cutting concepts and hands-on laboratory and field activities pervaded the opportunities for student engagement, and was responsible for creating a classroom environment of trust and safety, in which peer-to-peer discussions and student-teacher interactions were open and productive. Mr. Chopp was an integral part of KAMSC's ninth grader transition team, helping students transition from middle school to the KAMSC high school program, and co-taught our Intro to Science Inquiry Program which allows entering ninth graders to experience

the KAMSC learning environment prior to the start of the academic year.

We are pleased that Mr. Chopp will remain close to home, and look forward to working with him and the Comstock STEM Academy on joint projects for engaging students from both programs. We are excited about Mr. Chopp working to enhance the KAMSC student pipeline.

Please join me in congratulating Mr. Chopp on his exciting transition from classroom teacher to school leader as he prepares for his administrative role with the K-8 program at the Comstock STEM Academy. Mr. Chopp may be contacted at ChoppC@comstockps.org.

Welcome to KAMSC, Ms. Chapoton!

The KAMSC teachers and staff are excited to welcome Ms. Colleen Chapoton as KAMSC's new biology teacher! Ms. Chapoton will be responsible for teaching three sections of KAMSC honors biology and two sections of AP biology.

Ms. Chapoton's educational background is in biology and psychology; she possesses professional certification in both areas. Ms. Chapoton has thirteen years of experience as a high school teacher, with a rich slate of courses taught to her credit, including biology, AP biology, environmental science, and anatomy and physiology, plus has experience teaching courses in allied areas such as algebra, geometry, and physical science. She has served in several leadership roles, including team leader for mathematics and science teacher professional learning communities, and science department chair. Ms. Chapoton was the recipient of an Excellence In Education grant which allowed her to work in an NSF (National Science Foundation) sponsored program with the world's leading researchers in biodiversity at the Natural History Museum, the Smithsonian Research Center, and the National Zoo, and has presented work on pedagogy for the Michigan Education Association and for the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development.

In addition to her teaching responsibilities, Ms. Chapoton will join Ms. Hach in offering KAMSC's Intro to Science Inquiry Program for our incoming ninth graders. She will join Mrs. Kalnins and Mr. Cardwell as the third member of KAMSC's ninth grader transition team, helping students transition from middle school to the KAMSC high school program.

Please join me in welcoming, enthusiastically, Ms. Chapoton to the KAMSC educational team. Ms. Chapoton may be contacted at cchapoton@kamsc.k12.mi.us.

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2015!!!

Name	High School	College Plan	Career Interest
Andrews, Cameron	Kalamazoo Central	Michigan State U (Honors)	Mechanical Engineering
Baldwin, William	Gull Lake	U Michigan (Engineering)	Computer Scientist
Batsell, Evan	Kalamazoo Central	U Michigan (Engineering)	Software Developer
Beck, Grace	Portage Northern	Kalamazoo College	Environmental Science
Bertman, Isaac	Kalamazoo Central	Denison U	Political Aide
Betts, Madelyn	Portage Northern	Kalamazoo College	Biological Research
Blinkiewicz, Hailey	Loy Norrix	U Michigan (LS&A)	Chemistry
Bower, Samuel	Loy Norrix	U Michigan (LS&A)	Biologist
Brown, Alexander	Loy Norrix	Western Michigan U	Nanoengineering
Butt, Kaylie	Portage Northern	Milwaukee School of Engineering	Industrial Engineer
Callahan, Patrick	Vicksburg	MIT	Mechanical Engineer
Chapin, Abby	Schoolcraft	U Michigan (Engineering)	Engineer/Environmental Sci
Chu, Ian	Portage Central	U Michigan (LS&A)	Computer Science
Coles, Adam	Portage Central	Colgate U	International Economics
Comes, Alec	Kalamazoo Central	Michigan State U (Honors)	Media & Information
D'Souza, Kathleen	Portage Northern	U Michigan (Engineering)	Engineer
Eldridge, Seth	Gull Lake	U Wisconsin- Madison	Biomedical Engineer
Emenheiser, Anna	Loy Norrix	Kalamazoo College	Biomedical Engineer
Epskamp-Hunt, Eleanor	Loy Norrix	U Michigan (LS&A)	Medicine
Ervin, McKinzie	Vicksburg	Kalamazoo College	Dermatologist
Esman, Shelby	Loy Norrix	Western Michigan U (Honors)	Criminology
Fenwick, Edward	Gull Lake	U Michigan (Engineering)	Computer Engineer
Folsom, Calvin	Vicksburg	Western Michigan U	Teacher
Gulliver, Samuel	Loy Norrix	Kalamazoo College	Chemistry
Hamman, Carolyn	Gull Lake	U Miami	Marine Biologist
Haney, Isabella	Portage Northern	Kalamazoo College	Medicine
Hanley, Colby	Portage Northern	U Michigan (Engineering)	Computer Science
Johnson, Lars	Loy Norrix	U Michigan (LS&A)	Veterinarian
Kamath, Sharat	Portage Central	Kalamazoo College	Physician
Kleber, Lyric	Loy Norrix	U Michigan (LS&A)	Medicine
Kotekal, Subhodh	Portage Central	U Chicago	Physician
Kwon, Kimberly	Portage Northern	Macalester College	Computer Science
Le, An	Portage Central	Yale U	Medicine
Le, Binh	Portage Central	MIT	Electrical Engineering
Lenning, Benjamin	Schoolcraft	Western Michigan U (Honors)	Chemist
Maddux, Benjamin	Portage Central	U Michigan (Engineering)	Biomedical Engineer
Martell, Cydney	Gull Lake	Kalamazoo College	Orthopedic Surgeon
Mendez, Chloe	Gull Lake	Illinois Institute of Technology	Electrical Engineer
Meyers, Hannah	Loy Norrix	Kalamazoo College	Scientific Research
Mills, Zacharias	Portage Central	Michigan Tech U	Engineer
Nwagbo, Ugochukwu	Portage Northern	U Michigan (Engineering)	Software Engineer
Ochoa, Jorge	Hackett Catholic Prep	Columbia U	Neuroscience
O'Leary, Helen	Kalamazoo Central	U Michigan (LS&A)	Physician
Park, Kayla	Portage Northern	Kalamazoo College	Physicist
Perrin, Gabrielle	Vicksburg	US Naval Academy	Engineer
Pruitt, Miles	Kalamazoo Central	Hope College	Mechanical Engineer
Rastogi, Kabir	Portage Central	U Michigan (Engineering)	Mechanical Engineer
Razi, Farzad	Portage Northern	Kalamazoo College	Neurosurgeon
Reid, Elizabeth	Portage Northern	U Michigan (Engineering)	Computer Science
Rizzolo, Skylar	Comstock	Kalamazoo College	Software Engineer
Russcher, Parker	Kalamazoo Central	Michigan Tech U	Computer Science
Schultz, Peter	Schoolcraft	Kalamazoo College	Physicist
Shirey, Abigail	Portage Northern	U Notre Dame	Business
Smith, Margaret	Hackett Catholic Central	Kalamazoo College	Doctor
Spitsbergen, Jake	Parchment	Michigan State U (Lyman Briggs)	Physicist
Steinman, Michael	Loy Norrix	Western Michigan U	Statistics
Strehl, Elizabeth	Portage Northern	U of Michigan (Engineering)	Medicine
Vlachos, Zoe	Portage Northern	University of Colorado Boulder	Environmental Architect
Wait, Haley	Parchment	North Central College	Actuary
Waltz, Matoska	Kalamazoo Central	U Michigan (Engineering)	Computer Science/Math
Werme, Kevin	Portage Northern	U Michigan (Engineering)	Mechanical Engineer
Wile, Jessica	Schoolcraft	Kalamazoo College	Actuary
Woodsmith, Tristan	Loy Norrix	U Michigan (LS&A)	Business
Yang, Chang	Portage Central	U Michigan (LS&A)	Professor/Law

