

Congratulations to Teachers

In case you've been in hiding for the past few months, social studies teacher **Mabrooka Chaudhry** was awarded the National Milken Educator Award on November 15th! The award was highlighted by visits from Dr. Nancy Grasmick, state superintendent of schools, Rosie Grier, former NFL star, and Lowell Milken of the Milken Foundation.

Physical Education Team Leader and **Coach Wendell Thomas** will be inducted into Greater Baltimore Chapter of the United States Lacrosse Hall of Fame on February 2! This is another national honor for our outstanding staff!

Congratulations to the following teachers who won grants for LCD projectors for instructional use in their classrooms: Natalie Kelly, Sue Ericksen, Cathy Kriner, John Zitko, Maureen Shacreaw, Peg Dear, Marla McKeon, Vicki Reynolds, Donna Schwab, Gloriann Mehlman, Lara Knight, Celia Reidler, Kathleen Pepin, Jen Santoro, Mary Jo Lukowski, Michael Baber, Jenn Suriani, Scott Vennard, and Rick Jones.

Congratulations to Mr. Fradkin who has been invited to serve on a panel of Russian teacher for the Maryland State Department of Education!

National Merit Scholars Announced!

Atholton has 6 **National Merit Semi-Finalists** this year! Congratulations to David Baker, Danny Bankman, Diana Cao, Charles Dai, Josh Deutschmann, and Loren Scolaro! These students will hear later this year on their Finalist status.

Qualification for the National Merit Scholarship Program is based on student's PSAT scores in their junior year.

We also have 15 **National Merit Commended Scholars**! Kudos to Melodie Bowler, Michael Brune, Iris Chen, Jennifer Cheng, Ecaterina Coman, Matthew Greenwood, Nathanael Kim, Ayeeshik Kole, Julia Lustbader, Scott Myers, Diane Peng, Nicholas Smith, Alexei Smolyaninov, Carolyn Tong, and David Windle!

Contest Winners

Senior Loren Scolaro was selected as a winner of the prestigious **National Council of Teachers of English Writing Contest**!

Debater Nikhil Karnik ranked 18th out of 154 national-ranked debaters at the

Wake Forest University tournament last ninth!

Student Leaders

Yusuf Ahmad completed the **Economics for Leaders Program** at Cornell University this summer!

Kori Jones, Sarah Joyner, Phil Lasser, and Meg Sawyer completed the **Advanced Leadership Seminar** through Maryland Leadership Workshops this summer while Lauren Butziger, Javon Garcia, DJ Myers, Gabrielle Diener, and Rachel Bader all completed the Senior High Workshop of Maryland Leadership Workshops!

Maddy Bottomley, Kira Cassels, Nathan D'Amico, Adam Grahn, Nicole Nussbaum, and DiAndre Rocke are participating in the **Leadership Howard's Leadership U Program** this summer and fall! Keep an eye out for information on their countywide service projects!

Maryland Distinguished Scholars

Congratulations to the following **Maryland Distinguished Scholars in Academics and/or the Arts**: Ecaterina Coman, Kate Kerbel, Rachel Holtzman, Kerry Frantz, Elizabeth Frantz, Julie Frank, Anna Farb, Noha Eshera, Charles Dai, Andrew Coyle, Yusuf Ahmad, Emily Kirshenbaum, Jennifer Cheng, Iris Chen, Taylor Chapman, Diana Cao, Courtney Chang, Sara Brinsko, Ryan Bishop, Michael Biggins, Danny Bankman, David Baker, Christopher Cooper, Shaily Patel, Quan Wang, Christen Vanyur, Carolyn Tong, Alexei Smolyaninov, Jahanzabe Siddiqui, Lauren Sharp, Loren Scolaro, Carrie Schoonover, Emily Salkin, Danny Romeo, Manar Khashia, Diane Peng, Nathan Kim, Jamie Nussbaum, Angelica Newsome, Scott Myers, Colleen McSweeney, Julia Lustbader, Michael Limsam, Hannah Lee, Ayeekashik Kole, Ethan Kirshenbaum, Rebecca Wolfe, and Bryan Righter.