Student Activities

KAMSC Cricket: We succeeded in our *Drive for Five*

When? June 9, 2015.
Where? Kalamazoo, Michigan.
What? A fifth straight State Cricket championship! Coach Mike Sinclair – who would have earned yet another High School Cricket Coach of the Year in Michigan if it existed – proudly pointed out that “Since no other teams existed, it was a clear victory for our KAMSC (m)athletes.” The Men’s team cruised to a 90/all out victory while the Women’s team picked up a 19/all out win, both completing their fifth consecutive State sweep. Junior Jawad Aqeel and sophomore Kyra Kothawala were named the Gentleman and Lady of the Match, respectively. Highlights of the matches included a 31-run pick-up over two innings by junior Matt Ruge and sophomore Kyra Kothawala accounting for 9 of the Ladies’ team’s 19 runs. Arthur Woodworth became the Center’s first 3-year varsity player and, despite the lower-than-hoped for turnout, several students will be eligible for 2nd and 3rd year awards next spring. And perhaps we’ll even have a round-robin competition with Berrien County and BCAMSC. Maybe.

And once again, the Center will be preparing for the 2016 State Championships with an organizational meeting on October 14th at 7:00 pm in the Presentation Center. Teams will then follow months of “intense” practice prior to the competition in the spring. All interested students are encouraged to meet with Mr. Sinclair and/or attend the information meeting next month.



On February 25, fourteen senior girls participated in a course on safety awareness techniques and self-defense strategies. The course was led by Ms. Tammy Wedeking, KAMSC alumna parent and martial artist, in coordination with other experienced martial artists including KAMSC parents Dr. Michael Park and Dr. Joon Park.

GISMO

On Saturday November 15, 2014, eighty-six 6th and 7th grade girls from all over the area came to KAMSC for the GISMO (Girls Investigate Science and Math Opportunities) conference, doing hands-on activities and learning about working in STEM fields, from a great group of women professionals in biology, chemistry, statistics, and computer science, assisted by KAMSC and college student volunteers. The GISMO team was especially pleased to discover that the stellar dozen first-year KAMSC women who shepherded groups of girls through the day had almost all attended GISMO when they were younger!

If you are (or know) a woman STEM professional who might be interested in providing lasting impact by sharing a day with interested young girls on November 7, 2015 please contact Susan Fisher at sfisher@kamsconline.com.

Comstock STEM Elementary Students Learn Programming at KAMSC



Photo to the left: A group of 3rd grade students from the Comstock STEM Academy and their KAMSC mentors wrapped up eight sessions of programming with a fun photo.



Photo to the right: A 4th grade student from the Comstock STEM Academy works with her KAMSC mentors to program her Finch Robot to follow the light beam of a flashlight.

Fifteen 3rd through 5th grade students from the Comstock STEM Academy visited KAMSC eight times each during the 3rd marking period to learn about computer programming and some of the basics of robotics. The visiting students each were mentored by two or three 9th grade KAMSC students, who taught them how to program using Scratch and Snap!. Scratch and Snap!, developed by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and the University of California, Berkeley (Cal-Berkeley), are so-called "drag and drop" programming languages that allow students to learn computer programming without having to focus on syntax and the details of a more traditional programming language.

The students programmed character animations and games on their PCs and also programmed Finch Robots. The Finches, developed originally at Carnegie-Mellon University, are small classroom robots that feature high durability and a variety of sensors, motors and light capabilities that are all programmable by students. KAMSC 9th grade students are using these same technologies in their Information Technology class and enjoyed sharing their expertise with their young friends from Comstock.

A note from Ms. Joyce Student Advocate

Alumni Have All the Answers (or at least try)

What if college students who attended KAMSC could share their experiences face to face with current KAMSC students? This vision comes true each December. Our alumni, representing colleges from California to Connecticut, visit eleventh and twelfth grade classes to answer questions about college.

We invite all alumni to visit on the last day of classes in December when many alumni are in town visiting family. This year we had over 100 alumni join us. After alumni speak to classes, the KAMSC Parent Organization provides a generous spread of refreshments while staff, alumni and students chat and network. We are grateful to both alumni and parents for making Alumni Day possible. We are making plans to have alumni come share their experiences with ninth and tenth grade students as well.

College Planning News from Ms. Joyce

Looking for a good college planning book? There are many good ones and one of my favorites is *Admission Possible; The Dare to Be Yourself Guide for Getting into the Best Colleges for You* by Marjorie Hansen Shaevitz.

Investigating scholarships? **The Kalamazoo Foundation Scholarship Guide** at kalfound.org has local scholarship information. **Fast Web** is a free scholarship search available at www.fastweb.com. Beware of any site that asks you to pay a fee for information.

Academic Success News

KAMSC Peer Tutors Ready to Help

Want someone to help you review for the next biology test? Want to work math problems with someone at your side to answer questions? KAMSC Peer Tutors can work with you for a one time session or weekly. To take advantage of this resource contact Ms. Joyce.

Study tip: Test Yourself!

Have you ever thought “I looked over my notes – I *thought* I was ready for that test,” and then been disappointed? Test yourself before the real thing. Try these ideas from students that have been in your shoes:

- Use sample problems and questions from your notes, text and quizzes to make your own quiz
- Make flashcards (some students like quizlet.com)
- Make a diagram without labels and try to label it without looking at your notes
- Practice answering questions out loud as if you were teaching someone. Or, try writing out your answer
- Ask a classmate or peer tutor to quiz you

Opportunities for you: Be sure to check the bulletin board outside Ms. Joyce's room for information on everything from summer camps to scholarships to poetry contests.

A note from the Parents Organization

By the time you read this, the 2014-2015 school-year will have been completed. The past nine months students, parents, and KAMSC staff were busy accomplishing many tasks and achieving a higher degree of learning. The Parents Organization was busy as well. We have been able to provide support for many special events such as College Night, 9th Grade Orientation, and the end of the year staff appreciation lunch. With your support we were also able to provide funds for student awards, competition fees, guest speaker honorariums, and field trips.

What takes place at KAMSC every year requires coordinated effort by our officers and many kind and attentive parents that take the time to volunteer their time to help and we are thankful for that. Without our KAMSC parents, facilitating the mission of KAMSC is difficult if not impossible. We want our students to reach their goals successfully and we all have different roles and responsibilities to help them accomplish that. Whether it was the 9th Grade Orientation or Mixer, the Open House, the Senior-Mentor Tea, the Senior Recognition Ceremony, KAMSC staff luncheon or field trips... these are examples of events that took a great deal of attention, detail and preparation. We truly appreciate what you have done and you will be rewarded in one way or another, but mainly by the impact your actions have left on our students.

When it comes to appreciation, no group deserves more than the **KAMSC teachers, director, and office staff**. They are relentless in pursuing what is best for the students. Caring for, challenging, guiding, challenging...did I mention challenging our students towards achieving their highest potential. The efforts and hours you put into making the KAMSC experience special for our children are much appreciated. The direction and guidance you provide our students is what makes their experience manageable and rewarding. We all know now that KAMSC is a jewel within this community. The KAMSC staff is what makes it shine bright. Thank you again!

Parents Organization officers: Thank you for another great year at KAMSC and for your involvement. Special thanks go out to the following Officers who will not be with us this coming 2015-2016 school year since their kids are moving on to the next great stage, higher education:

Lisa Batsell—Vice President, Sue Bourget-Coles—Volunteer Coordinator, Amy Schaefer—Parent Ambassador Coordinator, Nicole Reid—Senior Activities Committee Chair and last but not least, Rodney Pruitt—Student Senate Advisor.

Huge thanks for your service and volunteer hours. You set an example for selfless giving!

KAMSC parents: If you already have a child at KAMSC but have not been involved, or your child is about to join the KAMSC family, we ask that you please get involved. At a minimum, come to our meetings. This is a great opportunity to make a difference! As you can tell by now, we have few open officer positions so please contact me if you are interested in joining. Come join **Wendy Woods** who has already volunteered to be our next Volunteer Coordinator and **Karen Woodworth** who decided to pull double duty and pick up the responsibility of the Senior Activities Committee Chair in addition to her Treasurer responsibility. Come join our team:

President: Shaher Ahmad

Treasurer and Senior Activities Committee Chair: Karen Woodworth

Secretary: Justine McKenzie

Volunteer Coordinator: Wendy Woods

Parent Ambassador Coordinator: **Jackie Martell**

Vice President: **Open**

Student Senate Advisor: **Open**

Please mark your calendars! The dates of the meetings will be the third Wed of each month starting Sep 23rd 2015.
Meetings start @ 6:00pm in the KAMSC Presentation Center.

Shaher Ahmad, KAMSC PO President

2014-2015 Awards

Awards of Academic Achievement

Director's Awards of Academic Excellence

(All A's – 7 semesters)

Carolyn Hamman
Subhodh Kotekal
Binh Le
Benjamin Maddux

Cydney Martell
Kayla Park
Abigail Shirey
Kevin Werme

High Honors

(All A's and at most one B)

Seniors

Hailey Blinkiewicz
Patrick Callahan
Abby Chapin

Edward Fenwick
Kimberly Kwon

Farzad Razi
Margaret Smith

Juniors

Sami Ahmad
Jawad Aqeel
Ashton Armstead
Connor Bach
Benjamin Beach
Margaret Benjamin
Grace Beverage
Nikita Bhatia

Sydney Bodzianowski
Brandon Born
Savannah Crooks
Jack Eichman
Chelsie Eiden
Natasha Goenawan
Kento Hirakawa
Otto Kailing

Matthew Krinock
Maya Lannen
Ericka Lozon
Samuel Maddox
Riley Martell
Ziyan Mo
Paige O'Connor
Michael Orwin