Advanced Placement Scholar Distinction

Congratulations to the following students who earned **Advanced Placement Scholar Distinction** for their performance on multiple Advanced Placement exams!

Andrew Burger, Ecaterina Coman, Shane Dunn, Anna Farb, Hugo Hall, Yisu Han, Sarah Joyner, Nikhil Karnik, Clarie Kuang, Shaily Patel, Loren Scolaro, Dan Semmel,

Richa Shah, Nicholas Smith, Alexi Smolyaninov, Megan Song, Quan Wang, FanFan Zheng, David Baker, Melodie Bowler, Iris Chen, Kate Kerbel, Manar Khaski, Matthew Kim, Kenneth Miner, Bryan Righter, Carolyn Tong, David Windle, Yusuf Ahmad, Danny Bankman, Michael Brune, Diana Cao, Jennifer Cheng, Charles Dai, Josh Deutschmann, Noha Eshera, Nathanael Kim, Ayeeshik Kole, Scott Myers, and Diane Peng.

Atholton's 2007 Advanced Placement scores were the highest in the county with 91% of our students earning a score of 3 or above and 61% of our students earning a score of 4 or above!

Our **JROTC** took first place in the recent Howard County Drill Team competition at Oakland Mills High School! In addition, the JROTC program earned 998/1000 points in their annual inspection!

Our **Youth Action Corps mentoring students** had a fantastic first quarter! For the upperclassmen, 23 students had a first quarter GPA higher than their cumulative GPA! Two of the seniors received on the spot acceptances from Morgan State University based on their academic and extracurricular accomplishments!

The **Robotics Club** won second place in a regional competition in New Jersey in November, securing the Runner Up trophy! Their efforts also led the team to win \$7500 in grants from NASA and the KISS Institute! Many thanks to the Technology Boosters for their efforts in securing these grants!

The **Senior Dance Company** has been accepted into the prestigious Maryland State Showcase this year!

Atholton students continue to shine in regional speech and debate competitions! **Yusef Ahmad** place first in Extemporaneous Speaking at the November Catholic Forensics League meet!

Our **Future Educators Association students** have had a presentation accepted for the National FEA conference in Tennessee this spring! They also volunteered their time with the World Computer Exchange, helping package over 130 computers to be sent to schools in the Congo!

The following students participated in the Poetry Alive program with the Howard County Department of World Languages in November: **Brittany Hopkins, Mohammed Abdalla, Emily Seidel, Oren Leftkowitz, Julie Frank, Alicia Stanley, Jordan Chapman, and Meg Sawyer!**

The following 9th graders were recognized for their outstanding performance on the 2007 Maryland State Assessment at a November celebration sponsored by the Howard County Council of Elders: **Chikodili Agwuna, Olukemmi Bello, Lauretee Bernard, Courtney Bibbs, Donovan Carpio-Small, Lekia Clark, Brandon Dawson, Anthony Ernest, Kiara James, Shenita Jones, Zainab Kamara, Andrew King, Andre Moody, Deanna Stanton-Crouse, Larry Toler, Rachel Turner, Benjamin Vaughn, Benjamin Wells, and Omasiri Wonodi!**

Lina Montoya and **Camilo Venegas** have been invited to serve on the Hispanic Youth Advisory Team for the Howard County Public School System!

The **Information Technology Academy** has 21 members who are helping plan both the countywide PC for Kids and PC Olympics programs, supporting the efforts of our great partner, the Lazarus Foundation!

Leadership U has some phenomenal graduates at Atholton! **Alex Leandre**, class of 2007, is presently serving as the only student member of the Howard County Tourism Board of Directors! The following students are recent graduates of the 2008 Leadership U program: **Kira Cassels, Nathan D'Amico, Adam Grahn, Nicole Nussbaum, and DiAndra Rocke!**