Matthew Ring
Alexis Roberts
Judy Smith
Rachel Torres
Emily Veenhuis
Hannah Wang

Sophomores

Aheer Alvi
Andrew Backer
Olivia Ballentine
Ashton Bjork
Chad Blackwell
Veronica Buss

William Chung
Zoe Folsom
Claire Holley
Josephine Hosner
Danielle Janowicz
Caroline Jordan

Elizabeth Kimmel
Lily Kitagawa
Kyra Kothawala
Savannah McDowell
Praneeth Medepalli
Vivek Parikh

Kyleigh Phillips
Aayushi Priya
Samuel Ratliff
Vaughn Taylor
Ava Wood
Lachlan Woods

Honors

(All A's & B's and at most one C)

Seniors

Cameron Andrews	Kathleen D'Souza	An Le	Perter Schultz
William Baldwin	Seth Eldridge	Benjamin Lenning	Jake Spitsbergen
James Batsell	Eleanor Epskamp-Hunt	Zacharias Mills	Elizabeth Strehl
Grace Beck	Mckinzie Ervin	Ugochukwu Nwagbo	Haley Wait
Isaac Bertman	Shelby Esman	Jorge Ochoa	Matoska Waltz
Madelyn Betts	Calvin Folsom	Helen O'Leary	Jessica Wile
Samuel Bower	Colby Hanley	Gabrielle Perrin	Tristan Woodsmith
Kaylie Butt	Lars Johnson	Kabir Rastogi	
Ian Chu	Sharat Kamath	Elizabeth Reid	
Adam Coles	Lyric Kleber	Skylar Rizzolo	

Juniors

Eleanor Barlow	Tristan Greathouse	Matthew Maple	Jason Taft
Benjamin Behrens	Jacob Heasley	Jamila McKenzie	Michael Tarn
Emily Brady	Finneas Johnson	Grace Miles	Ali Thomas Jr.
Quincy Bullmer	Anthony Kayany	Rachel Niesen	Alexa VanderHoff
Alex Cannizzaro	Andrew Keene	Boemin Park	Nicholas Wahl
Keegan Canny	Lily Krone	Mitchell Rockwell	Colin Whitman
Nathan Couk	Chloe Lipovsky	Simran Singh	Colleen Whitman
Shivam Gautam	Alexandra Malek	Eryka Swank-Schreffler	Arthur Woodworth

Sophomores

Patrick Ambs	Matthew Giguere	Kegan Miller	Stephanie Rauhoff
Andrew Beering	Ian Hawthorne	Kristina Mills	Payton Reisner
Amirah Bin-Mahfouz	Tanvi Khurmi	Brett Moore	Ryan Ross
Jonah Bolton	Addison Krueger	Anna Nordmoe	Gerrit Rummel
Ashley Bynum	Jackson Kujacznski	Paryn Norman	Emma Scheller
Megan Cardwell	Kyle aLdd	Amanda Northrup	Matthew Schuppel
Karli Crouch	Hayden Lane-Davies	Aliya Patel	Dustin Tibbetts
Deanna Fagerness	Aaron Lenning	Emma Piper	Duncan Wallis
Patrick Fulton	Spencer LIbbing	Jesse Pollens-Voigt	

Medallion Awards

Senior Medallion Criteria: Recipients of the senior medallion are selected not just for academic achievement, but also for how well they exemplify key traits of life-long success such as: growth/maturity, leadership, a strong work ethic, enthusiasm/curiosity, and positive contributions to their work/learning environment. These are students who represent the best of what we believe we want KAMSC students to become. This year's Medallion recipients are:

Cameron Andrews	McKinzie Ervin	Cydney Martell
Patrick Callahan	Carolyn Hamman	Jake Spitsbergen
Abby Chapin	Subhodh Kotekal	
Adam Coles	An Le	

Junior Medallion Criteria: This award is awarded based on a strong work ethic, an unending passion for learning, an outstanding year of academic achievement, and the rare ability to handle all the demands of one of the most stressful years in high school; these are the juniors who received the Medallion Award:

Ashton Armstead	Ericka Lozon	Emily Veenhuis
Savannah Crooks	Jamila McKenzie	Hannah Wang
Natasha Goenawan	Matthew Ring	
Maya Lannen	Alexis Roberts	

Sophomore Medallion Criteria: Recipients of the sophomore medallion exhibit tireless enthusiasm for learning, take advantage of extra opportunities to achieve, perseverance in subject mastery, work well with classmates, high level of integrity, academic excellence in all KAMSC subjects. The sophomores who received the Medallion Award are:

Aheer Alvi	Lily Kitagawa	Vaughn Taylor
Veronica Buss	Savannah McDowell	Ava Wood
Danielle Janowicz	Praneeth Medepalli	
Lizzie Kimmel	Sam Ratliff	

9th Grader Medallion Criteria: The selection of ninth grade medallion winners is based on maturity, enthusiasm, curiosity, leadership, strong work ethic, academic achievement and positive contributions to the classroom. The ninth graders who received the Medallion Award are:

Rene Andino	Abigail Guimond	Alexandria Seybold
Pavitra Attanayake	Siddhant Pagariya	Zach Siwik
Jenna bowker	Emily Parker	
Alexa Davis	Shray Rastogi	

Math Awards

2014-2015 Calculus League Contest

The Calculus League Competition is open to all students who are either enrolled in or have completed a Calculus course. It consists of a series of 4 timed tests that take place during the year, and parallels the development of concepts and skills in differentiation and integration. This year, KAMSC's top finishers were:

3rd place, with 32/40 points – Binh Le
2nd place, with 33/40 points – Skylar Rizzolo
Tied for 1st place, with 34/40 points – Cydney Martell & Praneeth Medepalli

58th Annual Michigan Mathematics Prize Competition

In October, KAMSC had over 200 participants for Part 1 of the 58th Annual Michigan Mathematics Prize Competition, sponsored by the Michigan section of the Mathematical Association of America. The top 10% of Part 1 scores statewide are invited to take Part 2 in December. The following students qualified for Part 2, by earning a score of 17 or higher, out of 40:

Benjamin Beach	Isaac bertman	Amirah Bin-Mahfouz
Brandon Born	Ian Chu	Seth Eldridge
Claire Holley	Syed Husain	Lily Kitagawa
Matthew Krinock	Praneeth Medepalli	Zach Mills
Ziyan Mo	Michael Orwin	Samuel Ratliff

Congratulations to all Part 2 competitors!

Michigan Math League Contest

The Michigan Math League Contest consists of six math competitions given during the school year. Each competition consists of six problems. The following students earned the highest cumulative score at KAMSC:

1st: Natasha Goenawan 2nd : Boemin Park & Elizabeth Strehl 3rd: Binh Le

Math Awards (continued)

The American Mathematics Competition

The American Mathematics Competition is a nationwide competition that occurs in February of each year. It is offered in two versions—the AMC 10 and the AMC 12. AMC 10 is given to 9th & 10th graders and the AMC 12 is given to our 11th & 12th graders on a voluntary basis (some advanced math 10th graders qualify to take the AMC 12). The score required to compete in further rounds is 95. The top three students in each category are recognized.

AMC 12	Name	Grade	Score
Rank 1 (Winner)	Claire Holley	10	88.5
Rank 2 (Team Member)	Matthew Krinock	11	79.5
Rank 3 (Team Member)	Praneeth Medepalli	10	79.5

AMC 10

Rank 1 (Winner)	Andrew Backer	10	96.0
Rank 2 (Team Member)	Shray Rastogi	09	88.5
Rank 3 (Team Member)	Samuel Ratliff	10	85.5

Scholarships

Kevin P. Chao Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship, established by family and friends in memory of Kevin P. Chao, provides financial assistance to students who exhibit characteristics similar to those for which Kevin is so fondly remembered. These characteristics include the achievement of personal and academic goals, a competitive spirit, leadership, high respect from everyone encountered, and a special caring for people. Congratulations to this year's recipient:

Carolyn Hamman

Kaitan Kothari Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship, established by family in memory of Kaitan Kothari, provides financial assistance to students who exhibit characteristics similar to those for which Kaitan is remembered. These characteristics include academic achievement, leadership, and a competitive athletic spirit with a contagious smile. Congratulations to this year's recipient:

Cydney Martell

Computer Competitions

National Center for Women & Information Technology Regional Awards

For the 3rd straight year a KAMSC senior has been selected as one of 35 national finalists by the National Center for Women & Information Technology (NCWIT). **Kathleen D'Souza** is Michigan's only 2015 finalist. She was selected as a national runner up and state finalist in 2014, and a state runner up in 2013. Nearly 2700 girls from all 50 states and several U.S. territories applied.



Additionally, 6 KAMSC students received national runner up nods, 9 were selected as state finalists, and 12 were recognized as state runners up.

SENIORS

Kathleen D'Souza—National Finalist

Ellie Reid—National Runner Up, State Finalist

Kimberly Kwon—State Finalist

Chloe Mendez—State Finalist

Ellie Epskamp-Hunt—State Runner Up

JUNIORS

Savannah Crooks—National Runner Up, State Finalist

Emily Veenhuis—National Runner Up, State Finalist

Lexi Roberts—National Runner Up, State Runner Up

Rachel Torres—National Runner Up, State Runner Up

Sydney Bodzianowski—State Finalist

Jamila McKenzie—State Finalist

Nell Barlow—State Runner Up

Grace Beverage—State Runner Up

Nikita Bhatia—State Runner Up

Chelsie Eiden—State Runner Up

Natasha Goenawan—State Runner Up

Riley Martell—State Runner Up

Paige O'Connor—State Runner Up

Simran Singh—State Runner Up

Judy Smith—State Runner Up

SOPHOMORES

Aayushi Priya—National Runner Up, State Finalist

Lily Kitagawa—State finalist

Computer Competitions (Continued)

USA Computing Olympiad

SILVER OLYMPIANS

Seniors

Evan Batsell
Ed Fenwick
Subhodh Kotekal
Zach Mills

Juniors

Sydney Bodzianowski
Brandon Born
Sam Maddox
Michael Orwin

Sophomores

Lily Kitagawa

BRONZE OLYMPIANS

Seniors

Ellie Epskamp-Hunt
Ben Maddux
Cydney Martell
Skylar Rizzolo

Juniors

Jawad Aqeel
Ashton Armstead
Jack Eichman
Chelsie Eiden
Riley Martell

Sophomores

Aayushi Priya
Ava Wood

IBM Master the Mainframe

Over 100 KAMSC students took part in the annual IBM Master the Mainframe contest with most finishing Part 1 early enough to earn a t-shirt and certificate. Five students succeeded in completing the rigorously challenging Part 2--**Lily Kitagawa, Aayushi Priya, Zach Mills, Matoska Waltz, and Arthur Woodworth.**

Additionally, KAMSC's only student to ever complete Part 3, KAMSC 2014 alum and current U of M freshman **Kyle Milka**, did so again this year.

CodeWarrior Inductions

Seniors

William Baldwin
Ian Chu
Kathleen D'Souza
Kimberly Kwon
Ben Maddux
Cydney Martell
Ellie Reid
Parker Russcher

Juniors

Savannah Crooks
Jack Eichman
Emily Veenhuis

Sophomores

Lily Kitagawa
Sam Ratliff
Ava Wood

Computer Competitions (Continued)



Purdue University ACM HSPC 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 11th Place

Computer programmers from KAMSC paired up to represent KMSC and their home schools at the inaugural ACM High School Programming Contest at Purdue University. KAMSC swept the event placing 9 teams in the top 11.

Subhodh Kotekal and Ben Maddux won the event earning Asus laptops.

Evan Batsell and Zach Mills were runners up winning Asus tablets.

Ian Chu and Binh Le won a gift card worth \$100 for placing 3rd.

Pictured above are KAMSC Seniors: Bill Baldwin, Evan Batsell, Ian Chu, Kathleen D'Souza, Ellie Epskamp-Hunt, Ed Fenwick, Subhodh Kotekal, Kimberly Kwon, Binh Le, Ben Maddux, Cydney Martell, Zach Mills, Ugo Nwagbo, Skylar Rizzolo, Parker Russcher, Matoska Waltz, Tristan Woodsmith. KAMSC Juniors: Riley Martell, Paige O'Connor, and Michael Orwin.

Computer Competitions (Continued)



Eastern Michigan University—MACUL HSPC
Adv: 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 9th, 10th Place
Beg: 3rd, 7th Place

50 programmers from KAMSC and from the Kalamazoo Academically Talented Youth Program (ATYP) competed in teams of 3 at the 6th annual MACUL High School Programming Contest at EMU. Each team used the Java and C++ programming languages on a single computer to solve as many challenge problems as they could in a 3-hour period. KAMSC programmers placed 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 9th, and 10th in the advanced division, and 4th and 7th in the beginners division.

The competition attracted 162 students (58 teams) from several high schools and regional schools throughout the state.

Pictured above KAMSC Seniors: Bill Baldwin, Evan Batsell, Ian Chu, Kathleen D'Souza, Ed Fenwick, Colby Hanley, Subhodh Kotekal, Kimberly Kwon, Binh Le, Ben Maddux, Cydney Martell, Chloe Mendez, Zach Mills, Skylar Rizzolo, Parker Russcher, Abby Shirey, and Matoska Waltz,. KAMSC Juniors: Jawad Aqeel, Ashton Armstead, Connor Bach, Nell Barlow, Benjamin Beach, Nikita Bhatia, Sydnie Bodzianowski, Brandon Born, Savannah Crooks, Jack Eichman, Chelsie Eiden, Natasha Goenawan, Kento Hirakawa, Otto Kailing, Andrew Keene, Matthew Krinock, Riley Martell, Paige O'Connor, Michael Orwin, Matt Ring, Lexi Roberts, Michael Tarn, Ali Thomas, Emily Veenhuis, and Arthur Woodworth. KAMSC Sophomores: Lily Kitagawa, Hayden Lane-Davies, Aayushi Priya, Sam Ratliff, Dustin Tibbets, Ava Wood. KAMSC 9th grader: Sid Pagariya.

Computer Competitions (Continued)



Saginaw Valley State University 2nd, 3rd, 5th, 7th, 8th, 11th, 12th, 14th Place

KAMSC Students attended the computer programming competition at Saginaw Valley State University recently and two teams took second and third place!

Congratulations to Ian Chu, Binh Le, & Ugo Nwagbo for placing 2nd and Evan Batsell, Subhodh Kotekal, and Michael Orwin for placing third.

KAMSC programmers placed five teams in the top eight.

Pictured above are KAMSC seniors: Evan Batsell, Ian Chu, Kathleen D'Souza, Ellie Epskamp-Hunt, Subhodh Kotekal, Kim Dwon, Binh Le, Chloe Mendez, Ugo Nwagbo, Ellie Reid, Skylar Rizzolo, Parker Russcher, Matoska Waltz, Tristan Woodsmith. Juniors: Nikita Bhatia, Sydnie Bodzinowski, Savannah crooks, Natasha Goenawan, Otto Kailing, Michael Orwin, Matt ring, Lexi Roberts, Judy mith, Ali Thomas Jr, Emily Veenhuis, Arthur Woodworth. Sophomores: Aheer Alvi, Andrew Beering, Chad Blackwell, Nika Buss, Ashley Bynum, Megan Cardwell, William Chung, Ian Hawthorne, Lizzie Kimmel, Lilly Kitagawa, Spencer Libbing, Savannah McDowell, Praneeth Medepalli, Kristina Mills, Aayushi Priya, Samuel Ratliff, Dustin Tibbetts, Ava Wood, Lena Wood, Lachlan Woods. 9th Grader: Sid Pagariya

Computer Competitions (Continued)

2015 American Computer Science League All-Star Orlando Team



The Kalamazoo Area Math Science Center Computer Science Team had 3 teams each place first in programming with a perfect scores of 60/60 in the annual international competition. KAMSC's Senior-5 team tied for 3rd overall (2nd U.S.) after the computer-math portion of the contest. Several students were honored with book awards for high individual scores on the computer-math testing. Standing (back left) are Matoska Waltz, Michael Orwin, Zach Mills, Bill Baldwin, Brandon Born, Jack Eichman, Evan Batsell, Subhodh Kotekal, (front) Ian Chu, Ben Maddux, Ed Fenwick, Chelsie Eiden, Kimberly Kwon, Abby Shirey, Riley Martell, and Lily Kitagawa.

American Computer Science League ACSL All-Star International Team Orlando, FL—May 23

SENIOR TEAM

Evan Batsell
Subhodh Kotekal
Zach Mills
Michael Orwin
Matoska Waltz

INTERMEDIATE TEAM

Bill Baldwin
Ian Chu
Ed Fenwick
Kimberly Kwon
Ben Maddux

ALL-STAR ALTERNATIVES

Brandon Born
Jack Eichman
Chelsi Eiden
Abby Shirey
Riley Martell
Lily Kitagawa

Computer Competitions (Continued)



U. Michigan-Dearborn Team

CS: 1st, 2nd, 5th Place

Simulation: 2nd Place

Game Programming: Honorable Mention * 2

SIMULATION

Ben Maddux
Zach Mills

ROBOTIC ENGINEERS

Kathleen D'Souza
Nikita Bhatia
Sydney Bodzianowski
Chelsie Eiden
Riley Martell
Lexi Roberts
Simran Singh
Rachel Torres

GAME DESIGNERS

Bill Baldwin
Kimberly Kwon
Cydny Martell
Ellie Reid
Skylar Rizzolo
Parker Russcher
Jawad Aqeel
Ashton Armstead

PROGRAMMERS

Evan Batsell
Ian Chu
Ed Fenwick

Subhodh Kotekal
Ugo Nwagbo
Abby Shirey
Matoska Waltz
Ben Beach
Grace Beverage
Brandon Born
Savannah Crooks
Jack Eichman
Sam Maddox
Paige O'Connor
Michael Orwin
Emily Veenhuis

Computer Competitions (Continued)



Miami University ACM Teams 2nd, 7th, 10th Place

SENIORS

Evan Batsell
Bend Maddux
Zach Mills
Parker Russcher
Matoska Waltz

JUNIORS

Michael Orwin
Michael Tarn
Ali Thomas Jr.

SOPHOMORES

Chad Black well
Lizzie Kimmel
Lily Kitagawa
Sam Ratliff
Vaughn Taylor
Dustin Tibbits
Ava Wood

9TH GRADER

Sid Pagariya

Computer Competitions (Continued)

ACSL Programmer Perfect Scores

SENIORS

Baldwin, Bill (4)
Batsell, Evan (4)
Chu, Ian (4)
D'Souza, Kathleen
Epskamp-Hunt, Ellie
(3)
Fenwick, Ed (2)
Kotekal, Subhodh (7)
Kwon, Kimberly (4)
Le, Binh (2)
Maddux, Ben (6)
Martell, Cydney
Mendez, Chloe
Mills, Zach (3)
Rizzolo, Skylar (2)
Russcher, Parker (2)
Waltz, Matoska (4)
Woodsmith, Tristan (2)

JUNIORS

Aqeel, Jawad (3)
Armstead, Ashton (4)
Beach, Ben
Beverage, Grace

Bhatia, Nikita
Bodzianowski, Sydney (3)
Born, Brandon (4)
Crooks, Savannah
Eichman, Jack (2)
Eiden, Chelsie (3)
Goenawan, Natasha (2)
Krinock, Matthew (4)
Maddox, Sam (4)
Martell, Riley (4)
O'Connor, Paige
Orwin, Michael (7)
Roberts, Lexi (2)
Tarn, Michael
Veenhuis, Emily (3)
Woodworth, Arthur

ACSL Classroom Perfect Scores*

Sophomores

Ballentine, Olivia
Holley, Claire (2)
Janowicz, Danielle
Kitagawa, Lily

Kothawala, Kyra
McDowell, Savannah
Medepalli, Praneeth
Nordmoe, Anna

Ratliff, Sam
Taylor, Vaughn

*at press time

Research Awards

The Surgeon General Special Science Award—SWMSE Regional Science Fair

[Kaylie Butt](#)

“Evaluating the quality of Trauma Care—A Literature Review”

1st Place individual SWMSE Regional Science Fair & Semi-Finalist Southeastern Junior Science & Humanities Competition

[McKinzie Ervin](#)

“Optimization of yeast surface display to display large repertoires of antibody variable fragments”

Intel Excellence in Computer Science Award-SWMSE Regional Science Fair &

1st Place Southeastern Michigan Junior Science & Humanities Symposium

[Edward Fenwick](#)

“Analysis of Central Processing Unit (CPU) bench marks using the Pin Binary Instrumentation Tool”

3rd Place Individual SWMSE Regional Science Fair Semi-Finalist Southeastern Michigan Junior Science & Humanities Symposium

KAMSC Parent Award

[Carolyn Hamman](#)

“The Evolution of Two Strains of Nutrient Dependent *Thalassiosira Pseudomona* at Two Different Temperatures”

1st Place Team SWMSE Regional Science Fair, 2nd place awards at the Intel International Science & Engineering Fair

[Natasha Goenawan & Ziyang Mo](#)

“Two-Photon Spectroscopy for the early diagnostics of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS): Folding and Aggregation of SOD1”

3rd Place team, SWME Regional Science Fair

[Nikita Bhatia and Sydnie Bodzianowski](#)

“Comparison of Coloration and Other Characteristics of the Monarch Butterflies: *Danaus Plexippus* and *Danaus Erippus*”

Research Awards (continued)

Yale Science & Engineering Award at the SWME Regional Science Fair

[Adam Coles & Binh Le](#)

“Designing a Graphical User Interface for Domain Scientists”

2nd Place Individual, SWME Regional Science Fair & 6th Place Junior Science and Humanities Symposium

[Jorge Ochoa](#)

“Regulation of Glial Cell-Line Derived Neurotrophic Factor Expression in Cardiac Muscle”

ASM Materials Education Award at the SWME Regional Science Fair

[Sharat Kamath & Subhodh Kotekal](#)

“The Effect of Gold Spacer Additives on a Resistance Based Carbon Nanotube Amino Biosensor Material Concept”

Donald R. Parfet Distinguished Service Award

In honor of Donald R. Parfet whose continued service and advocacy for The Kalamazoo Area Mathematics and Science Center has provided a valuable model for all of us to emulate. We, the staff of The Kalamazoo Area Mathematics and Science Center would like to recognize and honor the following student for her service contributions to the KAMSC community

Colby Hanley

White Coat Award of Laboratory Excellence

Carolyn Hamman

Bedi Award of Research Excellence

Savannah Crooks

Ed Fenwick

McKinzie Ervin

Jorge Ochoa

Research Team 2015-2016

If you have signed up for the Research Team or are interested in joining, stop by and see Dr. Thorstenson in Room 434 or email him at

jthorstenson@kamsc.k12.mi.us

Book Awards

Biology

This student demonstrates interest in the life sciences that go beyond the classroom; someone for whom biology really “pops their twitzel.”

Isabel Holtan

AP Biology

This student has a strong yearning to investigate the marvels of biology, has a high quality of work and a desire to go beyond the required.

Otto Kailing

Chemistry

This student has a curiosity and a passion for scientific investigation.

Lily Kitagowa

AP Chemistry

This student has a curiosity and a passion for scientific investigation.

Jason Taft

Physics

This student must have shown solid academic success, a strong work ethic, and a passion and curiosity for learning.

**Benjamin Beach &
Savannah Crooks**

Advanced Physics

This student demonstrated curiosity, enthusiasm, diligence and a love for the subject.

Cydney Martell

Biomedical Science

This student displays both aptitude and interest for human biology and physiology.

Maggie Smith

AP Environmental Science

This student shows consistent and wide-ranging passion for the health and welfare of the planet Earth and demonstrates their involvement with action

Cameron Andrews

Information Technology

This student demonstrated outstanding interest, commitment and leadership across a diverse group of topics and projects in IT.

Alexandra Seybold

Sophomore Computer Science

This student demonstrated exceptional academic achievement, diligence, leadership and contributions to KAMSC Computer Teams that are marked by excellence.

Lily Kitagawa

Advanced Computer Science

This student demonstrated exceptional academic achievement, diligence, leadership and contributions to KAMSC Computer Teams that are marked by excellence.

**Subhodh Kotekal &
Zach Mills**

AP Computer Science

This student demonstrated exceptional academic achievement, diligence, leadership and contributions to KAMSC Computer Teams that are marked by excellence.

Brandon Born

Microbiology

Finn Johnson

Cell Biology

Rachel Niesen

Tentative Rolling Calendar 2015-2016

Keep in mind that all dates & times are subject to change

DATE	DAY	TIME	DESCRIPTION
8/17-21	Mon-Fri	8:30-11:30/12:30-3:30	Intro to Science Inquiry (session I-incoming 9th gr.)
8/24-28	Mon-Fri	8:30-11:30/12:30-3:30	Intro to Science Inquiry (session II-incoming 9th gr.)
8/31	Monday	2:00 - 5:00 PM	9th Grade Orientation @ KNC
9/7	Monday		Labor Day - No School
9/8	Tuesday		No Students
9/9	Wednesday	8:00-10:27 / 11:30-2:00	1st day for KAMSC students
9/16	Wednesday	6:30 - 8:30 PM	KAMSC Open House
9/23	Wednesday	6:00 - 7:30 PM	Open Lab Begins (every Wed. unless otherwise indicated)
9/23	Wednesday	6:15 - 7:00 PM	Parents Organization Meeting
9/23	Wednesday	6:00 - 7:30 PM	9th Grade Mixer (room 130)
9/30	Wednesday	7:00 PM	KAMSC College Night (in Presentation Center)
10/21	Wednesday	6:15 - 7:00 PM	Parents Organization Meeting
11/6	Friday		No Students (No County Programs)
11/9-13	All Week	All Day	Spirit Week
11/11	Wednesday	6:15 - 7:00 PM	Parents Organization Meeting
11/14	Saturday	1-4 PM/ 8-11 PM	Class Clash / KAMSC Dance (South Gym)
11/18	Wednesday	5:30 - 8:30 PM	Parent Teacher Conferences (No Open Lab)
11/19	Thursday	5:30 - 8:30 PM	Parent Teacher Conferences
11/20	Friday	7:30AM - 2:30 PM	Parent Teacher Conferences (No Students)
11/25	Wednesday		No School (No County Programs)
11/26 & 27	Thurs - Friday		Thanksgiving Break
12/6	Sunday	2:00 - 4:00 PM	Senior Mentor Tea @ Cityscape
12/16	Wednesday	6:15 - 7:00 PM	Parents Organization Meeting
12/18	Friday	PM	Alumni Day
12/21-1/1	Mon-Fri		Winter Recess
1/18-19	Mon - Tues	AM	Math & Science Exams (AM)
1/18-20	Mon - Wed	PM	Elective, Math, Science Exams- (PM)
1/20	Wed.		NO OPEN LAB
1/22	Fri.		End of 1st Semester-No County Programs

KAMSC Announcements

KAMSC Public Calendar

Be sure to visit our online calendar to stay on top of the latest and greatest! Go to kamsconline.com, click 'links' on the left side, and scroll down to 'KAMSC Public Calendar.'

Lost & Found Items

Be sure to check the lost & found in the KAMSC office to see if anything belongs to you. Items not claimed will eventually be donated to Goodwill

Elevator Use

Students may use the elevator only for medical or physical reasons and only for a specified period of time. Please have a doctor's note or a parent call KAMSC to inform the office if this occurs.

Backpack Reminder

Students may leave backpacks in front of the lockers. Please do not block doorways, elevators, fire boxes, etc. The backpacks should be upright and set close to the lockers, walls, etc. so others do not trip on them.

Parking Stickers

Please note: Students who drive and park at KAMSC are required to register their vehicles with the KAMSC office. You will be issued a free parking pass; if you do not have a parking pass, you may be towed. Students: Please park in the student parking area at the north end of the parking lot between El Sol Elementary and the CEC Building (KAMSC).

Open Lab Nights

Starting September 23 on Wednesday evenings from 6-7:30pm, we host open labs. As a reminder students should be picked up in a timely manner.

School Closings

Severe weather often brings school closings. If Kalamazoo Public Schools close due to bad weather—KAMSC will be closed. Students whose district school is closed due to bad weather are **strongly encouraged to consider safety first** when deciding whether or not to attend their KAMSC classes.

KAMSC Parents/Guardians & Volunteers

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all of the parents/guardians and volunteers who sacrifice their time helping out with multiple undertakings at KAMSC. Without your assistance, we would be short-staffed and face challenging deadlines while trying to accomplish the necessary tasks, all which contribute to the success of KAMSC. You are a very important part of the equation and we could not be as effective without your help!

A Special "Thank You"

KAMSC staff would like to thank donors for their generous donations of supplies and equipment as well as the monetary contributions that were given last year.

Your generosity is very much appreciated!